



Congressional Record

PLENARY PROCEEDINGS OF THE 17th CONGRESS, SECOND REGULAR SESSION
House of Representatives

Vol. 1

Tuesday, August 22, 2017

No. 13

CALL TO ORDER

At 4:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Bai Sandra A. Sema called the session to order.

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

NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). 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. Sema). Please remain standing. May we ask Rep. Marisol C. Panotes from the Second District of Camarines Norte to please lead the prayer.

Everybody remained standing for the Invocation.

INVOCATION

REP. PANOTES. Almighty Father, we praise and thank You for calling us to serve Your people.

Anoint us and help us not to seek power or position, but rather make us a vessel of Your grace to touch the lives of people as we seek to be worthy of Your love.

Lord, mold us to Your heart. Use us as a channel of Your compassion.

Help us to be worthy of Your trust that we may be an instrument of peace and hope to everyone.

Give us courage to be an agent of change to achieve our dream of transformation.

Finally, we ask You to heal our land and to restore faith and righteousness in our nation.

This we ask in the mighty name of Jesus. Amen.

ROLL CALL

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The Secretary General will please call the roll of Members.

The Secretary General called the roll, and the result is as follows, per Journal No. 13, dated August 22, 2017:

PRESENT

Abayon	Belmonte (R.)
Abellanos	Benitez
Abu	Bernos
Abueg	Bertiz
Acop	Biazon
Acosta	Billones
Acosta-Alba	Biron
Adiong	Bolilia
Advincula	Bondoc
Agarao	Bordado
Aggabao	Bravo (A.)
Aglipay-Villar	Bravo (M.V.)
Albano	Brosas
Alejano	Bulut-Begtang
Almario	Cagas
Almonte	Calderon
Alvarez (F.)	Calixto-Rubiano
Alvarez (P.)	Caminero
Amante	Campos
Amatong	Canama
Antonino	Cari
Antonio	Casilao
Aquino-Magsaysay	Castelo
Aragones	Castro (F.L.)
Arcillas	Castro (F.H.)
Atienza	Cayetano
Aumentado	Celeste
Bag-ao	Chavez
Bagatsing	Chipeco
Baguilat	Co
Banal	Cojuangco
Barbers	Collantes
Bataoil	Cortes
Batocabe	Cortuna
Bautista-Bandigan	Crisologo
Belaro	Cua
Belmonte (F.)	Cuaresma
Belmonte (J.C.)	Cueva

Dalipe	Leachon	Sacdalan	Tugna
Datol	Lee	Sagarbarria	Tupas
De Jesus	Lobregat	Salimbangon	Turabin-Hataman
De Venecia	Lopez (M.L.)	Salo	Ty
De Vera	Loyola	Salon	Umali
Defensor	Macapagal-Arroyo	Sambar	Unabia
Del Mar	Maceda	Sandoval	Ungab
Del Rosario	Manalo	Santos-Recto	Unico
Deloso-Montalla	Mangaoang	Sarmiento (C.)	Uy (R.)
Dimaporo (A.)	Mangudadatu (Z.)	Sarmiento (E.M.)	Uybarreta
Dimaporo (M.K.)	Marcoleta	Savellano	Vargas-Alfonso
Duavit	Marcos	Sema	Velarde
Dy	Mariño	Siao	Velasco
Elago	Marquez	Silverio	Velasco-Catera
Eriguel	Martinez	Singson	Veloso
Ermita-Buhain	Matugas	Suansing (E.)	Vergara
Escudero	Mellana	Suansing (H.)	Villafuerte
Espina	Mercado	Suarez	Villanueva
Espino	Mirasol	Tambunting	Villarica
Estrella	Montoro	Tan (A.)	Villarin
Eusebio	Nava	Tan (M.)	Violago
Evardone	Nieto	Tejada	Yap (M.)
Fariñas	Noel	Teves	Yap (V.)
Fernando	Nogralas (J.J.)	Tiangco	Yu
Ferrer (J.)	Nogralas (K.A.)	Tinio	Zamora (M.C.)
Ferrer (L.)	Nolasco	Tolentino	Zamora (R.)
Ferriol-Pascual	Oaminal	Treñas	Zubiri
Flores	Ocampo		
Fortun	Olivarez		
Fortuno	Ong (E.)		
Fuentebella	Ong (H.)		
Garbin	Ortega (P.)		
Garin (R.)	Pacquiao		
Garin (S.)	Paduano		
Gasataya	Palma		
Gatchalian	Pancho		
Geron	Panotes		
Go (A.C.)	Papandayan		
Go (M.)	Pichay		
Gomez	Pimentel		
Gonzaga	Pineda		
Gonzales (A.D.)	Plaza		
Gonzalez	Primicias-Agabas		
Gullas	Radaza		
Hernandez	Ramirez-Sato		
Herrera-Dy	Ramos		
Hofer	Relampagos		
Jalosjos	Revilla		
Javier	Roa-Puno		
Kho	Robes		
Labadlabad	Rodriguez (I.)		
Lacson	Roman		
Lagman	Romualdez		
Lanete	Romualdo		
Laogan	Roque (H.)		
Lazatin	Roque (R.)		

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. The Speaker is present.

Mme. Speaker, the roll call shows that 242 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). With 242 Members present, the presence of a quorum is hereby declared.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, good afternoon. I move that we approve Journal No. 12 for the session on August 16, 2017.

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

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

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

The Secretary General will please read the Reference of Business.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 6209, entitled:

“AN ACT TO ENSURE THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF RIZAL MEMORIAL SPORTS COMPLEX IN THE DISTRICT OF MALATE OF THE CITY OF MANILA AS AN IMPORTANT CULTURAL PROPERTY AND A NATIONAL HISTORICAL LANDMARK”

By Representative Biazon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 6210, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING A NATIONAL INTEGRATED CANCER CONTROL PROGRAM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Nograles (K.A.) and Nograles (J.J.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 6211, entitled:

“AN ACT RENAMING BANGKULASI NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AS ANGELES MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL”

By Representative Tiangco

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 6212, entitled:

“AN ACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF UNDERPASS TUNNEL STRUCTURES AND/OR SKYWAY OVERPASSES ALONG THE THREE (3) MOST CONGESTED ROAD SECTIONS IN THE FIRST DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF CEBU AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Del Mar

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 6213, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP AND SERVICE PROGRAM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF”

By Representatives Nieto and Maceda

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 6214, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AT BARANGAY SUGOD, CITY OF VALENCIA, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON TO BE KNOWN AS SUGOD NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Roque (R.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 6215, entitled:

“AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND EIGHTEEN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Nograles (K.A.), Alvarez (P.), Fariñas, Zamora (M.C.), Javier, Leachon, Olivarez, Sandoval, Garin (O.), Salceda, Biazon, Dimaporo (M.K.), Duavit, Lanete, Dy, Cojuangco, Del Mar, Vargas, Lobregat, Go (A.C.), Nuñez-Malanyaon, Villafuerte, Jalosjos, Amante, Cuaresma, Antonino, Sambar, Almonte, Calixto-Rubiano, Cari, Celeste, Cerafica, Gonzalez, Primicias-Agabas, Ramos, Sacdalan, Villarica, Abellanosa, Aragonese, Arenas, Caminero, Sahali, Suansing (E.), Acosta, Alonte, Bagatsing, Bernos, Fernando, Gonzaga, Malapitan, Matugas, Nava, Nieto, Nolasco, Pacquiao, Papandayan, Pimentel, Suansing (H.), Veloso, Mangaoang, Savellano, Siao, Acharon, Bulut-Begtang, Yap (A.), Maceda, Lopez (M.L.), Sagarbarria, Yu, Marquez, Gasataya, Enverga, Yap (M.), Escudero, Durano, Dimaporo (A.), Ong (E.), Sy-Alvarado, Garcia (J.E.), Laogan, Estrella, Manalo, Paduano, Montoro, Ungab, Roque (R.), Fortuno, Arbison, Tejada, Amatong, Abad, Catamco, Adiong, Agarao, Deloso-Montalla, Gorriceta, Limkaichong, Roman, Sarmiento (E.M.), Vargas-Alfonso, Bataoil, Mellana, Pancho, Silverio, Uy (J.), Zubiri, Cua, Brosas, Canama, Lacson, Salo, Tan (S.), Uybarreta, Go (M.), Mangudadatu (S.), Cagas, Espina, Hofer and Espino

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 1188, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGEDLY GROSSLY

DISADVANTAGEOUS LEASE CONTRACT ENTERED INTO BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (DTI), THE PHILIPPINE EXPORTERS CONFEDERATION, INC. (PHILEXPORT), AND THE MANILA EXPOSITION COMPLEX, INC. (MECI)”

By Representatives Evardone and Belaro
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1189, entitled:

“RESOLUTION TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE AVIAN FLU OUTBREAK”

By Representative Salon
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1190, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMITTEE ON GOOD GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY TO INVESTIGATE IN AID OF LEGISLATION THE ANOMALOUS PROCUREMENTS OF NEGROS ORIENTAL 2 ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. (NORECO II) OF THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL”

By Representative Teves
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1191, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMITTEE ON GOOD GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY TO INVESTIGATE IN AID OF LEGISLATION THE ANOMALOUS PROCUREMENTS OF NEGROS ORIENTAL 2 ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. (NORECO II) OF THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL”

By Representative Teves
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1192, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMITTEE ON GOOD GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY TO INVESTIGATE IN AID OF LEGISLATION THE ANOMALOUS PROCUREMENTS OF NEGROS ORIENTAL 2 ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. (NORECO II) OF THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL”

By Representative Teves
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1193, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE BIRD FLU OUTBREAK IN THE PROVINCE OF PAMPANGA WITH THE END IN VIEW OF PREVENTING THE OCCURRENCE OF SUCH KIND OF OUTBREAK TO OTHER PROVINCES”

By Representative Geron
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1194, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE SAMAHANG BASKETBALL NG PILIPINAS IN THEIR EFFORTS TO SPEARHEAD THE PHILIPPINES’ BID TO HOST THE 2023 FIBA WORLD CUP AND ENJOINING THE GOVERNMENT TO EXTEND ITS FULL ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT FOR THIS BID”

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

House Resolution No. 1195, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEMISE OF MR. ALFIE LORENZO, VETERAN PHILIPPINE SHOW BUSINESS TALENT MANAGER”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1196, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING FILIPINO STUDENTS FOR WINNING 52 AWARDS IN INDIA INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICS COMPETITION 2017”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1197, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING RECOGNITION, ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CONGRATULATIONS TO MS. MARIE ANTOINETTE SARANGAYA “TONI” LEVISTE FOR WINNING 1ST PLACE AT THE GRAND PRIX OF SAMORIN”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND
SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 1198, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING
WARMEST FELICITATIONS AND
CONGRATULATIONS OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES TO MS. NANETTE
MEDVED-PO WHO HAVE MANAGED
TO BE INCLUDED IN FORBES LIST OF
HEROES OF PHILANTHROPY 2017”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1199, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND
COMMENDING FILIPINO STUDENTS
WHO WON 245 MEDALS IN 13TH
INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICS
CONTEST (IMC)”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1200, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND
COMMENDING SEVEN-YEAR-OLD
FIGURE SKATER AYASOFYA VITTORIA
AGUIRRE FOR WINNING THREE GOLD
MEDALS IN THE 29TH ANNUAL SKATE,
JAPAN 2017 AT THE SAITAMA ACE ARENA
IN AGEO CITY, JAPAN”

By Representative Bagatsing
TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND
SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 1201, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEES
ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES
RESOURCES, NATURAL RESOURCES
AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION TO
CONDUCT A JOINT INQUIRY, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE SOCIO-
ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL
IMPACT OF RECLAMATION PROJECTS
UNDER THE NATIONAL RECLAMATION
PROGRAM (NRP) OR SIMILAR PROGRAM
OF THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION,
AS PROMOTED BY THE PHILIPPINE
RECLAMATION AUTHORITY (PRA), DUE
TO THE BROAD CLAMOR OF AFFECTED
SECTORS, PRIMARILY THE FISHERFOLK
SECTOR”

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

House Resolution No. 1202, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEES
ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT AND
HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT A JOINT
INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON
THE JUNE 2, 2017 - VIOLENT DISPERSAL
OF THE STRIKING WORKERS OF THE
KOREAN-OWNED BANANA PLANTATION
SHIN SUN TROPICAL FRUIT CORP. AND
DEMOLITION OF THEIR PICKETLINE,
LEADING TO THE ILLEGAL ARREST
AND DETENTION OF TWELVE WORKERS
AND THEIR SUPPORTERS IN BRGY.
SAN MIGUEL, COMPOSTELA TOWN,
COMPOSTELA VALLEY”

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

House Resolution No. 1203, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE
COMMITTEES ON AGRARIAN REFORM
AND HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT
A JOINT INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF
LEGISLATION, ON THE ILLEGAL ARREST
OF A PEASANT LEADER AND FILING
OF TRUMPED UP CHARGES AGAINST
TWENTY-ONE PEASANT ACTIVISTS AND
MEMBERS OF ANAKPAWIS PARTY-LIST
IN HACIENDA UY, MUNICIPALITY OF
SAN ANDRES, QUEZON PROVINCE”

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

House Resolution No. 1204, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE
COMMITTEES ON AGRARIAN
REFORM AND HUMAN RIGHTS TO
CONDUCT A JOINT INQUIRY, IN AID OF
LEGISLATION, ON THE CONTINUING
DEPRIVATION OF THE RIGHTS TO
LAND OF AGRICULTURAL WORKER-
MEMBERS OF WADECOR EMPLOYEES
AGRARIAN REFORM BENEFICIARIES
ASSOCIATION, INC. (WEARBAI) BY THE
TAGUM AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION (TADECO) IN CARMEN
TOWN, DAVAO DEL NORTE”

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

House Resolution No. 1205, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSING

PROFOUND CONDOLENCES ON THE
DEMISE OF VETERAN DIRECTOR
SOCRATES “SOXIE” TOPACIO”

By Representatives Nieto and Maceda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

Reps. Jose L. Atienza Jr., Sherwin N. Tugna, Jose “Pingping” I. Tejada, Vicente “Ching” S.E. Veloso, and Ruby M. Sahali for House Bills No. 3468, 5164, and 5523;

Rep. Ma. Lucille L. Nava, M.D. for House Bills No. 3468, 4580, 5213, and 5524;

Reps. Juliette T. Uy, Rolando “Klarex” A. Uy, Rico B. Geron, Divina Grace C. Yu, and Jerry P. Treñas for House Bill No. 5549;

Reps. Orestes T. Salon, Rico B. Geron, Cesar V. Sarmiento, Isidro S. Rodriguez Jr., Raul V. Del Mar, Roger G. Mercado, and Rodolfo T. Albano III for House Bills No. 2625, 4344, and 4703;

Rep. Lorna C. Silverio for House Bills No. 3670, 4071, 4077, 4703, 6127, and 6128;

Rep. Salvador B. Belaro Jr. for House Bills No. 5986, 6163, 6164, and 6181;

Rep. Jose Antonio “Kuya Jonathan” R. Sy-Alvarado for House Bills No. 5931, 5990, 5997, 6070, 6071, and 6124;

Rep. Erico Aristotle C. Aumentado for House Bills No. 177, 3641, 4344, 4703, 5549, 5914, 5925, 5987, 5995, 5997, and 5999 and House Resolution No. 1048;

Rep. John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto for House Bills No. 5987, 5988, 5989, 5998, and 5999;

Reps. Salvador B. Belaro Jr., Carlos Roman L. Uybarreta, Teodoro “Ted” G. Montoro, Aniceto “John” D. Bertiz III, Manuel Luis T. Lopez, Orestes T. Salon, Tom S. Villarín, Sabiniano S. Canama, Ron P. Salo, Virgilio S. Lacson, Ricardo “RJ” T. Belmonte Jr., and Benhur B. Lopez Jr. for House Bill No. 6111;

Rep. Joel Mayo Z. Almario for House Bills No. 3943 and 4982;

Rep. H. Harry L. Roque Jr. for House Bill No. 4337;

Rep. Manuel Jose “Mannix” M. Dalipe for House Bills No. 8, 358, 1116, 1137, 1653, 3159, 4904, 5549, and 5673;

Rep. Mylene J. Garcia-Albano for House Bills No. 5789 and 6069;

Rep. Ricardo “RJ” T. Belmonte Jr. for House Bills No. 3177, 4344, and 4703;

Rep. Milagrosa “Mila” T. Tan for House Bill No. 4383;

Rep. Jose Carlos L. Cari for House Bill No. 344;

Rep. Gil “Kabarangay” P. Acosta for House Bills No. 2625, 4115, 4116, 4344, 4703, 5213, 5900, 5985, and 6029;

Rep. Arnel M. Cerafica for House Bill No. 4672;
Rep. Christopher V.P. De Venecia for House Bills No. 56 and 5549;

Reps. Arnel U. Ty, Rodante D. Marcoleta, Ramon C. Nolasco, and Eleanor C. Bulut-Begtang for House Bill No. 180;

Rep. Frederick W. Siao for House Bill No. 5676;

Reps. Rene L. Relampagos, Anthony M. Bravo, Ph.D., Anna Katrina M. Enverga, Baby Aline Vargas-Alfonso, Emmanuel F. Madrona, Rodante D. Marcoleta, Alfredo A. Garbin Jr., Gavini “Apol” C. Pancho, Jose “Pingping” I. Tejada, Gil “Kabarangay” P. Acosta, Deogracias Victor “DV” B. Savellano, Raul A. Daza, Jonas C. Cortes, Sherwin N. Tugna, Aniceto “John” D. Bertiz III, Micaela S. Violago, Alfred D. Vargas, Wilfredo S. Caminero, Teodoro “Ted” G. Montoro, and Eugene Michael B. De Vera for House Bill No. 5504;

Rep. Lord Allan Jay Q. Velasco for House Bills No. 4344 and 4703;

Rep. Tricia Nicole Q. Velasco-Catera for House Resolution No. 830;

Rep. Frederick “Erick” F. Abueg for House Bill No. 5304;

Rep. Nancy A. Catamco for House Bills No. 2625, 4344, 4703, and 5213;

Rep. Vincent “Bingbong” P. Crisologo for House Bills No. 3468 and 5164;

Rep. Eric L. Olivarez for House Bills No. 2625, 4344, 4703, and 4982;

Rep. Florida “Rida” P. Robes for House Bill No. 4982;

Rep. Emi G. Calixto-Rubiano for House Bills No. 55, 356, and 5240;

Rep. Jesulito A. Manalo for House Bills No. 55 and 4982;

Rep. Rico B. Geron for House Bills No. 55, 4982, and 5240;

Rep. Orestes T. Salon for House Bill No. 55;

Rep. Gerald Anthony “Samsam” V. Gullas Jr. for House Bills No. 656, 5784, 6016, and 6136;

Rep. Maria Vida Espinosa Bravo for House Bills No. 4892, 4893, 5038, 5066, 5067, 5068, and 5087;

Reps. Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, Cecilia Leonila V. Chavez, Sherwin N. Tugna, Ma. Theresa V. Collantes, Sandra Y. Eriguel, M.D., and Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla for House Bill No. 4174;

Rep. Pantaleon D. Alvarez for House Bill No. 6093;

Rep. Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento for House Bills No. 182 and 6016;

Rep. Emmanuel A. Billones for House Bills No. 2625, 3468, 4344, 4703, 5164, and 5523;

Rep. Jose Enrique “Joet” S. Garcia III for House Bill No. 6112;

Rep. Rodante D. Marcoleta for House Bills No. 6122, 6165, 6166, 6167, 6168, 6169, and 6170;

Rep. Doy C. Leachon for House Bill No. 5524;
Rep. Elisa “Olga” T. Kho for House Bills No. 4115,
4116, 5985, and 6029;
Rep. Carmelo “Jon” B. Lazatin II for House Bill
No. 6138; and
Rep. Gus S. Tambunting for House Resolution
No. 905.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Message dated August 14, 2017, informing the House
of Representatives that the Senate on even date
passed Senate Bill No. 1466, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE IMPOSITION OF
EXPIRY DATES ON GIFT CHECKS AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

in which it requests the concurrence of the House
of Representatives.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter dated July 24, 2017 of Amparo M. Cabotaje-Tang,
Presiding Justice, Sandiganbayan, submitting a copy
of the 38th Annual Report of the Sandiganbayan for
the calendar year 2016.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

Letter dated July 24, 2017 of Nestor A. Espenilla Jr.,
Governor, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP),
furnishing the House of Representatives with the
Report to Congress on Public Sector Foreign Loan
approved by the BSP in the Second Quarter of 2017.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Letter dated July 24, 2017 of Atty. Glen A.
Pangapalan, General Manager, Philippine Fisheries
Development Authority, submitting to the House
of Representatives the Statement of Allotment,
Obligations, Utilization and Balances as of June
30, 2017 of the Philippine Fisheries Development
Authority, pursuant to the Special Provisions in the
2017 General Appropriations Act.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE
AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

Letter dated July 25, 2017 of Isabel D. Agito,
Commissioner, Officer-in-Charge, Commission on
Audit, furnishing copies of the 2016 Annual Audit
Reports and Management Letter on the following
government agencies:

- A. Annual Audit Reports
 1. Bureau of Broadcast Services
 2. Climate Change Commission
 3. Cooperative Development Authority
 4. Dangerous Drugs Board

5. Department of Foreign Affairs
 6. Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority
 7. Games and Amusements Board
 8. Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board
 9. National Archives of the Philippines
 10. National Anti-Poverty Commission
 11. National Commission on Indigenous Peoples
 12. National Commission on Muslim Filipinos
 13. National Historical Commission of the
Philippines
 14. News and Information Bureau
 15. Office of the President of the Philippines
 16. Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace
Process
 17. Office of the Vice President
 18. Philippine Information Agency
 19. Philippine Racing Commission
 20. Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor
 21. Presidential Communications Operations Office
 22. Philippine Sports Commission
 - B. Management Letter
 1. National Library of the Philippines
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated July 26, 2017 of Ivanna G. Dela Peña, First
Vice President and Head, Regulatory Management,
Meralco, furnishing a copy of the 2016 Annual
Report of finances and operations of the Manila
Electric Company.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

Letter dated July 27, 2017 of Glenn N. Marcaida, State
Auditor II, OIC-Audit Team Leader, Team R5-07-
NGS-SUCs and Other NGS-SAAs, Commission
on Audit, furnishing a copy of the 2016 Annual Audit
Report on the Dr. Emilio B. Espinosa, Sr. Memorial
State College of Agriculture and Technology
(DEBESMSCAT), Mandaon, Masbate.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated July 28, 2017 of Lourdes T. Pedros, State
Auditor V, Audit Team Leader, Commission on
Audit, furnishing a copy of the 2016 Annual Audit
Report on the Negros Oriental State University
(NORSU), Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated August 2, 2017 of Ma. Sheila A. Ramos,
State Auditor IV, OIC-Supervising Auditor, NGS-
SUCs and Other NGS Stand-Alone Agencies,
Commission on Audit, furnishing the House of
Representatives copies of the 2016 Annual Audit
Reports on the following State Universities and
Colleges in Region VI:

1. Aklan State University
2. University of Antique

3. Capiz State University
 4. West Visayas State University and Medical Center
 5. Iloilo Science and Technology University
 6. Guimaras State College
 7. Iloilo State College of Fisheries
 8. Northern Iloilo Polytechnic State College
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letters dated 14 August 2017 of Roger E. Dino, Deputy Director, Office of the General Counsel and Legal Services, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), furnishing the House of Representatives with duly certified and authenticated BSP issuances, to wit:

1. Memorandum No. M-2017-024 dated 1 August 2017
2. Circular No. 968 dated 10 August 2017

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report by the Committee on Population and Family Relations and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 360), re H.B. No. 6221, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE FILIPINO IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 12, 107, 171, 317, 368, 512, 523, 597, 696, 1267, 1687, 1711, 2001, 2167, 2338, 3425, 3448 and 4167

Sponsors: Representatives Aragonés, Nograles (K.A.), Macapagal-Arroyo and Teves

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, before we proceed, let us acknowledge the presence of the guests of the Hon. Leopoldo N. Bataoil, the champion of our veterans. They are as follows: from the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office headed by Lt. Gen. Ernesto Carolina, we have the Veterans Federation of the Philippines headed by its President, Col. Bonifacio De Gracia; the Defenders of Bataan and Corregidor headed by Atty. Rafael Evangelista; the Philippine Veterans Legion headed by Capt. Marlon Dantes; the Kampilan Peacekeepers Association Incorporated headed by Lt. Gen. Raul Urgello; the members of the Filipino Disabled Veterans Association headed by Commander Ricardo Madayag and other veterans of World War II. We also have former AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Victor Ibrado, Rear Admiral Ramon Punzalan, Admiral Alex Pama, and Gen. Magtanggol Gatdula.

Still the guests of the distinguished, Honorable Bataoil, we also have the members of the League of Municipalities of Pangasinan Chapter headed by its President, Mayor Silverio Alarcio Jr., together with Mayor Aldrin Cerdan, Mayor Heide Chua, Mayor Manolito De Leon, Mayor Joseph Arman Bauzon, Mayor Eric Versoza, and Mayor Gerald Glenn Tambaon.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). To the guests of Cong. Leopoldo Bataoil, please rise to be acknowledged. Welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, we would also like to include in the same list Mayor Rebecca Saldivar, Mayor Carlito Zaplan, and Mayor Tyrone Agabas.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). To the veterans and the mayors, welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. We have also the guests of the Gentleman from the AGRI Party-List, the honorable Cong. Orestes T. Salon. They are from the Bethany Covenant Alive Ministry of Toronto: Ms. Naida Allarde and Mr. Bernardo Giangrosso.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). To the guests of Congressman Salo, welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

REP. DEFENSOR. They are also guests of Rep. Orestes T. Salon, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Congressman Salon?

REP. DEFENSOR. Yes, Congressman Salon.

We also have the guests of Hon. Kaka J. Bag-ao, Hon. Sol Aragonés, Hon. Geraldine B. Roman, and Hon. Emmeline Aglipay-Villar, from the following organizations: Babaylanes, Lagablab, UP Babaylan, GALANG, Lesbian for Right LFR, Lesbians Organization Against Violence and Inequality (LOVE), Lesbian Alliance Movement (LAM), Lesbian Organization for Unity and Diversity (LOUD), Ganda Filipinas, TLF Share, PUP Kasarianlan, Cebu United Rainbow LGBT Sector (CURLS), HIV and AIDS Awareness Campaign Group (HACG), Metro Manila Pride, and Rainbow Rights.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). To the guests of Congresswomen Bag-ao, Aglipay-Villar and Aragonés, welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

REP. DEFENSOR. We also have here as guests of the Lady from the Lone District of San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan, the Hon. Florida “Rida” P. Robes, the delegation from San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan, for the Lakbay Aral Program of the Honorable Robes.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). To the guests of Congresswoman Robes, welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, with leave of the House, I move that we take up the Unfinished Business.

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

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 4982
Continuation

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we continue with our consideration of House Bill No. 4982 under Committee Report No. 101 of the Committee on Women and Gender Equality. For this, Mme. Speaker, please direct our Secretary General to read the title of the measure.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read the title of the Bill.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 4982, entitled: AN ACT PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION (SOGIE) AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, the parliamentary status of this measure is that we are in the period of sponsorship and debate. To resume the interpellation, I move that we recognize the Vice Chairman of the Committee on Women and Gender Equality, the Hon. Sol Aragonés.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The Hon. Sol Aragonés is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. First to interpellate her, Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Gentleman from AKBAYAN Party-List, the Hon. Tomasito “Tom” S. Villarín.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The Hon. Tom S. Villarín is recognized.

Please proceed.

REP. VILLARIN. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. Thank you, Dep. Majority Leader.

Will the good Sponsor, the distinguished Lady, Congresswoman Aragonés, yield to some interpellation?

REP. ARAGONÉS. Yes, Mme. Speaker, I am willing to answer the questions of the Gentleman from AKBAYAN Party-List.

REP. VILLARIN. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. Thank you to the good Sponsor.

Mme. Speaker, while it is clear that the Bill aims to protect the rights of all LGBTQIA, with the queer intersex and the asexual, that is the much broader context why we have this Anti-Discrimination Bill, not just the LGBT but the QIA group of individuals. Will the Sponsor be kind to elucidate certain provisions in the Bill that could specifically protect the LGBTQIA, Q+ children experiencing any and all forms of gender-based abuse and violence, given that the family and not the State is assumed to be primarily responsible for children?

REP. ARAGONÉS. Mme. Speaker, I am happy to inform the Gentleman from AKBAYAN Party-List that we have a new provision in the Bill, one that has not been included in the past versions of the measure. In our Committee hearing, through the leadership of then Chairperson Emmeline Aglipay-Villar and through the intervention of Congresswoman Ria Vergara, we have included under Discriminatory Practices in Section 4:

Preventing a child under parental authority, custody, or guardianship from exhibiting or expressing one’s sexual orientation or gender identity; or manifesting rejection of such child’s sexual orientation or gender identity or expression by inflicting or threatening to inflict bodily or physical harm against the child or by causing mental or emotional suffering of the child through intimidation, harassment, public ridicule or humiliation, repeated verbal abuse, or other similar means, or in general, commit any act or omission prejudicial to the welfare and interest of the child as a result of the bias against the sexual orientation or gender identity of the child.

Mme. Speaker, my distinguished colleagues, alam ho ninyo, mahirap pumasok ang estado sa usapin ng pag-aksiyon tungkol sa pamilya pero isang bagay ang malinaw dito: ano man ang anyo, ano man ang klase o uri ng pananakit sa isang bata o kabataan, ito ay isang form ng diskriminasyon na dapat makialam ang estado.

REP. VILLARIN. Maraming salamat po for that elucidation, good Sponsor, Mme. Speaker. I think that goes in line with the principle of “best interest of the child” as enshrined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which makes it clear that all children should be protected from harm, and while it is not always understood how pervasive stigma causes harm, existing researches made it clear that it does, Mme. Speaker. More troubling also is the ubiquity in life. As one study puts it, most respondents among the children had experienced some form of victimization, with no social environment being free from the risk of such harm. That being said, Mme. Speaker, good Sponsor, I think this Bill would also put to rest even the arguments by the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of the Philippines of which wrote in 2015 that discrimination is contrary to the Gospel spirit. So, in that context, Mme. Speaker, I think this provision that we have put in the Bill would in a way address this ubiquity in the life of our children.

Now, on another issue, I think this august Body, Mme. Speaker, good Sponsor, should also know—after we pass this Bill, how do we ensure the proper and effective implementation of the law, how will it be addressed? It is also good that, in this forum, this Chamber would also know what would be the mechanisms to monitor whether the implementing agencies are performing what is expected of them and in accordance with law. Perhaps, the good Sponsor can elucidate and inform the Members of this august Chamber how we will proceed or implement this after we pass this important, critical piece of legislation.

REP. ARAGONES. Mme. Speaker, this Bill when enacted into law shall create a SOGIE Equality Oversight Committee in Congress composed of five Members each from both Houses, to include the Chairpersons of the Senate Committee on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality and the Senate Committee on Justice and Human Rights, as well as the Chairpersons of the House Committee on Women and Gender Equality and the House Committee on Human Rights. The Members shall be appointed by the Speaker and the Senate President, with at least one Member representing the Minority of both Houses. The SOGIE Equality Oversight Committee shall monitor the compliance of public institutions with the provisions of this Act within three years after the enactment of this Act. The Oversight Committee shall conduct an audit of national and local policies that discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity and expression, and shall submit a report to Congress, to the Office of the President, and to the Supreme Court on the subject.

REP. VILLARIN. So, thank you for that elucidation, again, Mme. Sponsor, Mme. Speaker. Again, on the

issue of complying with our obligations on regional as well as international treaties, I have stated earlier that the Convention on the Rights of the Child, to which we are a signatory, would in a way strengthen the basis for this legislation. Likewise, at the regional level, Mme. Speaker, good Sponsor, we have this document, it is from the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on the Elimination of Violence against Children. Under this ASEAN document, if we would be passing this critical piece of legislation, I think this would be the first, meaning, the Philippines would be first in terms of coming up with legislation that would protect violence against children, especially with regard to the LGBTQ+ sector. So, we hope that, again, with this piece of legislation, we would contribute, within the region, our thoughts on how to proceed with a regional plan of action in the near future.

Now, Mme. Speaker, good Sponsor, this is in a way a friendly interpellation, and I would just like to make a manifestation, if the good Sponsor so allows.

Well, Mme. Speaker, AKBAYAN has been at the forefront of the struggle to pass this Anti-Discrimination Bill, which is now known as a SOGIE Equality Bill, since our first term in the Eleventh Congress. Through Cong. Etta Rosales then, we filed the first version of the Anti-Discrimination Bill which was eventually approved on Third and final Reading in the Twelfth Congress. Since this Bill has been in AKBAYAN’s legislative agenda, I take this opportunity to manifest my unwavering support for this very important measure. As a parent, as a father to two children who are both very supportive of this measure, it is also personal and important to me as a legislator that we do have this kind of measure because for far too long, bigotry has persisted in our society. For far too long, the LGBTQ+ Filipinos have experienced bullying and abuse from people whose eyes are closed to the simple reality that everyone is equal. Our LGBT citizens deserve a chance to be treated with respect and dignity. What we have with us right now in this august Chamber is a bill that seeks to guarantee this.

Mme. Speaker, the debate has long been over. With the deaths of people like Jennifer Laude and the abuse experienced by our workers, students, sons, daughters, brothers, sisters and friends, the arguments against the SOGIE Equality Bill have long been answered. *Ipasa na po natin itong panukalang batas. Mabuhay ho ang ating mga equality champ. Mabuhay ang pagkakapantay-pantay. Mabuhay ang mga LGBTQ+. Mabuhay ang sambayanang Filipino.*

Magandang hapon. With that, Mme. Speaker, good Sponsor, I would like to close my interpellation. Again, I fully support this measure and we hope that this august Chamber will do the same.

Thank you and good afternoon.

REP. ARAGONES. Maraming salamat din po,

Cong. Tom Villarin. Makakaasa po kayo na tayo, ang mga equality champ dito, ay titiyakin din na may sapat na pondo na itututok sa bawat ahensiya na tututok sa maayos na implementasyon sakaling ito ay maisabatas.

Maraming salamat po, Mme. Speaker.

REP. VILLARIN. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Gentleman from BUHAY, the Hon. Jose “Lito” L. Atienza, for his interpellation.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The Hon. Lito Atienza is recognized.

You may proceed.

REP. ATIENZA. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

With the graciousness of the principal Sponsor, we have to clarify more issues about this particular measure.

REP. ROMAN. Mme. Speaker, this humble Representation would gladly answer questions and queries, and points of clarification from my esteemed colleague from BUHAY Party-List.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Congresswoman Roman, as co-sponsor of the Bill, will be answering your interpellation, Honorable Atienza.

REP. ATIENZA. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

At the outset, lalinawin lang po nating mabuti iyong ating napag-usapan na, and I would like to put that on record so that it will be part of all these proceedings which are related to the passage or approval of this particular measure.

Mme. Speaker, you stated before in the Committee that this does not involve, does not include same-sex marriage. Would you still agree to that now that we are formally discussing it on the floor?

REP. ROMAN. Mme. Speaker, I would like to reiterate the fact that this measure has nothing to do with same-sex marriage.

REP. ATIENZA. It does not include, it does not involve.

REP. ROMAN. It does not include and is not related to, nor does it refer to same-sex marriage.

REP. ATIENZA. It has nothing to do with the issue of a woman being given the right to marry another woman or a man to marry another man.

REP. ROMAN. Mme. Speaker, it does not have anything to do with this nor does it provide for such an instance or circumstance.

REP. ATIENZA. So, we will concentrate, therefore, on the prevention of discrimination or discriminatory act on anyone, whatever sexuality, gender orientation he or she has.

REP. ROMAN. Mme. Speaker, the Gentleman is correct.

REP. ATIENZA. On the issue of preventing discrimination, I am with you 100 percent dahil hindi po talaga dapat hinahayaan na magkaroon ng discriminatory allowance ang sino man para pakialam ang gender orientation nino man. Hayaan natin sila for whatever they would want to be as long as they do not impose also on those on the other side of the fence because there are those who may be offended by our intention. Kaya lalinawin ko lang po ang mga isyung iyon na kasali po dito sa inyong panukalang batas.

REP. ROMAN. Mme. Speaker, I would just like to commend my colleague from BUHAY Party-List for recognizing a real need to protect our brothers and sisters in the LGBT community from discrimination. This is very much in line with the Christian imperative of nondiscrimination as stated in the 2015 pastoral letter of the CBCP where it said clearly that “Non-Discrimination is a Christian Imperative,” and I cannot expect less from my esteemed colleague, he being an example and a role model of Christian morality.

REP. ATIENZA. I am sure the Lady Member of Congress would also agree that we would not want to transgress on the rights of the other sectors who may not belong to our sector.

REP. ROMAN. I cannot agree more with my esteemed colleague. As I said, recognizing our rights will, in no way, diminish the rights of others.

REP. ATIENZA. Then, how would the Lady Member of Congress and the co-sponsors of the measure explain that provision that no one should be refused enrollment in any institution of learning, or institution for that matter because of gender orientation? Hindi po ba kasali iyon?

REP. ROMAN. Mme. Speaker, the refusal of admission of any student on the basis of the child’s sexual orientation and gender identity expression is considered discriminatory under this measure. I would explain to my colleague this provision this way. A child’s right to study is something that we all

recognize, and a child's ability to perform in school has nothing to do actually with the child's sexual orientation and gender identity. Hence, to base the admission of a child in a school on his or her sexual orientation and gender identity expression is not only unconstitutional but it is, I would say, absurd, unfair. This is the reason we have indicated that it is very important to recognize a child's right to study and that we should overlook a child's sexual orientation and gender identity expression when it comes to the admission of a student in an institution, in a school.

REP. ATIENZA. You would agree, Mme. Speaker, that there are institutions which are exclusively for one gender, tama po ba iyon?

REP. ROMAN. That is right, Mme. Speaker. There are exclusive schools that only admit all boys and/or all girls.

REP. ATIENZA. In other words, this measure will not force any institution to accept those they cannot accept?

REP. ROMAN. Mme. Speaker, it will not. Schools will be allowed to formulate their policies or to continue with their existing policies with regard to the admission of students. We are talking about...

REP. ATIENZA. One-minute break, Mme. Speaker. Lilipat lang ako.

REP. ROMAN. Opo, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Hindi malinaw iyong naririnig ko. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

Opo, iyong tanong ko ay, would you agree that there are institutions exclusively for women and there are institutions exclusively for men and you cannot interchange the two?

REP. ROMAN. I agree, Mme. Speaker. Even this humble Representation is a product of an all-boys school, that being the Ateneo.

REP. ATIENZA. I am not even talking about comfort rooms yet.

REP. ROMAN. No, no.

REP. ATIENZA. I am talking about institutions of learning and religious institutions for that matter. Mayroong kumbento para sa mga babae and they will refuse entry of a male—iyan po ay hindi mababago, and there are seminaries for men who would like to become priests, to be trained in priesthood. Hindi po mababago iyan kailanman.

REP. ROMAN. Mme. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Ang tatanggapin lang nila ay mga lalaking gustong magpári, hindi iyong babaeng gustong magpári, hindi po ba?

REP. ROMAN. Mme. Speaker, that is very understandable. This measure will not force all-female convents to admit males or all-male seminaries to admit females. It is not even dealt with in this measure.

REP. ATIENZA. Am I to understand that the Lady Sponsor is saying, from the examples that I mentioned—that convents for women, seminaries for men, schools exclusively for men, and/or for women—they will not be forced by this law, if ever we pass it. In other words, they will be free to exercise their mandate and their rights under the Constitution. Hindi natin sila pakikialaman, tama po ba iyon?

REP. ROMAN. Yes, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Malinaw po iyon.

REP. ROMAN. The Gentleman is correct.

REP. ATIENZA. Now, on the issue that you, Mme. Speaker, mentioned earlier, we will open it up now.

Sa ibang bansa, ang naging isyu ay iyong paggigiit ng mga miyembro ng LGBT community to be given the right to choose whatever restroom they would like to enter. Sa Bangkok, marami pong problemang nangyari, nagkagulo-gulo sila sapagkat iyong mga lalaki, ang sabi nila, "Kami ay babae, gusto naming gumamit ng ladies' room," pero ayaw pumayag ang management kaya nagkaroon sila ng malalaking gusot and they are reconsidering the measure at hinahabol nila ngayon ng amendments. Dito ba sa inyong measure ngayon ay nakikini-kinita ninyo na ang mga restroom ay bubuksan natin para sa gamit ng sinumang mayroong damdamin na pansarili na,

"Babae ako e, gusto ko, ladies room." Sabi naman noong isang babae, "Aba, ako ay lalaki e, iyon ang damdamin ko, iyon ang pagkakilala sa akin kaya gusto ko men's room ang gagamitin ko." Hindi po ba kasali iyan dito o gusto ninyong liwanagin natin iyan para wala po tayong gusot?

REP. ROMAN. Mme. Speaker, the Bill does not cover or regulate the use of comfort rooms or toilets.

REP. ATIENZA. In other words, what you are saying, Mme. Speaker, this Bill will always respect the sensitivity or sensitivities of the majority of our people because we must admit, we are protecting the rights of our supposed minority so that they will not be discriminated upon. I am with you on that but we do not want to also impose on the majority our desire to be

recognized as such. “E kung gusto ko pong makilala ako bilang babae, pipilitin kong gumamit ng palikurang bayan ng babae,” this Bill will not protect you. Iyon po ba ang sinasabi ninyo?

REP. ROMAN. Mme. Speaker, the Gentleman is correct. What I am saying is that this Bill does not cover or regulate the use of comfort rooms. Nevertheless, I would like to point out one thing—the example that my colleague is citing is about people who feel that they are women or they feel that they are men and they want to use the comfort rooms of the gender that they identify with is also applicable to me. I have been entering the ladies’ comfort room for the longest time ever since I joined Congress and to my knowledge, my colleagues have accepted that as a normal thing. I think that the Gentleman himself would feel weird if I enter the men’s comfort room.

Let me go back to my explanation. I want to assure the Gentleman that this Bill does not regulate the use of comfort rooms.

REP. ATIENZA. Mme. Speaker, ito pong aking mga inilalahad ay hindi po kathang-isip. Ito po ay mga kaso sa Amerika, sa Europa at sa Asya, kung saan mayroon nang batas na itinutulak ngayon natin dito sa ating Kongreso. In other words, let us learn from their experience and let us be very sensitive and careful about it para hindi naman tayo malagay sa alangan.

Sa totoo lang, huli na ang batas na ito e. Maraming bansa ang mayroon na nito. Noong unang-unang ito ay nilikha ay halos kinopya lamang iyong mga batas sa ibang bansa na where there was a provision on same-sex marriage. But now, we are very happy and we take note of the acceptance of the Lady Sponsor, principal Sponsor, that that should not be insisted upon because it does not really go with the grain of Philippine values and existing laws. So, I will keep repeating for the record, number one, this does not involve same-sex marriage. Number two, this law will not force institutions of learning or training, whether religious or academic, to violate their own convention and set of policies and historical direction by insisting that, from now on because the law has been passed, exclusive women’s institutions must now accept male enrollees, at sinabi po ninyo na hindi po iyon ang intensiyon. Pipilitin nating suriin ang inyong panukala, word for word, para pagdating natin sa period of amendments, mailagay po nating lahat iyan for the protection of your good intentions and not be subjected to abuse by some who may misunderstand your good intentions.

Iyon lamang simpleng-simpleng batas na ginawa natin, mawala iyong distraction sa pagmamaneho ay hindi naintindihan ng nagpapatupad at isinama na lahat pati iyong maliliit na mga estampita, rosaryo—binawal. Ngayon, sa batas natin sa paninigarilyo, maraming mga

nagwawala sa implementation. So, malinaw po ito sa ating pinag-uusapan, and this discussion will be helpful in the court cases that will be filed eventually. Eventually, cases will arise, issues will happen, violence may even erupt—we hope not—but in the misunderstanding and misappreciation of the good intentions of the Lady, it could happen that cases in court will be litigated and will be held by the complainants and the defendants, and these proceedings that we are now holding will guide the good judges that will be hearing these cases. Lahat itong ating pinag-uusapan will form part of our deliberations, of our intentions on the law and not the interpretations of others later on. Sana po iyon ang inyong pagtanggap dito sa kahalagahan ng aking itinatanong at iyong inyong isinasagot.

REP. ROMAN. Mme. Speaker, I recognize and appreciate the concern of my colleague regarding the possible abuse of this law, but I want to assure you that the Bill by itself is very clear and that, you know, to actually go beyond what is actually stated here, although it is a natural tendency but with a very clear intention of protecting our citizens, I am sure that is also being addressed and the law itself is very clear. The clarity of the law itself is a safeguard that it will not be abused, and in case there should be abuse, as in the case of any other measure that we promulgated here in the House, there are also other laws that will also protect the victims of such scenarios that you had just cited, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Uulitin ko lamang po, without being repetitious, that the intention of this proposed law is to prevent discriminatory practices anywhere against members of the LGBT community so that they may not be deprived of their rights as citizens of the land. It is not meant to impose on the greater majority of our people who may react in their own levels on the provisions of this law.

In this regard, we will now get the latest copy of your proposal, and we will also scrutinize it line by line, word for word, so that during the period of amendments, we will suggest certain words or phrases to the different provisions to make sure that we are not misinterpreted—you in particular, we in general—that this Congress has been remiss in its duty to protect the lives of everyone and not just one sector.

Mayroon din pong karapatan ang karamihan na who may not agree with our good intentions, at ang kanilang magiging reaction ay kabaligtaran sa ating magandang hinahangad. Sasabihin nila, “Ayaw namin iyan,” kaya kailangan ipaliwanag natin at iyong possible controversial provisions ay aking inilalahad para po magkaroon ng kasagutan. Ako po naman ay naliligayahan sa inyong mga sagot sapagkat iyon ay mga garantiya na hindi naman natin lalabagin ang karapatan

ng iba. We would want to protect everyone from discrimination, but we would not want to infringe also on the rights of the others and the greater majority.

REP. ROMAN. Mme. Speaker, as I said before, recognizing our rights will in no way infringe on the rights of others. Nevertheless, if the Gentleman pleases, we may go through the provisions or the controversial ones that he would like me to clarify. Mme. Speaker, I would be willing to go through those provisions.

REP. ATIENZA. So, we would like to already request the Lady that, if we will propose amendments to her proposed law, we would be considered and accommodated.

REP. ROMAN. Mme. Speaker, any measure in this House is a work in progress. The more inputs we have, the better. This is my humble opinion.

REP. ATIENZA. Maraming salamat po, Mme. Speaker. With those assurances from the Lady Sponsor, we temporarily rest our case. We will review and give all provisions of this law a second look when we participate in the period of amendments.

Salamat po.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Thank you. The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, there being no other Member of the House who wishes to interpellate or speak against the measure, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

REP. DEFENSOR. We have no Committee amendments, Mme. Speaker, I therefore move that we consider individual amendments.

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

REP. GO (M.). Mme. Speaker, can I propose an amendment at this point?

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Kaka J. Bag-ao for her individual amendment.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The Hon. Kaka J. Bag-ao is recognized.

REP. BAG-AO. Mme. Speaker, we would like to propose the following individual amendments: On page 4, Section 4(a), line 17, to delete the comma (,) after the word “services” and the phrase “including military service.”

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, may we know if this is acceptable to the Sponsor?

REP. ROMAN. Mme. Speaker, I accept.

REP. DEFENSOR. With that, Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve the individual amendment proposed and stated by the Hon. Kaka Bag-ao, subject to style and the submission of the written text to the Secretariat for guidance.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the individual amendment is approved, subject to style.

REP. BAG-AO. Mme. Speaker, we would like to propose an amendment on page 7, Section 4, paragraph (1), line 7: after the word “speech,” to insert a comma (,) and the phrase EXCEPT RELIGIOUS SPEECH.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Is the proponent amenable to such amendment?

REP. ROMAN. Yes, Mme. Speaker.

REP. DEFENSOR. With that Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve the amendment as proposed and stated by the Hon. Kaka Bag-ao, subject to style.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the individual amendment is approved, subject to style.

REP. BAG-AO. Mme. Speaker, we would like to

propose another amendment on page 9 between lines 5 and 6, to insert the following paragraph which shall state: IF THE VIOLATION OR OFFENSE IS COMMITTED BY A CORPORATION COMMA (,) PARTNERSHIP COMMA(,) ASSOCIATION OR OTHER JURIDICAL ENTITIES COMMA (,) THE PENALTY PROVIDED FOR IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE IMPOSED UPON THE DIRECTORS, OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES OR OTHER OFFICIALS OR PERSONS THEREIN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OFFENSE WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE CIVIL LIABILITIES ARISING FROM THE CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Is the proponent amenable to such amendment?

REP. ROMAN. Yes, Mme. Speaker.

REP. DEFENSOR. With that, Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve the amendment proposed by the Hon. Kaka Bag-ao, subject to style.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the individual amendment proposed by the Hon. Kaka Bag-ao is approved, subject to style.

REP. BAG-AO. Lastly, Mme. Speaker, we would like to propose an amendment on page 10, Section 9, line 4, to delete the phrase “Gender Rights” and in lieu thereof, to put the following phrase which shall read LGBTQ++.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Is the proponent amenable to such amendment?

REP. ROMAN. Yes, Mme. Speaker.

REP. DEFENSOR. With that, Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve the proposed amendment of the Hon. Kaka J. Bag-ao, subject to style.

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

REP. BAG-AO. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Mark O. Go for his individual amendments.

REP. GO (M.). Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The Hon. Mark O. Go is recognized.

REP. GO (M.). Thank you very much.

Based on the presentation of Congressman Atienza and it was answered by our Sponsor, that if we look at Section 4, Discriminatory Acts, under paragraph (h), it says here, “Denying a person access to or the use of establishments, facilities, utilities, or services, including housing, open to the general public on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity or expression.” It was stated earlier, based on the answer, that it is not discriminatory when we allow or do not allow people to go to a men’s comfort room or a women’s comfort room. So, if that is the case, I would like to propose that we delete this paragraph (h) of Section 4 as one of discriminatory acts.

REP. ROMAN. Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Yes, please reply.

REP. ROMAN. If the Gentleman is concerned precisely with the use of comfort rooms, that is one issue, but to totally remove this very important provision is unacceptable to the community. Let me remind my colleagues that there have been many cases of people who, like me, just want to enter a bar to have a couple of drinks and just to relax, but we are denied entry because they consider us aberrations or we do not follow a dress code, supposedly a dress code that is based on our sexual orientation and gender identity expression.

Can you imagine, Mme. Speaker, should I decide to go to—I do not know—one of these famous bars, I am not familiar anymore because I almost do not go out, I seldom go out, actually, and if I were to be denied entry, would not my colleagues feel bad for me that I am not allowed entry to these establishments simply because I am who I am? That is discrimination.

REP. GO (M.). Mme. Speaker.

REP. ROMAN. If we remove this provision, then we are going against the very essence of this measure.

REP. GO (M.). Mme. Speaker, where will that answer fall under this provision? Can we have a separate provision where we can stipulate what was answered by our Sponsor of this Bill?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Please state again your amendment.

REP. GO (M.). Well, the proposed amendment here is, we will include that it is not discriminatory to disallow based on gender or gender orientation if what

is identified, let us say, the room is identified as male or female. That was the answer that I got earlier during the interpellation. So, we want to document that it should be stipulated clearly in this particular Bill that it is not discriminatory, because this one is an all-encompassing statement, that it is discriminatory when we deny access to the use of establishment facilities or utilities. Probably, we need to put an exemption to this.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). What is your take, Dep. Majority Leader?

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, the first amendment proposed by the Gentleman, I understand, is the deletion of paragraph (h) of Section 4 which is not acceptable to the Sponsor. May we know from the Gentleman if he is proposing another amendment?

REP. GO (M.). Yes, basically, if that is the provision that our Sponsor is saying, we can put there a certain exemption to this and the exemption is what was earlier stated, that it is not discriminatory when you disallow anybody to go to, let us say, a male or female comfort room.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. DEFENSOR. With that, Mme. Speaker, I think we need a clearer statement of the proposed amendment on how exactly we shall make the amendment and where to insert it.

With that, I move for a brief suspension of the session.

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

It was 5:05 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:06 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 4982

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we suspend the consideration of House Bill No. 4982.

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

The consideration of House Bill No. 4982 is hereby suspended.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 5784

Continuation

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we resume the consideration of House Bill No. 5784 contained in Committee Report No. 273 of the Committee on Health and the Committee on Appropriations, and that we direct the Secretary General to read only the title of the measure.

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

The Secretary General is hereby directed to read only the title of the measure.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 5784, entitled: AN ACT PROVIDING UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE FOR ALL FILIPINOS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7875, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE ACT OF 1995."

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, the parliamentary status of the Bill is that we are in the period of sponsorship and debate. Before we proceed, I move that we recognize the Hon. H. Harry L. Roque, Jr. for the sponsorship.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The Hon. Harry Roque is recognized for the sponsorship.

REP. ROQUE (H.). Mme. Speaker, Dep. Majority Leader, before we proceed, may I manifest that Speaker Pantaleon D. Alvarez, Majority Floor Leader Rodolfo C. Fariñas, Committee on Appropriations Chairman Karlo Alexei B. Nograles as well as Congressman Manuel Luis T. Lopez, be made additional coauthors on this Bill.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, first to interpellate is the Hon. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate, Party-List BAYAN MUNA. I move that the Gentleman be recognized.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The Hon. "Kaloi" Zarate is recognized.

REP. ZARATE. Maraming salamat, Mme. Speaker. Maaari po bang tumanggap ng ilang mga katanungan ang ating kagalang-galang na Isponsor, Mme. Speaker?

REP. ROQUE (H.). Karangalan ko po, Mme. Speaker., lalung-lalo na kung galing sa aking kaibigan, kay Congressman Zarate ng BAYAN MUNA.

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

REP. ZARATE. Maraming salamat, Mme. Speaker. Magandang hapon ho sa ating lahat.

Mme. Speaker, ang Kinatawang ito ay naging co-Sponsor ngunit napilitan tayong mag-withdraw sa ating co-sponsorship pagkatapos mabasa po natin ang pinal na bersyon ng panukalang batas na natagurian na ngayong House Bill No. 5784 sa maraming kadahilanan.

Unang-una, sa tingin namin, Mme. Speaker, G. Isponsor, malayung-malayo ito, in fact, kabaligtaran ito sa panawagan ng health sector na free health services for the people in a unified public health care system nationwide that is state-funded from the taxes of our people. Sa atin pong pagbusisi sa panukalang batas, nakita ho natin na labag ito sa karapatan ng kalusugan dahil sa mga sumusunod: una, may mga kondisyones para ma-access pati na ang pinakabatayang serbisyong pangkalusugan sa antas barangay; pangalawa, pinapalala ang komersiyalisasyon ng serbisyong pangkalusugan dahil, essentially, may bayad na ang lahat; pangatlo, tinatalikuran ng estado, ng gobyerno, ang papel sa pagtitiyak ng right to health at ipinapasa ito doon sa mga maykakayanan o sa pamamagitan lamang ng pag-subsidize sa mga walang kakayanang magbayad; pang-apat, maaaring magresulta ito sa lalong inaccessibility ng health services at exclusion ng maraming hindi makapapasok sa sponsored or non-contributory na kabahaging ito; at panglima, hindi nireresolba ang ugat ng napakalalang sitwasyon ng pangkalusugan. Sa mga kadahilananang ito, Mme. Speaker, sisimulan ko na ang interpellation ko at kung bakit tayo ay tumututol sa panukalang batas na ito.

Ang unang katanungan, G. Isponsor, Mme. Speaker, masasabi ba ng Isponsor na ang House Bill No. 5784 ay nagtataguyod talaga ng katotohanan ng karapatan sa kalusugan ng mamamayan gaya ng isinasaad sa ating Konstitusyon, lalung-lalo na sa Article II, Declaration of Principles, specifically Section 15 which states “The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them”? Also, Article XIII, Social Justice and Human Rights, Section 11:

The State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all the people at affordable cost. There shall be priority for the needs of the under-privileged sick, elderly, disabled, women, and children. The State shall endeavor to provide free medical care to paupers.

Again, ang katanungan ko po, Mme. Speaker, G. Isponsor, masasabi ba ninyo na ang House Bill No. 5784 ay nagtataguyod sa karapatan sa kalusugan ng mamamayan gaya ng isinasaad ng ating Saligang Batas?

REP. ROQUE (H.). Mme. Speaker, ang kasagutan ko po ay opo. Bagamat ang kasagutan ko ay opo, nais ko munang kilalanin na siguro po hindi ito iyong ideal na panukalang batas na talagang magbibigay buhay doon sa karapatan na magkaroon ng mabuting kalusugan, dahil sa isang bansa po na napakadaming salapi sa kanyang kaban ay dapat po talagang libre lahat at dapat po talaga na lahat ng pagamutan ay pag-aari ng gobyerno. Ang problema nga lang po, kung ganyan ang ating nais na mangyari sa ating bayan, ang kinakailangang badyet para diyan po ay isang trilyon. Ang ating badyet po ngayon ay P3.8 trilyon lamang, iyon ang proposed budget po for 2018.

Ang ginawa po ng mga author naman nitong Bill, at sana po pagkatapos ng aking pagsasagot sa mga katanungan ni Congressman Zarate, ay siya ay papayag na muling maging co-author, ay tayo naman po ay tumingin sa mga ekspirensiya ng ating mga karatig-bansa gaya ng Thailand.

Ano po ang naging ekspirensiya ng Thailand? Ang ginawa po nila ay ginawa nilang centralized iyong pagbili ng mga pangangailangan at sinigurado nila na mayroong isang entity na bibili ng mga pangangailangang kalusugan ng taong-bayan. Ang pambayad ng mga pangangailangan ng mga taong-bayan ay nanggagaling din sa pondo na, unang-una, galing sa mga miyembro ng isang insurance system. Sa atin po ngayon, iyan ay PhilHealth at dito sa panukalang batas po na ito, hindi po limitado sa PhilHealth lamang iyong mga nagbo-voluntary contributions ngayon sa PhilHealth. Kasama na po diyan iyong babayaranang coverage para po sa kapalit na entity ng PhilHealth, ang tawag po ay Philippine Health Security Corporation, at ang mangyayari po, lahat po ng Pilipino, dahil sila ay Pilipino, ay magiging miyembro ng Philippine Health Security Corporation. Ngayon po kasi sa PhilHealth, hindi po lahat ng Pilipino ay member. Iyon po siguro ang kinakailangan nating i-emphasize. Bagamat member po iyong mga tinatawag nating miyembro ng National Household Targeting System, iyong mga beneficiaries ng 4Ps, hindi po ibig sabihin na lahat ng mga dukha ay miyembro ng PhilHealth.

Dito po sa panukalang batas, lahat na po ng Pilipino ay magiging miyembro bagamat ang babayaran lamang ng gobyerno na premium ay para doon sa mga hindi makakabayad ng premium. Ngayon, ano ho ang mangyayari sa mga benepisyo ng PhilHealth? Ngayon po, for instance, doon sa primary health care na tinatawag, ang libre lang po na primary health care ay iyong mga beneficiaries nga ng 4Ps. Dito po, lahat

ng Pilipino, dahil sila ay Pilipino, ay pupuwedeng makakuha ng primary health care benefits. Pangalawa, pagdating po sa pagpapa-ospital, basta po ang pasyente ay pumayag sa isang ward, wala po talagang babayaran ang pasyente. Mayroon lang pong babayaran kung magnanais na mag-semi-private ward o kaya private room or presidential suite iyong pasyente. Ang mangyayari po, magkakaroon pa nga ng taripa at magkakaroon tayo ng uniformity of classification para po depende kung ano iyong room na gusto ng isang pasyente ay iisa lang po ang halaga na babayaran ng Philippine Health Security Corporation at iisa po ang tinatawag na co-payment noong pasyente na ayaw mag-stay sa ward.

So, makikita ninyo po, Mme. Speaker, aking kaibigan, Congressman Zarate, na bagamat hindi po magiging pag-aari ng gobyerno ang lahat ng ospital sa bayang ito, wala na pong Pilipino na hindi pupuwedeng magpa-ospital o magpa-confine dahil lahat ngayon, kung papayag sila sa ward, libre na ang pagpapa-ospital at ngayon po, lahat ay pupuwedeng makakuha ng primary health care benefit. Iyan po ang pagnanais ng Bill na ito, at nais ko rin pong i-emphasize na magkakaroon tayo ng Health Technology Assessment Council, na isang kinatawan composed ng mga experts sa kalusugan, at sila ang magde-determine kung ano pa iyong mga libreng serbisyo na pupuwedeng ibigay sa ating mga kababayan.

So, iyon po, ang basics po ng ating pangangailangan sa kalusugan ay talaga pong maibibigay dahil po dito sa panukalang batas na ito.

REP. ZARATE. Maraming salamat po, G. Isponsor, Mme. Speaker.

Inamin na rin ng kagalang-galang na Isponsor na ang batas na ito ay hindi raw ideal at ito ay hindi buong kasagutan doon sa itinatakda ng ating Saligang Batas. Sa katunayan, inamin na rin niya na sa panukalang batas na ito, itatali pa rin natin ang pagbibigay ng serbisyong pangkalusugan sa ating mamamayan sa pamamagitan ng financing or health insurance. So, iyong access to health ay nakatali doon sa sinasabi niyang hindi na lamang sa PhilHealth, kung hindi doon rin sa itatayo ng batas na ito na Philippine Health Security Corporation. In fact, ayon sa panukalang batas na ito, doon pa lang sa kanyang Declaration of Principles and Policies nga nakalagay na iyon at nakalagay din sa Section 2 (b) na kailangang "Compulsory Coverage. - To require all citizens of the Philippines to enroll in the National Health Security Program." Sinabi rin doon sa Section 5, Universal Health Coverage, ganoon din ang mensahe niya.

Samakatuwid, inaamin po ninyo na kailangang mag-enrol ang lahat ng Pilipino para magka-access siya doon sa serbisyong pangkalusugan na dapat ay libreng ibinibigay sa kanya ng gobyerno. Ganoon po ba ang ibig ninyong sabihin, Mme. Speaker, G. Isponsor?

REP. ROQUE (H.). Mme. Speaker, unang-una po, doon sa probisyon ng ating Saligang Batas, hindi naman po sinabi sa Saligang Batas na kinakailangan ang pagtataguyod ng kalusugan ay talagang absolutely libre para sa lahat. So, ang obligasyon po ng estado, para sa pagtataguyod ng karapatang kalusugan, ay gumawa ng mga tamang hakbang upang lahat ng mamamayan ay magkaroon ng mabuting kalusugan. Pangalawa, tama po, kinakailangang maging miyembro ka ng Philippine Health Security Corporation. Ang pagkakaiba po, kaya nga po bubuwagin ang PhilHealth at gagawa tayo nang bago na Philippine Health Security Corporation kasi, sa ngayon po, iyong pondo na kinakailangan para ang lahat ng Pilipino ay maging miyembro ng Philippine Health Security Corporation ay ibibigay ng gobyerno, kaya nga po, malaki rin po ang badyet na kakailanganin natin. Ang pamamaraan naman para maibigay natin ang serbisyong libre, lalong-lalo na doon sa mga non-contributory members na tinatawag, sila po iyong mga hindi nagbabayad ng premiums, ay dahil nga po itong Philippine Health Security Corporation, hindi gaya ng PhilHealth ngayon, magkakaroon po siya ng monopoliya sa pagbigay ng mga serbisyong kalusugan.

Siya ang magtatakda ng mga taripa pero hindi naman po ito compulsory sa mga pribadong ospital, pero kung gusto ng pribadong ospital na makatanggap ng pondo galing sa gobyerno, galing sa Philippine Health Security Corporation, siyempre papayag ito doon sa taripa ng gobyerno. Ito naman po ay ang naging karanasan din ng Thailand kung saan ngayon talaga ang mga mahihirap ay wala nang ibinabayad.

Ganyan din po ang magiging suma-total dito sa ating panukalang batas na iyong mga dukha, iyong mga hindi sakop ng 4Ps, iyong mga hindi makababayad ng premiums sa PhilHealth, ay hindi lang magkakaroon ng coverage kung saan gobyerno ang magbabayad, kung hindi sisiguraduhin po natin, kagaya sa siyudad ng Makati at nakatingin ako sa mga Congressman ng Makati, na kapag sila ay nasa ward, wala silang babayaran at kasama na rin doon iyong mga gamot. Hindi nga lang ekspirensiya ng Thailand ang tiningnan natin noong binabalangkas natin ang panukalang batas na ito, pati po ang ekspirensiya din sa Makati. Kaya naman medyo mataas talaga ang badyet na kakailanganin natin dito. Ang badyet para dito, bagamat ito ay gagamitin para sa premiums para ma-insure ang lahat, garantisado naman po talaga na ang confinement sa ward, under the primary health care, maibibigay ng walang bayad.

REP. ZARATE. Maraming salamat, Mme. Speaker, G. Isponsor.

Iyon nga ho ang ating o diyan ho nagmumula ang ating agam-agam at pangamba, dahil naman sa ngayon, usapin pa lang na ang nandiyan ay PhilHealth, alam ninyo naman ho ang problema sa PhilHealth. Taun-

taon bilyon-bilyon ang pinopondo natin sa PhilHealth. Ilang scam, ilang mga anomalya na ba ang nangyayari sa PhilHealth, na iyong pondo para sana sa pakinabang ng maraming mahihirap na mamamayang Pilipino ay napunta lamang sa balsa ng iilan. Ngayon, gagawa tayo muli ng isa pang insurance corporation para tugunan ang hindi daw natutugunan ng PhilHealth. Kahit sa usaping mandatory requirement na mag-enrol sa PhilHealth, Mme. Speaker, G. Isponsor, alam po ninyo na ito rin ay isang malaking reklamo ng ating overseas Filipino workers na nire-require sila maging mandatory member ng PhilHealth dahil sa abroad naman ay mayroon na silang health care coverage.

Iyon po ang ilan sa mga punto natin dahil tauntaon, bilyun-bilyong pondo, at ngayon ang sinasabi ninyo na kailangan din natin ng malaking pondo, na hindi lang ibibigay ngayon sa PhilHealth, kung hindi ay kailangang ilagay rin natin, ilagak rin natin dito, ayon sa panukalang batas, sa itatayong Philippine Health Security Corporation.

Mabalik ako doon sa aking tanong. Samakatuwid, malinaw dito na para magkaroon ka ng access sa serbisyong pangkalusugan, kailangan maging miyembro nitong national health insurance program, dahil sinasabi ninyo na compulsory ang maging miyembro dito. Kung hindi ka ba maging miyembro dito, maaari ka pa rin makapag-access ng serbisyo sa gobyerno or sa pamahalaan, Mme. Speaker, G. Isponsor?

REP. ROQUE(H.). Mme. Speaker, ang pagkakaiba nitong Philippine Health Security Corporation sa PhilHealth, sa PhilHealth, para maging miyembro, dapat magbayad ka ng coverage. Siyempre ang kakaunting kababayan natin na hindi kayang magbayad ng coverage, ngayon po, ito ay binabayaran ng Kongreso. May badyet ang Kongreso para bayaran ang coverage doon sa mga miyembro ng National Household Targeting System o ang 4Ps.

Dito po sa ating panukalang batas, ang membership sa Philippine Health Security Corporation ay hindi dahil ikaw ay nagbabayad pero ang membership dito ay dahil ikaw ay isang Pilipino at hindi dahil sa iyong kakayahan na magbayad ng premiums.

REP. ZARATE. Kaya nga po babalik ako, Mme. Speaker, G. Isponsor, sa aking katanungan kanina. Kung ikaw ba ay hindi miyembro ng national health insurance program, hindi ka naipasok dito, hindi ka na-enrol, can you still have access to the services?

REP. ROQUE (H.). Ang kasagutan ko po, dayuhan lang ang hindi magiging miyembro ng Philippine Health Security Corporation dahil lahat ng Pilipino ay magiging miyembro nito. Siyempre po kung dayuhan ka, bakit naman namin babayaran ang pangangailangan mo sa kalusugan?

I can assure the Gentleman that the context, the intention ng mga bumalangkas ng panukalang batas na ito, ay ang lahat ng Pilipino ay miyembro po ng Philippine Health Security Corporation. Hindi konsiderasyon ang hindi pagbabayad ng premium dahil kung hindi magbabayad ng premium dahil hindi kaya, ang gobyerno ang magbabayad ng premium.

REP. ZARATE. Maraming salamat, Mme. Speaker, G. Isponsor. Nakalagay rin dito sa probisyon ng panukalang batas na kapag ang isang miyembro ay may kakayanan, initially, na magbayad ng kontribusyon pero afterwards ay hindi na siya nakapagbayad, sabi po rito sa Chapter III, Section 20:

SEC. 20. Immediate Entitlement. – After a premium contribution is made, no minimum period or lag time shall be required to activate entitlement to Program benefits. In the case of contributory members, failure to pay premiums shall not prevent the enjoyment of Program benefits, but employers and self-employed members shall be required to pay all missed contributions with at least three percent (3%) penalty, compounded monthly.

Ang katanungan ko po, Mme. Speaker, G. Isponsor, lalong-lalo na doon sa usapin ng mga self-employed, halimbawa, a sari-sari store owner is a self-employed member, bakit ho pagdating dito, maraming rason kaya hindi na niya nabayaran, bakit ho kailangan na i-penalize natin? Posibleng hindi na niya nabayaran ang kanyang contribution pero dito sa ating panukalang batas, ang miyembro na mag-a-access sa serbisyo na hindi na nga makabayad ay paparusan pa natin dahil pagbabayaran natin siya ng three percent penalty, compounded monthly.

REP. ROQUE (H.). Mme. Speaker, walang parusa diyen. Kasi maski hindi ka nagbayad o tumigil ka na magbayad, mayroon ka pa ring karapatan sa mga serbisyo na maibibigay ng panukalang batas na ito. Ang binasa ninyong probisyon ay nagsasabi lamang na hahabulin ka para sa premium mo dahil ikaw naman ay hindi dukkha, dahil ikaw ay may negosyo. Hindi naman ibig sabihin nito na palibhasa delinkuwerte ka sa pagbayad ay hindi ka makakakuha ng libreng pa-ospital o libreng primary care, dahil ang intention at ang teksto po ng panukalang batas na ito ay nagsasabi na gaya ng binasa ninyo, na hindi po hadlang ang pagbayad ng kontribusyon ng mga contributing members ng Philippine Health Security Corporation para makakuha ng benepisyo. Binibigyan lamang natin ng karapatan ang korporasyon na maghabol para doon sa unpaid premiums dahil mayroon naman silang kakayahan.

Hindi po gaya naman noong mga dukha na talagang hindi kayang magkaroon ng negosyo.

So, malinaw po iyan. Maski sila ay delinquent ay may access sa serbisyo pa rin pero kinakailangan later on magbayad sila ng premiums. Premiums lang naman po ang babayaran. Hindi natin sinisingil ang halaga ng benepisyo na nakukuha nila.

REP. ZARATE. Maraming salamat, Mme. Speaker, G. Sponsor. Lilinawin lang po natin dahil sinasabi rito “to ensure access with the least financial risk.” Sinasabi kasi ng ating G. Sponsor, Mme. Speaker, na walang problema. Ang access sa serbisyo pa rin, kahit mahirap, kahit na ikaw ay nagko-contribute, ito ay bukas na bukas sa pag-access. Ang aking katanungan: Anong klaseng serbisyo in the minimum and maximum na kayang i-access ng ating mamamayan?

REP. ROQUE (H.). Gaya ng paulit-ulit ko pong sinasabi, lahat ng primary health needs ay maibibigay sa lahat ng magpapa-ospital sa ward section at wala nang babayaran kahit ano ang Pilipino na miyembro ng programang ito. Kaya nga po ang tawag dito ay universal health care. Bagamat hindi lahat ng mga ospital ay pang-gobyerno, sinisigurado naman ng gobyerno na walang mamamatay dahil lamang sa kahirapan. Kahit gaano ka kahirap, kung kinakailangan mong magpa-ospital, mayroon kang kama na pupuwedeng mahigaan at walang hihingin na bayad sa iyo para dito.

REP. ZARATE. Maraming salamat po, Mme. Speaker, G. Sponsor.

Dito naman sa Section 9, Access to Primary Care Entitlements, ang tingin ko dito, pati sa pinakabatayang serbisyong pangkalusugan sa antas ng barangay ay parang mayroong kondisyones din dahil nakasaad dito, at puwedeng ilinaw ng G. Sponsor, na sa loob ng tatlong taon pa lamang, pagkatapos maisabatas ang panukalang batas na ito, ay magkakaroon ng primary care provider ang bawat Pilipino, Mme. Speaker, G. Sponsor.

REP. ROQUE (H.). Totoo po iyon, Mme. Speaker, mayroon tayong mga panahon kung kailan natin maibibigay ang primary care entitlement sa tatlong taon, gaya ng sinabi ninyo. Lahat na ng Pilipino, libre ang primary health care. Sa loob ng dalawang taon ay magkakaroon po ng comprehensive outpatient benefits, including outpatient drug benefits. Sa isang taon matapos maisabatas ang panukalang ito, magkakaroon tayo ng guidelines on primary care providers. Bakit po? Budget. Iyan po ang ating kasagutan diyan. Ang primary health care po, ang budget na kinakailangan natin para dito ay medyo malaki po. Iyong primary health care for every Filipino, kailangan-kailangan po natin ng P85 billion, at iyong mga ibang serbisyong ibibigay ay mayroon ding halaga kasi hindi naman po

libre iyan. May pinanggagalingan iyan, may gastos iyan.

Ang sinasabi lang namin is unti-untiin natin. Tulad sa nangyari po sa libreng tuition sa universities and colleges, napirmahan into law maski hindi pa sapat ang pondo natin dahil graduated naman ang benefits na ibibigay ganyan din po ang intensiyon namin. Huwag naman isahan lang dahil kung isahan lamang, pagkatapos ng isang taon at lahat libre na, napakalaki naman po ng budget na kakailanganin. So, ang idea naman po dito, ang pondo iyan naman po ay i-administer din at palalakihin din. Ang nangyari nga lang, mas malaki ngayon ang pondong palalakihin para makabili ng mga serbisyo na ang makikinabang ay ang ating mga kababayan.

REP. ZARATE. Maraming salamat, G. Sponsor, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ROQUE (H.). Bago nga po ako magtapos doon, ang idea naman talaga, ang intention pagkatapos ng tatlong taon, libre sa lahat ang primary health care. Hindi nga po tayo papayag na parang ang nangyari ngayon na napakaliit naman ang binibigay na benepisyo ng PhilHealth. Twelve pesos lang po ngayon for every P100 ang binibigay ng PhilHealth kaya buwagin na natin iyan. Gumawa tayo ng sistema na basta ikaw ay dukha, 100 porsiyento na kinakailangan mo, sagot ng sistema.

REP. ZARATE. Paglilinaw lang po, Mme. Speaker, kasi nabanggit ng G. Sponsor na “buwagin na natin iyan.” Dito ba sa panukalang batas na ito ay binubuwag natin ang PhilHealth, Mme. Speaker?

REP. ROQUE (H.). Opo, Mme. Speaker, magkakaroon ng pag-amyenda sa batas. Binago natin ang composition, binago natin ang ilang mga kapangyarihan at dahil nga sa mga anomalya, nagkaroon tayo ng mga mekanismo para maiwasan ang anomalya. Mayroon tayong audit system ngayon at binigyan natin ng mas maraming representante na nakaupo sa PhilHealth na nanggagaling sa mga stakeholders mismo, kasama na ang mga hindi nagbabayad ng premiums at magkakaroon din sila ng representante.

Kanina nga lang po, Mme. Speaker, nagkaroon kami ng public hearing tungkol sa mga anomalya ng PhilHealth kaya alam natin na talagang may problema sa PhilHealth, pero hindi naman po dahilan iyan para maging hadlang na magkaroon tayo ng universal health care. Puwede po tayong bumuo ng completely separate entity pero sa akin, wala nang pagkakaiba dahil magkakaroon na nga ng pag-amyenda dito sa PhilHealth Charter at magkakaroon na ng separate juridical entity. So, in effect, dahil nga siguro sa mga hindi mabuting karanasan natin sa PhilHealth, talaga naman pong

bubuwagin iyan at magkakaroon ng bagong entity. Makikita ninyo nga na pati iyong mga benepisyong ibibigay ng bagong korporasyon ay maiiba na. Hindi po patse-patse ang mga benepisyong ibibigay.

REP. ZARATE. Maraming salamat, Mme. Speaker, G. Isponsor.

Madako naman po tayo, balikan ko iyong sinabi ninyo kanina na lahat ng Pilipino ay magkaka-access na sa usaping pangkalusugan, dahil ang iyong walang kakayanan na magbayad ng kontribusyon, sila ay sasagutin ng estado. Ito iyong non-contributory membership.

Gusto ko pong talakayin ito dahil kung maalala ko po, noong October 2016, sinabi ng NEDA na ang poverty incidence daw ng ating bansa sa buong taon ng 2015 ay bumagsak significantly to 21.6 percent sa populasyon ng Pilipinas. Sabi ng Philippine Statistics Authority, in 2016, ang poverty threshold daw po for a family of five is P9,064 monthly. Ang mahirap po is equivalent to 21.9 million Filipinos or 3.8 million poor Filipino families. Iyon ang pagtataya nila, parang nasolusyunan, naibsan, nakunan ang mahihirap at lumago ang kanilang kabuhayan. Mayroon din isang pag-aaral—ang ginamit kasi na threshold dito ng NEDA at ng PSA ay napakababa, dahil kapag ang laman ng iyong bulsa bawat araw ay P56 and below, doon ka lang mako-consider na mahirap. Ibig sabihin, kapag ang laman ng bulsa mo ay P57 kada araw on the average ay hindi ka mako-consider na mahirap, kaya parang kumonti talaga ang mahihirap dahil sa pagtatayang iyan.

Now, ang katanungan ko po hinggil dito, under this proposed House Bill No. 5784, ang masasabing indigents, batay sa depenisyong ng panukalang batas na ito, mga ilan po ito sa inyong tantiya?

REP. ROQUE (H.). Ang ating depenisyong po ang magde-determine kung sino talaga iyong indigents. Unang-una, sasagutin ko muna na iyong non-contributory definition ay isang default definition, lahat ng hindi nagko-contribute. I would like to emphasize, Mme. Speaker, that although indigency is a basis, of course, to get subsidy in terms of premium payments, definitionally, non-contributory refers simply to those who are not paying their premiums, and the reason could be indigency, but the proposed law does not inquire into the reason but merely says that everyone will be a member. If they will not pay for the premiums, the state, the government will pay for it, except that where it can be shown that the Filipino has the ability to pay premiums, then it is without prejudice to the future corporation to be formed to have a recourse to collect unpaid premiums.

Ganong po ang naging depenisyong namin. Iniwan na namin iyong usapin na indigency. In fact, kaya nga

ngayon po, doon sa 4Ps na tinatawag, hindi lahat ng Pilipino ay sakop ng PhilHealth dahil, according to the definition of the DSWD, hindi lahat ay mahirap. So, ito po binago na namin. Kaninong premiums ang babayaran ng gobyerno? Lahat ng hindi contributing, regardless of the reason.

REP. ZARATE. Maraming salamat po.

Kaya nga po nililinao natin at itinatang iyan dahil nga kung pagbabasehan natin ang depenisyong kung sino ang mahirap, sino ang indigent ay ang depenisyong ng NEDA at ng Philippine Statistics Authority, ang ating pangamba rito ay marami na namang ma-e-exclude dahil sa tipo ng miyembro na nakalagay sa Section 14. Malinao naman na sinabi ng G. Isponsor, Mme. Speaker, contributory members and non-contributory members. Dito ho sa non-contributory members, tama naman iyong sinabi ninyo na ito ay indigents as identified by the DSWD, senior citizens and all others not included in the contributory group or those covered by special laws.

Kaya nga natanang natin iyan dahil halos dalawa sa bawat tatlong employed na mga kababayan natin ay may non-regular employment. Mga agency-hired ito, mga informal, at ang daming mga miyembro rin na mga tinatawag nating unpaid family workers. Mayroon silang maliit na pagkakakitaan, nagtatrabaho sa kanilang bahay pero hindi naman po sila binabayaran ng suweldo. Paano ang mga informal sector na ito na hindi regular, walang regular na source of income at hindi siya ma-consider na non-contributory, papasok din ba siya sa non-contributory?

REP. ROQUE (H.). Wala pong ganong, Mme. Speaker, kasi definitionally, ang non-contributory, hindi nagbabayad ng premiums kahit sino man sila.

Now, iyong issue ng indigency, papasok lang po iyan kung pupuwede kang habulin ng korporasyon para doon sa unpaid premiums, pero ang serbisyo, nariryan na po dahil kung ikaw ay hindi nakabayad, ang gobyerno muna sa panandalian ang magbabayad para sa iyo. Ganong po iyong scheme. Bakit po ganong ang scheme? Importante po na malaki iyong pondo na i-a-administer ng fund. Bakit po noong korporasyon, kapag malaki ang pondo, malaki rin kasi ang pupuwedeng kitain noong fund dahil magkakaroon sila ng board of trustees na pupuwedeng mag-invest niyan sa iba't ibang mga bagay para mapalaki. So kinakailangan natin ng economies of scale para lumaki iyong pondo at kinakailangan din natin ang economies of scale dahil magkakaroon siya ng monopoliya sa pagbili ng mga serbisyo.

So, kinakailangan talaga malaki ang pondo, kaya nga po hindi na iniisip ng panukalang batas na ito na kinakailangang manggaling sa sariling bulsa ng mamamayan iyong pambayad ng premiums. Dapat nga po lahat na ay talaga libreng ibigay pero dahil

wala tayong kakayanan na ganyan, ang ginawa na lang po, lahat ng premiums sagot ng gobyerno. Uulitin ko po, iyong issue ng indigency, iyan po ay papasok lang kung pupuwedeng kolektahin sa ating mamamayan ang premiums o hindi.

REP. ZARATE. Salamat po, G. Isponsor, Mme. Speaker.

Natanong ho natin iyan dahil, halimbawa, sa usapin ngayon ng social pension na tinatanggap ng ating mga senior citizens, mayroon hong mga problema doon dahil sa depinisyon ng sino ba ang puwedeng tumanggap nito—kailangan sick, disabled at mayroon pang mga kondisyones. Tinatanong po natin iyan dahil, halimbawa, sinasabi ninyo nga na iyong usapin kung indigent ba siya o hindi, bahala na ang DSWD diyan. Kailan ba natin masasabi na ang isang indibidwal ay puwedeng mapasama doon sa non-contributory member dahil isa siyang indigent? Kaya nai-cite ko iyong mga informal sector, na ngayong araw may income siya pero the rest of the week ay wala na siyang income. Ano ho ang mangyayari sa kanila? Will they still be included or will they be excluded because hindi rin sila considered non-contributory members?

REP. ROQUE (H.). Uulitin ko po. Sa sistema natin, sa panukalang batas na ito, lahat ng hindi contributory, non-contributory, kaya ibig sabihin, babayaran ng gobyerno ang kanilang premiums. Ito po kasi ay kinuha natin mula sa karanasan ng Thailand. Kasi nga kung ibabase natin iyong pagbayad ng premiums doon sa issue ng indigency ay talagang hindi lalaki iyong pondo mo. Kung hindi malaki ang pondo, kaunti din ang kikitain mo at kaunti din iyong purchasing power mo kaya kinakailangan talagang malaki ito. Uulitin ko po—iyong indigency will not determine iyong membership sa corporation, will not determine kung babayaran ang subsidy o hindi. Basta hindi ka nageco-contribute, isa-subsidize ka ng gobyerno. Indigency becomes relevant lang kung hahabulin ka para sa unpaid premiums o hindi. Now, iyong definition ng indigency po ay nasa batas naman. Iyan po ay letter (w) ng Definition of Terms. Ito po ay letter (w), Section—ano bang section ito? Sandali po.

REP. ZARATE. Section 4...

REP. ROQUE (H.). Section 4.

REP. ZARATE. ...subparagraph(w).

REP. ROQUE (H.). Ito po iyong mga tao na below the poverty threshold, according to the NEDA pero iyon nga po, kapag hindi ka nag-qualify as indigent, hindi naman ibig sabihin na hindi ka nagbayad ng coverage, na wala kang benepisyo. Bayad pa rin ang

iyong coverage, mayroon ka pa ring benepisyo, pero kung ikaw ay above the poverty threshold kaya baka habulin iyong unpaid premiums mo, hindi ka isang indigent, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ZARATE. Salamat, G. Isponsor.

Kaya binabalik-balikan ko iyan, nililinaaw natin iyan dahil kayo na rin ang nagsabi na kapag indigent ka, okay, non-contributory member ka. If you are not considered an indigent, doon ho ang punta mo sa contributory. Di po ba tama po iyon, G. Isponsor?

REP. ROQUE (H.). Tama po, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ZARATE. Tama po. So, for you to have access, Mme. Speaker, doon sa serbisyong pangkalusugan, at dahil hindi ka naman indigent based sa definition ng gobyerno at ng NEDA, doon ka sa contributory at kailangang mag-contribute ka. Ang ating pinangangambahan ho rito, ang experience ho dito sa social pension, ang daming na-exclude dahil they are not considered indigents pero talagang naghihikahos ho sila, hirap ho sila, hindi sila nabubuhay sa P500 pensyon bawat buwan but they cannot do anything dahil hindi sila napasok doon sa definition of indigent.

Ito rin ho ang mangyayari sa panukalang batas na ito dahil, if you are not considered an indigent, then, your category will be as a “contributory member.” If you are not a contributory member, then, ang isa hong pakahulugan dito, you cannot have access dahil hindi ho kayo nagbibigay ng kontribusyon, Mme. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor.

REP. ROQUE (H.). Mme. Speaker, hindi po ganoon. Gaya ng sinabi ko po kanina, ginaya po natin ang karanasan ng Thailand at sa Thailand, wala na pong usaping indigent ka or hindi para ikaw ay maka-avail ng benepisyo ng universal health care. Ang tanong lang, nagko-contribute ka ba o hindi? Kung hindi, babayaran ng gobyerno iyan. Iyong indigency is only an issue relevant to kung pupuwede ba habulin ikaw sa unpaid premiums, pero ang serbisyo, entitled ka pa rin kasi ang intensiyon ng batas, at ito naman po ay nakasulat sa teksto ng batas, lahat ng Pilipino ay kinakailangan magkaroon ng benepisyo ng universal health care.

Uulitin ko po uli, dahil ito ay isang concern at naiintindihan ko naman ang concern ninyo: hindi po magde-determine ng availment ng benepisyo iyong issue ng indigency. Kung hindi siya contributory, babayaran na po iyan ng gobyerno. Ito po talaga iyong unique sa experience ng Thailand. Naging successful siya kasi kinalimutan na nila iyong usapin ng indigency pagdating doon sa pag-a-avail ng serbisyo, at relevant lang siya kung magkakaroon ng money judgment against a person dahil mayroon naman siyang capacity

to pay. Kung hindi naman po natin gagawin iyon, kung hindi natin hahabulin iyong may mga capacity to pay ng kanilang mga unpaid premiums, hindi naman po magiging financially sustainable iyong ating sistema, at ito nga po ang nangyayari ngayon. Ngayon po, iyong formal sector, iyong mga may kakayahang magbayad ay hindi po nagbabayad ng tamang premiums, nag-a-underpay or nagbabayad lang sila ng premiums kapag gagamitin nila ang PhilHealth kaya nga po nagiging unsustainable iyong fund.

Kaya po tayo ngayon ay kinalimutan na po natin iyong indigency requirement. Basta kung hindi nagbayad, babayaran ng gobyerno, at hahabulin ka na lang kung mayroon kang kakayahan sa premiums. Malinaw po iyon. Walang kinalaman ang indigency sa availment of services and benefits, and the only issue there is, kung may kakayahan kang magbayad ng premiums, doon ka lang hahabulin. Every Filipino, and I stress this, under this proposed Universal Health Coverage Law, will be entitled to all the benefits under this Act by virtue of their citizenship, not by virtue of any other factor.

REP. ZARATE. Salamat po, G. Isponsor. Ang isang pang agam-agam ho talaga natin diyan, lalo na ho iyong kahit ibinalik-balik ninyo na indigency is not a requirement, ay kung ganoon naman po pala, gaya ng aking halimbawa kanina, isang ordinaryong sari-sari store owner, but under NEDA, sasabihin ng NEDA, “You are not indigent,” ang ibig sabihin ay kailangang magbigay siya ng kontribusyon at kapag hindi siya nakapagbigay ng kontribusyon, okay, may access pa rin siya pero hahabulin ng gobyerno para sa premium at magkakaroon siya ng three-percent penalty, compounded monthly. Ibig sabihin ho, darating ang panahon na ang miyembro ng informal sector na ito ay malilibing sa utang sa gobyerno dahil hindi na niya mabayaran ang kanyang kontribusyon dahil wala nga siyang perang pambayad. Hindi rin niya mabayaran iyong penalty niya that compounds every month kapag hindi niya nabayaran iyong three percent na iyon.

Sa ibang usapin naman po, Mme. Speaker, G. Isponsor, sa panukalang batas na ito, nabanggit ninyo na rin kanina, dito ay magtatayo ng isang Philippine Health Security Corporation, na sa amin pong basa ay isang napakamakapangyarihang korporasyon. Mayroon nga ho itong kapangyarihan na i-deny ang claims at babaan o taasan din ang benepisyo at kontribusyon ng mga miyembro. Ano ho ang inyong assurance na ang bagong burokrasyang ito, bagong korporasyong ito ay hindi ho magiging katulad halimbawa ng Social Security System, na sa mahabang panahon sinabi ng ating mga pensioners, “Bigyan ninyo kami ng dagdag pensyon,” at ang palaging sinasabi ng SSS, “Hindi puwedeng magdagdag pensyon dahil kulang ang pondo at kung kami ay magbibigay ng dagdag pensyon mababankrote ang pensyon ng SSS.”

Ano ho ang ating assurance, Mme. Speaker, G. Isponsor, na hindi ito mangyayari sa Philippine Health Security Corporation na pinopondohan ng pera ng mamamayan? Kahit sabihin ninyo ho ngayon na wala namang kontribusyon ang mamamayan, hindi ho totoo iyan. Lahat ho ng mga Pilipino ay mag-aambag-ambagan dito dahil lahat naman po tayo ay nagbabayad ng buwis. Kahit na sabihin ninyong indigent, sa bawat pagsakay ng public transportation, sa bawat pagbili ng mga bilihan, ang indigent na iyan ay may binabayaran buwis kaya lahat tayo ay nag-aambag-ambagan para dito. Kaya ang ating pangamba at ating agam-agam, ang itatayong korporasyon na ito na napakamakapangyarihan ay baka matulad na rin ng ibang korporasyon kagaya ng SSS, Mme. Speaker, G. Isponsor.

REP. ROQUE (H.). Mme. Speaker, dalawang bagay po: unang-una, ang korporasyon na ito ay hindi kagaya ng SSS dahil ang mga benepisyo nito ay hindi dependent doon sa voluntary contributions ng mga members, kasi ang scheme na ginawa natin, lahat ng Pilipino ay member. Kung hindi mo kayang magbayad ng premium, tayo ang nagbabayad ng premium, kaya malaking pagkakaiba po iyon, Kung ang benepisyo mo ay depende lamang sa nakokolektang voluntary contributions, natural, kaunti lang po ang benepisyong maibibigay sa iyo. Ang pangalawang punto po diyan ay hindi naman mawawalan ng kapangyarihan ang DOH at ang mga local government units maski nandiyan na iyong korporasyon na iyan. Iyong polisiya po pagdating sa kalusugan, ang DOH pa rin po ang magtatalaga niyan; ang korporasyon ay taga-bili lamang ng mga serbisyo with economies of scale na tinatawag. Kaya nga, take it or leave it ito para doon sa mga pribadong pagamutan. Kung ayaw mong makatanggap ng pera mula sa gobyerno, di huwag. Pero kung gusto mong tumanggap, tanggapin mo iyong presyo na nais gamitin ng gobyerno sa pagbili ng mga serbisyo sa mga pangpribadong mga ospital. Tapos, pangatlo po, iyong entitlement ng ating mga kababayan, hindi rin po manggagaling iyan sa korporasyon. Talagang ang trabaho ng korporasyon lamang ay taga-kalap ng contributions, either galing sa mga members o galing sa gobyerno, at taga-bili ng serbisyo. Iyong determination kung ano ang ibibigay sa ating mamamayan, iba po ang magdedesisyon diyan. Hindi po iyan korporasyon pero ito po iyong Health Technology Assessment Council. Ang nandidito po ay mga taong dalubhasa din sa larangan ng health care at sila po ang magde-determine doon sa mga benepisyo na ibibigay, hindi ang korporasyon mismo kasi ito ay taga-bili lang talaga ng serbisyo at taga-pagkolekta at taga--manage po ng pondo.

Bukod pa po diyan, itong korporasyon po ay subject din doon sa tinatawag nating GCG rules. Magkakaroon din po tayo ng mga oversight provisions. Ang Kongreso

po ay magkakaroon ng oversight committee dahil napakalaki namang pondong ini-invest natin dito sa sistemang ito, kaya natural na kinakailangan iyong taumbayan ay nasusubaybayan din kung paano nai-implement iyan. May probisyon din po iyong ating panukalang batas na nagbibigay sa mga mamamayan ng partisipasyon para magkaroon ng mas malawakang pananagutan dito sa korporasyon na ito, pero uulitin ko po, ang pinaka-importanteng kasagutan sa katanungan ng ating kaibigan ay mayroon pong hiwalay na entity at ito nga po iyong Health Technology Assessment Council na siyang magde-determine kung ano iyong maibibigay na serbisyo and the most cost-effective manner para sa ating mga kababayan.

REP. ZARATE. Salamat po, G. Isponsor, Mme. Speaker.

Tama po kayo, kaya nga po parang napansin natin ang daming mga bureaucratic processes na naman na dadaanan dito sa panukalang batas na ito bago natin maibigay iyong serbisyong pangkalusugan sa ating mamamayan.

Ito na lang po ang dagdag ko pang tanong: Doon ho sa kontribusyon, napansin ko na sa Section 47, Chapter 7, pakilina po ito dahil para hong napakalaki ito. Halimbawa, if you are a contributory member, napakalaki ng makakaltas sa iyo bilang isang empleyado. Halimbawa po, kung ikaw ay sumusuweldo lamang ng P20,000, ang kalalabasan nito, ang magiging contribution mo ay P6,000 a year. Hindi ho ba sa isang sumusuweldo lamang ng P20,000 a month, at pagkatapos ay kakaltasan ng P6,000 a year, at dahil din sa marami pang darating na mga buwis na ating papasanin sa darating na mga araw, hindi ho ba masyadong napakabigat nito sa ating mga mamamayan?

REP. ROQUE (H.). Hindi naman po dahil nakasaad naman po sa Section 47 na ito iyong mga empleyado ng gobyerno at ng pribadong sector, five percent nga pero hati po ang employer at saka employees and so effectively, 2.5 percent lang. Iyong mga self-employed naman at professionals, sa IRR po natin malalaman kung magkano talaga ang contribution nila dahil ang nakasaad lamang naman sa batas, “shall not exceed five percent.” So, nagkaroon lamang tayo ng cap pero sa implementasyon naman po ng batas na ito, pupuwede namang sabihin o pupuwede namang magtalaga ng mas mababang porsiyento. Sa tingin ko po sa IRR, para sa mga self-employed at sa professionals, baka 2.5 percent din po siguro ang magiging kaltas sa kanilang suweldo. In any case, iyong may P20,000 a month po na suweldo, five percent is equivalent to P1,000 a month, times 12 months, it will be P12,000. Tapos, hati nga po ang employer at saka employees. So, hindi naman po siya masyadong mabigat, halos kapareho nga lang po

ng binabayad sa PhilHealth. Hindi masyadong malayo ang pagkakaiba.

REP. ZARATE. Magkano po?

REP. ROQUE (H.). It is 2.5 percent, effectively, ang babayaran ng ating mga mamamayan.

REP. ZARATE. Maraming salamat G. Isponsor, Mme. Speaker.

Iyon na lang po ang mga iba kong katanungan dahil may susunod pa sa akin. Bilang pagtatapos na lang po siguro—mulí, ilalatag ko dito na sa panukalang batas na ito, bagamat natagurian itong Universal Health Coverage Law, sa tingin po ng Kinatawang ito at ng BAYAN MUNA, hindi pa rin nito nire-resolba ang ugat ng napakalalang sitwasyon ng pang-kalusugan sa ating bayan. Maraming may sakit dahil sa kahirapan at iyan ang talagang ugat kung bakit lumalala ang ating sitwasyon ng pangkalusugan—ang kawalan at kakulangan ng pagkain, kawalan ng trabaho hindi dahil walang health insurance. Ang ugat talaga ng lumalalang health situation natin ay iyong tuloy-tuloy na kahirapan sa ating bayan, hindi dahil napakalala ng problema sa PhilHealth. In fact, ang PhilHealth ay isa sa nagpadagdag na problema ng ating mamamayan. Hindi ho nakapagpapagamot ang ating mamamayan dahil kulang ang ating mga pasilidad, kulang ang ating mga health professionals lalong-lalo na sa pampublikong health facilities natin. Ang serbisyo ho natin ay lumalala, ito ho ang tuwi-tuwina ay binabalikan ko. Noong unang panahon, kapag pumunta ka sa pampublikong ospital, libre ho—libre ang gamot, libre ang doktor. Ngayon ho kapag pumunta ka sa pampublikong ospital, ultimo bulak o cotton ay kailangan ninyong bilhin dahil ang naging kalakaran ho natin ngayon, ang naging sistema natin ngayon, ang napakalimitadong pondo ng ating pamahalaan ay doon ilalagak sa insurance at ang pondo para sa operating expenses ng ating mga pampublikong ospita ay tinatapyasan. Kagaya ng para sa susunod na taon, halos dalawang bilyong piso ang tinapyas na naman sa operating expenses ng ating mga pampublikong ospital sa buong bansa, at saan ito ilalagak? Doon na naman sa PhilHealth.

So, iyon po ang ating sinasabi, na napakalaki ng pondo pero hindi maa-address ng panukalang batas na ito ang usapin ng mahal na gamot, ang kakulangan sa gamit at equipment ng ating mga pampublikong ospital at iba pa. In fact, isa sa hindi rin na-address dito ay iyong usapin ng debolusyon ng ating health service. Alam naman natin napakaraming mga pampublikong ospital ngayon na devolved sa ating mga local government units ang hindi na gumagana dahil sa kakulangan ng pondo.

Kaya iyon po ang nagiging tindig natin sa panukalang batas na ito at umaasa po tayo na talagang darating ang panahon na itong health services natin ay hindi tatalikuran ng estado at bagkus, kakalingain niya lalung-lalo na ang ating mga mahihirap na mamamayan.

Maraming salamat, G. Iponsor, Cong. Harry Roque, at maraming salamat, Mme. Speaker.

Magandang hapon ho sa ating lahat.

REP. ROQUE (H.). Maraming salamat din po kay Congressman Zarate, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the next interpellator, Rep. Emmi A. De Jesus of GABRIELA.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Cong. Emmi De Jesus is recognized.

REP. DE JESUS. Maraming salamat, Mme. Speaker.

Ang Representasyong ito ay dudugtong doon sa mga bumabagabag na katanungan kaugnay dito sa House Bill No. 5784, at alam ko naman na nakahanda na ang ating Kinatawag Harry Roque, ang Sponsor ng House Bill na ito. Can you confirm na nakahanda po kayo, Mme. Speaker?

REP. ROQUE (H.). Para po sagutin ang mga katanungan ng aking napakatagal na at napakabuting kaibigan, ang ating Kongresista galing po sa GABRIELA Party-List, karangan ko po na magbigay ng kasagutan sa kanyang mga katanungan.

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

REP. DE JESUS. Kanina ko pa po naririnig iyong binabanggit ng ating kagalang-galang na Iponsor iyong pagkilala doon sa Thailand model bilang huwaran o parang tutularan kaugnay ng panukalang ito. Wala pa po ba kayong ibang bayan na inaral pa, katulad po ng bansang Cuba, kung ano ang kanilang patakaran pagdating po sa paglilingkod kaugnay ng health care para sa mga mamamayan?

REP. ROQUE (H.). Napag-aralan po namin ang napakadaming sistema at bagamat marami pong probisyon dito sa batas na ito at ang panukalang batas na ito ay nanggaling sa Thailand experience, I can assure you po, tiningnan namin ang lahat ng universal health care system sa buong mundo dahil itong universal health care system naman po, gaya noong sponsorship

speech ni Congresswoman Tan, ay isang polisiya na isinusulong din ng United Nations sa pamamagitan ng World Health Organization bilang isang pamamaraan upang magkaroon ng katuparan iyong karapatan sa mabuting kalusugan. Napag-aralan din po namin ang Cuba at ang problema nga lang po, parang iba iyong sitwasyon sa Cuba dito sa ating bayan, kaya naman ang ekspirensiya ng Thailand ay tiningnan natin kasi pagdating sa populasyon, pagdating sa ekonomiya, pagdating sa kultura, siya po ang pinakamalapit sa Pilipinas.

Now, tiningnan din po natin iyong ekspirensiya ng Taiwan, ng United Kingdom, ng Indonesia, ng Vietnam, pati po ng Sri Lanka, at nakita po natin na bagamat napakaganda noong Cuban model, e unang-una, populasyon, napakaliit naman ng populasyon ng Cuba; pangalawa, iyong numero ng duktor, napakadami pong duktor talaga na kinakailangan under the Cuban model; at pangatlo po, dahil socialist country ang Cuba, talaga nga naman po na ang mga institusyon, iyong mga tinatawag na health providers po, 100 percent diyan ay talagang gobyerno.

So, parang hindi natin pupuwedeng tularan kaagad-akaran ang Cuban model bagamat pansinin ninyo po ang sabi ko “kaagad-akaran,” kasi kapag nagsimula naman tayo dito sa panukalang batas na ito ay pupuwede po naman mangyari na lahat ng health providers ay magiging 100 percent government, at pupuwede nating gayahin iyong Cuban model. Kaya lang, dapat handa tayo doon sa budget na kinakailangan para rito, at iyong estimate nga po namin kanina na hiningi ko sa Department of Health, kung gusto natin na 100 percent na gobyerno talaga ang magpo-provide ng lahat ng health services, ito ay e tumataginting na one trillion pesos a year. Siguro naman po, kapag tayo ay yumaman at naging mas maunlad pa tayo at maging isang developed country, baka kayang-kaya na natin iyon dahil iyong karanasan naman ng national health service ng UK ay ganoon din po, mayroon din pong premiums na kinakaltas mula sa suweldo maski na po doon sa mga lugar na ang health services ay 100 percent na iyong naibibigay ng gobyerno.

REP. DE JESUS. Salamat po, Congressman Harry Roque, Mme. Speaker.

Kaya ko po ito naitanong, lumalabas ano, magsisimula po tayo doon sa kongkretong kalagayan ng ating mamamayan. Puwede po bang matanong kung ano po ang kalagayan natin ngayon kapag pinag-uusapan ang primary health care, Mme. Speaker, kagalang-galang na Iponsor?

REP. ROQUE (H.). Nakakalungkot po. Pagdating sa primary health care po, ang PhilHealth, ang naibibigay lang nito ay ang primary health care package doon po sa kasapi sa National Household Targeting System o

mga beneficiaries ng 4Ps. Iyong mga hindi miyembro po ng 4Ps, wala pong kahit anong benepisyong primary health care na nakukuha, at least, mula sa PhilHealth. So, pati po iyong sinasabi nilang zero balance collection ay iyan po ay para lang doon sa beneficiaries din ng 4Ps, sa senior citizens, pero napakalaki pa po ng porsyento ng ating populasyon ang hindi nakaka-avail ng libreng primary health care.

REP. DE JESUS. So, G. Isponsor, ito po talaga iyong nais naming tumbukin. Unang-una, kapag sinabi nating nakakalungkot ang kalagayan ng ating mamamayan na nangangailangan ng primary health care, hindi ba ang dapat na bigyan natin ng pansin ay iyon pinakasimpleng pamamaraan ng pagbibigay ng serbisyo, Mr. Sponsor?

REP. ROQUE (H.). Opo, kaya nga po sang-ayon sa panukalang batas na ito, ay ang magkakaroon talaga tayo ng primary health care provider for every Filipino, basic health services sa kada barangay, at ito po ang layunin talaga, na magkaroon ng primary health care provider sa lahat po ng ating mga barangay.

REP. DE JESUS. Ang malungkot po nito, kaya ko po sinasabing pinakasimple, dahil sa kalagayan po ngayon, ano, nabanggit na rin po ng ating kasamahan kaugnay noong reyalidad, iyong ating sinasabi ngang “reality bites,” na kapag pupunta ka sa pampublikong ospital, talaga namang nanginginig iyong ating mga pasyente diyan na alam nila na katakut-takot na kasunod na bayarin ang direktang doon sa kanilang bulsa ang kailangang ihanda. Ang nais ko pong sabihin, bakit kinakailangan pa natin ang isang layer ng serbisyo na magbubuo ka pa ng isang korporasyon na magtitiyak at mangongolekta ng pondo para ibigay nga ang sinasabi nating reyalidad na nakakalungkot ang kalagayan ng ating maraming mamamayan dito po sa pinag-uusapan pa lang natin na primary health care. In fact, gusto ko rin pong idugtong, ano po ba ang datos ninyo bilang Kinatawan din ng sektor ng kababaihan? Ano po ang datos ngayon ng DOH kapag pinag-uusapan naman iyong usapin ng maternal health care, G. Isponsor?

REP. ROQUE (H.). Unang-una po, pagdating doon sa primary health care, talaga po namang hindi sapat ang pondo na nilalaan ng gobyerno para lahat ng barangay natin ay magkaroon ng provision for primary health care. In fact, sa ngayon po, 3.9 percent pa lamang ng ating GDP ang nailalaan natin para sa health care. Napakaliit po nito kung iko-compare natin maski sa bansa na gaya ng Thailand na gumagastos ng halos 10 porsyento at mas malaki po ang GDP nila. So, ang katotohanan po talaga, walang primary health care dahil hindi tayo naglalaan ng sapat na pondo para diyan sa provision ng primary health care, ano.

Now, ngayon po, ang sistema natin—well, sa ilalim po ng panukalang batas na ito, iyong tinatawag na public health facilities o iyong mga population health requirement ay maibibigay din ng mga LGUs, at iyong primary medical care naman and in-patient benefits gaya ng mga konsultasyon ay maibibigay na ng Health Security Corporation.

REP. DE JESUS. So, ang ibig pong sabihin nito, ang tinutugunan ninyo po ba ay iyong sa second question ko kaugnay ng maternal health care ...

REP. ROQUE (H.). Hindi ko pa po nasasagot iyong tanong sa maternal health care.

REP. DE JESUS. ... o sa primary ...

REP. ROQUE (H.). Sandali po. Wala sa data ko itong maternal health care. Ang mayroon lang po ako dito ay iyong para sa primary health care. Dito po sa maternal health care, ito po ang data: sa 2016, iyong skilled birth attendance ay mayroon po tayong 92 percent; ang facility-based deliveries natin ay 89 percent; ang maternal care, ito po iyong mga contraceptive, sa prevalence rate, ang itinaas ay 55 percent o tumaas ng 55 percent noong 2016.

REP. DE JESUS. So, ito po iyong, sa bahagi po ng party-list, primary health care na problema ng maraming-marami nating kababayan, at kapag sinabi ninyo po primary health care, kasama na rin diyan iyong maraming bata at kababaihan. Isama mo pa iyong problema, iyong natatangi o distinct problem ng ating mga mamamayan o ng ating mga kababaihan na sa kasalukuyang serbisyo na maa-avail nila nang libre, ay talaga pong kadusta-dusta. Nag-a-agree po ba kayo dito, G. Isponsor?

REP. ROQUE (H.). Opo, Mme. Speaker. Gaya nga noong aking sinabi sa aking sponsorship speech, kaya nga po natin binalangkas itong panukalang batas kasi sa nangyayari po ngayon, ay napakadami nating kababayan na namamatay dahil sila ay naghihirap at kinakailangan talagang gumawa ng pamamaraan para naman matigil ito, na mamamatay ka dahil ikaw ay mahirap lamang. So, nagkaroon po tayo ng mga pamamaraan na sa pamamagitan nga ng Philippine Health Security Corporation, lahat ng Pilipino, dahil sila ay Pilipino, ay magkakaroon ngayon ng access sa primary health care. Now, ano ba ang mga serbisyong maibibigay sa ilalim ng primary health care? Ito po ang mga serbisyo na iyan: iyong mga konsultasyon po sa duktor, iyong laboratories, iyong medicines na take-home.

Now, kasama po diyan sa garantiya natin, lahat ng life stages at lahat noong triple burden of disease, kasama

po iyong communicable diseases gaya ng HIV-AIDS, TB, malaria, dengue, leptospirosis, ebola, zika, at kasama din iyong non-communicable diseases, cancer, diabetes, heart disease, risk factors, obesity, smoking, and diet—kasama na po ako doon—sedentary lifestyle at saka iyong malnutrition; at kasama na iyong diseases brought about by rapid urbanization and industrialization, iyong injuries na work-related, substance abuse, mental illness, pandemics, labs and medicines, health consequences of climate change or disaster.

Sa ngayon po ay hindi po nabibigay ng gobyerno talaga ang mga iyan.

REP. DE JESUS. G. Isponsor, Mme. Speaker, ang nakikita ko pong matatag na inihahain ng solusyon ng panukalang batas na ito ay isang napaka-bureaucratic na mayroong iba't ibang papel. Bagamat ito ay pangungunahan ng Department of Health, may iba't ibang ahensiya o sangay na gagampan. Ang pinakanakababala talaga dito, iyon pong konsepto na magbubuo pa talaga ng isang korporasyon na magtitiyak ng tagabili ng serbisyo—iyon pong pananalita dito, ano—at magma-manage ng pondo. Samantalang kung may pondo talaga na inilalaan—at idinadaan naman natin sa Kongreso ito—kapag pinag-uusapan naman natin every year, kung anuman ang pondo na ina-appropriate or inilalaan sa mga serbisyong pangangailangan ng mamamayan, ay tukoy na tukoy na natin na isa sa mahalagang pangangailangan na serbisyo ay ang serbisyong pangkalusugan.

Ang tanong po ng Representasyong ito ay—ang ginagamit ko ngang term dito ay kailangan pa ba natin ng isang layer, kailangan pa ba nating balutan ng mga mahihiwagang pamamaraan? Hindi ba dapat, kagyat, G. Isponsor, ang pinakasimple na pamamaraan ang gusto natin kasi nag-uusap pa lang po tayo sa primary health care. Hindi ba ang pinakamagandang pamamaraan sa panahon po ng deliberasyon at pag-uusap ng Kongreso bilang sinasabi nga natin na tayo ang taga-hawak ng purse na ilalaan, hindi po ba pinakasimple ang pagtitiyak na laanan talaga ng pondo, diretso pong lagyan ng pondo ang lahat ng pampublikong ospital? Pangunahan na ng DOH ang pag-identify dito sa mga ospital na namorolema na doon sa mga area na pinatunayan, at marami naman po tayong mahihingan ng testimonya, at ano ang mga rehiyon na nangangailangan. Hindi po ba, nag-a-agree po ba kayo na pinakasimple na talaga ito rather than napakakumplikado at magbubuo ng iba't ibang sangay, galamay na pag-uusapan na lang kung ano po ba ang pangangailangan? Kung primary health care iyong kagyat nating aasikasuhin, laanan na lang kaagad at hanapan ng pondo. Nag-a-agree po ba kayo dito, G. Isponsor?

REP. ROQUE (H.). Ang problema po talaga, Mme. Speaker, ang ideal ay kung kaya nating bayaran lahat

iyang, bakit hindi, pero gaya ng aking sinabi po kanina, ang halaga yata para maibigay iyan sa ating mga mamamayan ay hindi bababa sa isang trilyong piso kada taon, at sabi ko nga kanina, P3.8 trillion lamang ang proposed budget for 2018 kaya gumagawa tayo ng pamamaraan.

Pangalawa po, maski gustuhin natin na lahat ng ospital ay maging gobyerno na ay talagang hindi po ganyan ang katotohanan natin ngayon. Ang katotohanan po ngayon ay napakakaunti pa po ng mga pampublikong ospital natin kaya nga po ang kailangan ay one trillion pesos kung lahat ng ospital ay gagawin nating pampubliko. Sa ngayon po, 35 porsyento lamang ang mga pampublikong ospital at 65 porsyento po ang mga pribadong ospital, kaya nga po gumawa kami ng pamamaraan. Siguro po, tayo ay tutungo doon sa complete takeover by the government of all health facilities, parang Cuban model, and that is without prejudice po. Sa ngayon po, habang P3.8 trillion lamang ang ating badyet at nangangailangan ng one trillion pesos para maging completely 100 percent public-run ang ating health care system ay mukhang kahit ano pong pag-uusap natin ay talagang hindi tayo magkakaroon ng sapat na pondo para diyan. Kaya nga po ang alternatibo ay gamitin natin iyong karanasan noong ating mga kapit-bahay at iyong modelo na ang UN mismo ang nagsusulong at ito ngang sistemang ito ay nariyan pa rin ang DOH na magbibigay ng mga standard at mga polisiya, nandiyan pa rin ang mga LGU na magbibigay ng population health requirement, at itong bagong korporasyon na magbibigay ng primary medical care and in-patient care.

So, sa sistema po natin ngayon, hindi naman po puwede na bigyan lang ng mas malaking pondo ang mga pampublikong ospital kasi nga po ay iyong sistema natin ngayon, mayroon tayong PhilHealth na hindi naman nakapagbibigay ng mga primary health care requirement man lang ng ating mga mamamayan at iyong katotohanan po, gaya ng sinabi ko, na minority pa rin po ang mga pampublikong pagamutan dito sa ating bayan.

REP. DE JESUS. Maraming salamat po, G. Isponsor, doon sa kasagutan, na parang ang sakit sa dibdib ...

REP. ROQUE (H.). Opo, masakit po, Mme. Speaker.

REP. DE JESUS. ... kapag pinag-uusapan talaga, na para bang hirap na hirap na talagang i-address sa kagyat. Sa bahagi po kasi natin, ito iyong puwede talagang pag-isipan kasi iyong binanggit na rin ng ating kagalang-galang na Isponsor na talagang lumalabas iyong relative doon sa bilang ng pampublikong ospital at doon sa bilang ng pamprivadong ospital

iyon pong mantra na talagang nagaganap sa lahat ng serbisyo, na ang serbisyo ay nagiging negosyo. Ito po iyong nakikita naming nagiging mantra na ng kasalukuyang sistema ng pamahalaan na kitang-kita natin, samantalang ang serbisyong pangkalusugan ay usapin nga ito ng right at nasa Saligang Batas pa nga. Kaya, bagamat sinasabi natin na at this point in time, iyong pagbabadyet pa nga lamang sa public hospitals ay mangangailangan, hindi ba, ano na nga ito, nakababahala na nga?

Imbes na ang pag-isipan natin ay iyong ibang pamamaraan, ang challenge, I think, among us legislators, is to ensure na kapag ang pinag-uusapan talaga ang pondo, ay iyong pag-e-ensure na mailagay nga ito sa serbisyo.

I am sorry. Inaaligid-aligiran na po ako ng ating Rules Committee pero sa totoo po, ang gusto pong irehistro ng Representasyong ito, kasi ang GABRIELA po, pag sinabi namin ang aming mantra ay babae, bata at bayan ang dapat na pinaglilingkuran o ipinaglalaman, wala kasing isyu talaga o sa lahat po ng isyu ay isyu talaga ng kababaihan. Ang isyu ng bayan ay isyu ng kababaihan at kapag pinag-usapan po talaga ang health, ang nasa larawan po ay ang pinakamaraming kababaihan kapag pinag-usapan ang kalusugan, at talaga pong alarming and it encompasses all health problems.

Sinasabi ko nga kanina, iba pang usapin talaga iyong maternal health, na tayo, bilang pagkilala sa papel ng kababaihan sa lipunang ito, dapat may distinct na pag-iisip din tayo para i-address iyong distinct maternal health, pero ang pinag-uusapan pa lang po natin ngayon dito ay primary health care. Sa paninindigan po ng Representasyong ito, rather than isang panukalang batas na magbibigay pa ng komplikasyon sa pag-a-avail ng isang napaka-basic, primary nga e at hindi pinag-uusapan—ospital, ospital, ospital, na talagang tatakbo ka sa ospital, nagkasakit ka kasi, talaga namang malabo ang nutrisyon mo, wala kang malinis na tubig, at hindi pa nga po tayo pumapasok doon sa preventive, kaya sa puntong ito po, sa bahagi po ng Representasyong ito, nais ko lamang pong irehistro na lahat po ng mga katanungan na para po sa panukalang batas na ito ay tumutumbok doon sa isyu ng paninindigan na kung health service iyan, dapat sa pinakasimpleng pamamaraan na makapagbibigay tayo ng libre, angkop, kagyat at higit sa lahat, ito po ay batayan.

Kaya, Mme. Speaker, G. Isponsor, ito po ay pagrerehistro ng aming paninindigan, at sa atin pong mga kasamahan sa Kongreso, ito po ang dapat na mas challenge sa atin. Kung sinasabing kapos sa badyet, bakit hindi natin pag-isipan ito. Ito po ay hindi simple o hindi komplikadong pag-address, kung hindi iyon pong makapagbibigay tayo ng serbisyo sa higit na nangangailangan, at hindi po pinag-iisipan at hindi po pinagtutubuan at gagawing negosyo o popondohan pa

para magkaroon po ng mahirap na pamamaraan ang ating mga nangangailangan ng health services. So, Mme. Speaker, G. Isponsor, dito ko tinatapos ang aking interpellation.

Maraming salamat.

REP. ROQUE (H.). Maraming salamat po sa mga kuro-kuro na ipinarating ng ating mabuting kasama galing po sa GABRIELA Party-List, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, there being no more Member who wishes to interpellate and no Member registered to speak against the measure, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

The period of amendments is open and we will now consider Committee amendments.

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, earlier, we distributed to all the Members copies of the substitute version of House Bill No. 5784. Mme. Speaker, pursuant to Section 104 of our House Rules, I move to amend by substitution the entire Bill as contained in Committee Report No. 273, with the contents of the substitute version earlier distributed to all Members.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion to amend by substitution is approved.

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we proceed to consider individual amendments.

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

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, there being no individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

The period of amendments is closed.

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve House Bill No. 5784, as amended, on Second Reading.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

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

As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 5784, as amended, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). As many as are against, please say *nay*.

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 5784, AS AMENDED, ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 5784, as amended, is approved on Second Reading.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The Floor Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 5675

Continuation

PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we resume the consideration of House Bill No. 5675 as contained in Committee Report No. 246. May we direct the Secretary General to read only the title of the said measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears one; the motion is approved.*

The Secretary General is directed to read only the title of the Bill.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 5675, entitled: AN ACT ALLOWING THE

RECTIFICATION OF SIMULATED BIRTH RECORDS AND PRESCRIBING ADMINISTRATIVE ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS FOR THE PURPOSE.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. HERRERA-DY. The parliamentary status is that we have terminated the period of sponsorship and debate. I move that we recognize the Hon. Sandra Y. Eriguel, M.D., Chairperson of the Committee on Social Services, to sponsor the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The Hon. Sandra Eriguel is recognized.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

The period of amendments is open and we will now consider Committee amendments.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, earlier, we distributed to all the Members copies of the substitute version of House Bill No. 5675. Mme. Speaker, pursuant to Section 104 of our Rules, I move to amend by substitution the entire Bill as contained in Committee Report No. 246, with the contents of the substitute version earlier distributed to all the Members.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion to amend by substitution is approved.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider individual amendments.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, there being no Member who registered to propose individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve House Bill No. 5675, as amended, on Second Reading.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

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

As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 5675, as amended, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). As many as are against, please say *nay*.

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 5675, AS AMENDED, ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 5675, as amended, is approved on Second Reading.

The Floor Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. HERRERA-DY. I move to suspend the session for a few minutes.

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

It was 6:30 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:31 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

The Floor Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 6165 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 6165, contained in Committee Report No. 349, as reported out by the Committee on Legislative Franchises.

May I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read only the title of the measure.

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the measure have been previously distributed, the Secretary General read only the title thereof without prejudice to inserting its text in the Congressional Record.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 6165, entitled: AN ACT GRANTING THE DEUS AMOR EST BROADCASTING, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that the Chairperson of the Committee on Legislative Franchises, Rep. Franz E. Alvarez, be recognized to begin the sponsorship of the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Congressman Franz Alvarez is recognized.

REP. ALVAREZ (F.). Mme. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note of the Bill be considered as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate or speak against the measure, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

The period of amendments is open and we will now consider Committee amendments.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, there being no Committee amendments, I move that we now proceed to consider individual amendments, if any.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, there being no individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on House Bill No. 6165 on Second Reading.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 6165, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). As many as are against the motion, please say *nay*.

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 6165 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 6165 is approved on Second Reading.

The Floor Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 6166 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 6166, contained in Committee Report No. 350, as reported out by the Committee on Legislative Franchises.

May I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read only the title of the measure.

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the measure have been previously distributed, the Secretary General read only the title thereof without prejudice to inserting its text in the Congressional Record.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 6166, entitled: AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO FILIPINAS BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8168 ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE FILIPINAS BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES."

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Chairperson of the Committee on Legislative Franchises, Rep. Franz E. Alvarez, to begin the sponsorship of the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Rep. Franz Alvarez is recognized.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note of the Bill be considered as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate or speak against the measure, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

The period of amendments is open and we will now consider Committee amendments.

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

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, there being no Committee amendments, I move that we proceed to consider individual amendments, if any.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to introduce individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on House Bill No. 6166 on Second Reading.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 6166, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). As many as are against, please say *nay*.

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 6166 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.
House Bill No. 6166 is approved on Second Reading.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 6167 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 6167, contained in Committee Report No. 351, as reported out by the Committee on Legislative Franchises.

May I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read only the title of the measure.

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the measure have been previously distributed, the Secretary General read only the title thereof without prejudice to inserting its text in the Congressional Record.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 6167, entitled: AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO UNIVERSITY OF MINDANAO, DOING BUSINESS UNDER THE NAME AND STYLE OF UNIVERSITY OF MINDANAO BROADCASTING NETWORK AND UMBROADCASTING NETWORK, UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8170, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE UNIVERSITY OF MINDANAO A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, ESTABLISH, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate and recognize the Chairperson of the Committee on Legislative Franchises, Rep. Franz E. Alvarez.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Rep. Franz Alvarez is recognized.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note of the Bill be considered as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate or speak against the measure, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments and consider Committee amendments.

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

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

The period of amendments is open and we will now consider Committee amendments.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, there being no Committee amendments, I move that we close the period of Committee amendments.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. I move that we consider individual amendments, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. There being no individual amendments, I move that we terminate the period of amendments.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Second Reading on House Bill No. 6167.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 6167, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). As many as are against, please say *nay*.

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 6167 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 6167 is approved on Second Reading.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 6168 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move

that we consider House Bill No. 6168, contained in Committee Report No. 352, as reported out by the Committee on Legislative Franchises.

May I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read only the title of the measure.

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the measure have been previously distributed, the Secretary General read only the title thereof without prejudice to inserting its text in the Congressional Record.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 6168, entitled: AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO PACIFIC BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7967 ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE PACIFIC BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES."

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. I move that we recognize the Chairperson of the Committee on Legislative Franchises, Rep. Franz E. Alvarez, for his sponsorship speech.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Rep. Franz Alvarez is recognized.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note of the Bill be considered as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, there being no Member who registered to interpellate or to speak

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

against the measure, I move to close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments. However, there being no Committee or individual amendments, I move that we close the same.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Second Reading on House Bill No. 6168.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). There is a motion for the approval of House Bill No. 6168 on Second Reading.

As many as are in favor, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). As many as are against, please say *nay*.

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 6168 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 6168 is approved on Second Reading.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 6169 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 6169, contained in Committee Report No. 353, as reported out by the Committee on Legislative Franchises.

May I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Is there

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

The Secretary General is directed to read only the title of the measure..

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the measure have been previously distributed, the Secretary General read only the title thereof without prejudice to inserting its text in the Congressional Record.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 6169, entitled: AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO PHILIPPINE BROADCASTING CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7962 ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE PHILIPPINE BROADCASTING CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES."

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate and move that the Explanatory Note of the Bill be considered as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, there being no Member who registered to interpellate or to speak against the measure, I move to close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments. However, there being no Committee or individual amendments, I move that we close the same.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve House Bill No. 6169 on Second Reading.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). There is

a motion for the approval of House Bill No. 6169 on Second Reading.

As many as are in favor, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). As many as are against, please say *nay*. (*Silence*)

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 6169
ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 6169 is approved on Second Reading.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 6170
ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 6170, as contained in Committee Report No. 354, as reported out by the Committee on Legislative Franchises.

May I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read only the title of the measure.

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the measure have been previously distributed, the Secretary General read only the title thereof without prejudice to inserting its text in the Congressional Record.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 6170, entitled: AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO RMC BROADCASTING CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8159 ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE DXRA-RMC (RIZAL MEMORIAL COLLEGES) BROADCASTING CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A COMMERCIAL RADIO BROADCASTING STATION IN THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate

and I move that the Explanatory Note of the Bill be considered as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, there being no Member who registered to interpellate or to speak against the measure, I move to close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments. However, there being no Committee or individual amendments, I move that we close the same.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on House Bill No. 6170 on Second Reading.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 6170, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). As many as are against, please say *nay*. (*Silence*)

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 6170
ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 6170 is approved on Second Reading.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 6203
ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 6203, contained in Committee

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

Report No. 359, as reported out by the Committee on Higher and Technical Education, the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Ways and Means.

May I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read only the title of the measure.

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the measure have been previously distributed, the Secretary General read only the title thereof without prejudice to inserting its text in the Congressional Record.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 6203, entitled: AN ACT CONVERTING THE SORSOGON STATE COLLEGE IN THE PROVINCE OF SORSOGON INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS SORSOGON STATE UNIVERSITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, to sponsor the Bill, I move that we recognize the Hon. Ann K. Hofer.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The Hon. Ann Hofer is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note of the Bill be considered as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

REP. HOFER. Mme. Speaker, may I please make a manifestation for additional coauthors for House Bill No. 6203.

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

REP. HOFER. For additional coauthors, we have

the Majority Leader, Rodolfo C. Fariñas; Dep. Majority Leaders Juan Pablo “Rimpy” P. Bondoc, Arthur Defensor, Roger G. Mercado, Vincent “Bingbong” P. Crisologo, Aurelio “Dong” D. Gonzales Jr., Victoria Isabel G. Noel, Gerald Anthony “Samsam” V. Gullas Jr., and Arnel U. Ty; Reps. Johnny Ty Pimentel, Francisco Jose F. Matugas II, Oscar “Richard” S. Garin Jr., Jericho Jonas B. Nograles, Ron P. Salo, Salvador B. Belaro Jr., Bernadette “BH” Herrera-Dy, Cristina “Chiqui” Roa-Puno, Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas, Jose L. Atienza Jr. Alfredo A. Garbin Jr., Eugene Michael B. De Vera, Anthony M. Bravo, PhD, Luis Jose Angel N. Campos Jr., Harlin Neil J. Abayon III, Edcel C. Lagman, Scott Davies S. Lanete, MD, Victor A. Yap, Jose “Pingping” I. Tejada; and Dep. Speaker Ferdinand L. Hernandez.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Please also add Dep. Speaker Bai Sandra Sinsuat A. Sema.

REP. HOFER. And Rep. Rodolfo T. Albano III and Rep. Fernando V. Gonzalez.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Okay. Is there any more?

REP. HOFER. Yes, Rep. Salvio B. Fortuno. I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The manifestation of Representative Hofer is duly noted. The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, there being no Member who registered to interpellate or to speak against the measure, I move to close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

The period of amendments is opened and we will now consider Committee amendments.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, there being no Committee amendments, I move that we proceed to consider individual amendments.

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

INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, for the individual amendments, I move that we recognize the distinguished Majority Floor Leader, the Hon. Rodolfo C. Fariñas.

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

REP. FARIÑAS. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Dep. Majority Leader.

Mme. Speaker, on page 1, Section 1, lines 5 and 6, I move to delete the word “Sorsogon” after the article “the” and before the word “State” and in lieu thereof, insert the words SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). What do you say, Mme. Sponsor, to the amendment of the Majority Leader?

REP. HOFER. I accept the individual amendment, Mme. Speaker.

REP. DEFENSOR. With that, Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve the amendment.

REP. FARIÑAS. Mme. Speaker, I have another amendment.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). There is another amendment, Dep. Majority Leader.

REP. FARIÑAS. Mme. Speaker, I make another amendment with respect to the title. In the title of the Bill, I move to delete the word “SORSOGON” after the article “THE” and the word “STATE” and in lieu thereof, insert the words SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). What is the pleasure of Mme. Sponsor?

REP. HOFER. I accept the amendment, Mme. Speaker, and may we also manifest that we include as additional authors, Reps Juliette T. Uy, Manuel F. Zubiri and Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alba. They also manifested their interest to become coauthors of the Bill. Thank you very much, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The manifestation is duly noted. The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. HOFER. Mme. Speaker, likewise, Reps. Mark O. Go, Deogracias Victor “DV” B. Savellano, and Ma. Lourdes R. Aggabao as additional authors of the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The manifestation is duly noted, Mme. Sponsor. The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve the individual amendments as proposed by the distinguished Majority Leader, subject to style.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the amendments are approved.

The individual amendments proposed by the Majority Leader Fariñas are hereby approved, subject to style.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, there being no other individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve House Bill No. 6203, as amended, on Second Reading.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). There is a motion for the approval of House Bill No. 6203, as amended, on Second Reading.

As many as are in favor, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). As many as are against, please say *nay*. (*Silence*)

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 6203, AS AMENDED ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 6203, as amended, is hereby approved on Second Reading.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we take up the Business for Thursday and Friday.

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

OMNIBUS CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL BILLS
ON SECOND READING

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move for the omnibus consideration of the following measures:

1. House Bill No. 6186, contained in Committee Report No. 357; and
2. House Bill No. 6202, contained in Committee Report No. 358.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. For these measures, Mme. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note of the Bills be considered as the sponsorship speeches on the measures.
I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate or registered to speak against the measure, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, there being no Committee or individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move for the omnibus approval on Second Reading of the following measures: House Bill No. 6186 and House Bill No. 6202.
I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Pardon, 62?

REP. DEFENSOR. House Bills No. 6186 and 6202.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). As many as are in favor of the approval of the Bills enumerated in the omnibus motion, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). As many as are against, please say *nay*. *(Silence)*

OMNIBUS APPROVAL OF LOCAL BILLS
ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

The Bills enumerated in the omnibus motion are hereby approved on Second Reading.*

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

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

It was 6:54 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:56 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

PRIVILEGE HOUR

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, having finished the Business for the Day, I move that we proceed to the Privilege Hour.

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

The Chair declares a Privilege Hour.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, the first to avail of the Privilege Hour, we have the distinguished Lady from the First District of Antipolo. May we recognize the Hon. Cristina “Chiqui” Roa-Puno.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The Hon. Cristina “Chiqui” Roa-Puno is recognized.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. ROA-PUNO

REP. ROA-PUNO. Thank You, Mme. Speaker.

Mme. Speaker, I intended to speak today to ask the Body to support the bid of the Samahang Basketbol ng Pilipinas for the 2023 World Cup. We tried in 2019 to hold it here, we were not successful but I think we are more than ready to do it in 2023. I have a speech ready but in lieu of my delivering it today in this late hour, may I move that we insert my privilege speech into the records.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. We join the motion of the distinguished Lady, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, there being no other Member who wishes to avail of the Privilege Hour, before we close, Mme. Speaker...

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, may I add one more, also part of my speech.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. It was to enjoin the Members of Congress to also continue our support through our legislation that has to do with the naturalization of the members of the Samahang Basketbol ng Pilipinas, GILAS Pilipinas as required in future tournaments.

That is all, Mme. Speaker. This too will be included in the privilege speech which I ask to be part of the records, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The additional manifestation of the Honorable Roa-Puno is duly noted.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we

refer the speech of the Hon. Cristina Roa-Puno to the Committee on Rules.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The same speech is referred to the Committee on Rules.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). Is there any objection?

REP. DE JESUS. I object, Mme. Speaker.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I would like to withdraw my earlier motion to terminate the Privilege Hour.

Mme. Speaker, I would like to move for the recognition of the honorable Rep. Emmi A. De Jesus from the Party-List GABRIELA for her privilege speech.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The Hon. Emmi De Jesus is recognized to speak under the Privilege Hour.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. DE JESUS

REP. DE JESUS. Mme. Speaker, salamat po sa opportunity. Much as I want it to be delivered tomorrow, sa tingin ko po, ito iyong isang isyu na at this point in time ay kailangan talagang banggitin. Ito po ay patungkol doon sa pamamaslang o pagkamatay ng isang kabataan na si Kian delos Santos at ang paninindigan po ng Representasyong ito na ito po ay nagluluwal lalo ng culture of impunity at culture of insecurity.

Marami akong nakausap na mga magulang, mga nanay na talagang ngayon halos takot na lumabas ang kanilang mga anak dahil baka matulad kay Kian. Sa katunayan, palagay ko po, mahirap sabihin na hindi nakakagalit iyong nangyari kay Kian delos Santos, 17 anyos, isang ordinaryong estudyante. The irony among ironies, nangarap pa siya minsan na maging pulis. Ito po iyong, sabi nga, “adding insult to injury” dahil ang nanay niya ay isang migrante. Nagpakahirap humanap ng trabaho o mangibang-bayan dahil sa makitid na oportunidad dito, at naging isang migrante sa isang bayan pa naman na napakataas ng risk ng vulnerability ng ating mga migrant workers, lalo na sa kababaihan.

Si Kian, ayon na rin sa kanyang mga kaklase, ay

mabuting kaibigan. Binaril sa may likuran at sa ulo sa paratang ng PNP, na ngayon ay nagkakabuhol-buhol na—kesyo nanlaban, kesyo may sachet ng shabu, courier daw siya, anak ng gumagamit ng droga—at sa palagay po natin, magkakabuhol-buhol pa iyan at marami pang sasabihin. Ang malupit—nasentensiyahan na siya ng kamatayan.

Mme. Speaker, isa lamang si Kian sa larawan ng libu-libong namatay na sa ngalan ng giyera kontra droga. Kabilang siya sa mahigit na 30 menor de edad na naging target o di kaya ay kolateral ng madugong Oplan Tokhang ng kasalukuyang administrasyon ng Pangulong Duterte. Klaro ang direktiba at patakaran na walang paglilitis, walang imbestigasyon, at marami tayong nakitang bumulagta na lang na binansagang sangkot sa droga. Sabi nga, nakamamatay talaga ang maling akala. Hindi lang sila simpleng numero, sila ay mga anak, ina, ama, kapatid at asawa. May mga pamilya silang iniwan. Sa kaso ni Kian, nagmakaawa pa ang kanyang ina para makauwi at makapagluksa sa burol ng kanyang anak.

Nagsasalita rin ako rito, hindi lamang bilang isang Kongresista, kung hindi bilang isang ina, bilang isang bahagi ng lipunan, na talagang kapag namatayan ka ng anak, talagang para sa isang ina ay napakasakit na ang dadatnan mo mula sa pagtatrabaho at pangingibang-bayan ang isang anak na patay na, na pinagsikapan mo pang paaralin, na pinagsikapan mo pa talaga na tustusan ang pangangailangan hindi lamang ni Kian kung hindi pati na kanyang pamilya. Alam ko na alam ito ng lahat, na wala nang sasakit pa sa isang magulang na nawalan ng anak.

Mme. Speaker, papatindi na ang panawagan para sa katarungan kay Kian at sa lahat ng mga pagpatay na extrajudicial. Papatindi na ang sigaw para itigil na ang madugong giyera kontra droga. Saan nga ba tutungo itong mga pagpatay na ito? Totoo bang ito ang solusyon sa problema ng mamamayan? Sa tingin po ng Representasyong ito, mababaw ang pagsusuri kung droga lang ang sisihihin sa kalagayan ng bansa. Alam natin na mas malalim ang batayan sa larangan ng ekonomiya, nandiyan ang problema sa kawalan ng trabaho, kawalan ng lupa, at marami pang nabanggit.

Sinabi rin ng Pangulo na kailangang itatag ang sariling industriya pero tila nakakakilabot dahil tila industriya ng pagpaslang ang nais na puntuhin. Sinabi na libre daw ang mga patubig doon sa isang balak pero tila dugo ang dumadaloy sa kanal pabalik sa ilog at karagatan. Sinabi na wawakasan ang kontraktwalisasyon pero bakit parang endo na lang ang buhay ng maralita na matatapos na lang bigla? Mayroon nga Free Education Law pero para saan kung ang patakaran ay pagpatay sa mga kabataan?

Hinahamon ang Kongreso ng panahon para manindigan sa panig ng katarungan at kapayapaan.

Sa pagkamatay ni Kian, marami pong bumubungad na mga tanong, halimbawa, sa yugto ngayon ng pag-uusap tungkol sa badget, dapat nga bang pondohan ng P900 milyon ang madugo at kontra mahirap na Oplan Tokhang? Tama bang gamitin ang pondo ng mamamayan para sila tugisin, at ang pinakamasahol, para paslangin? Hindi ba haharapin ng Kongreso ang hamong imbestigahan ang pagpaslang kay Kian?

Mme. Speaker, hindi ito panahon para magbingi-bingihan tayo dito sa Kongreso sa galit ng mamamayan. Panahon na ito ng pagkilos at pakikiisa sa panawagan ng marami para sa katarungan at tunay na pagbabago. Panahon ito ng pagtindig para sa mga walang kalaban-laban. Kung tunay na boses tayo ng mamamayan, hindi lamang ito hiling, kung hindi dapat tingnan natin itong responsibilidad. Umaalingawngaw po ang sigaw ng hustisya. Sana makita ng Kapulungan ang kawalan ng saysay ng karahasang dulot ng Oplan Tokhang, na mas mahalaga ang pangangailangan para kuwestiyunin na ang direktiba ng Pangulo hinggil dito sa kanyang programa. Alam ko po na ang katahimikan sa Kongresong ito ay hindi nararapat, ngunit para tayong naging masyado ngang tahimik pagdating sa pandarahas na ginagawa ng estado.

Mme. Speaker, mahirap na hindi magalit doon sa pagkamatay ni Kian. Mahirap isara ang bibig sa kabila ng lumalakas na panawagan para sa katarungan. Tayo ay nagluluksa at nagdadalamhati ngunit higit pa dito, sana tayo ay mangako na iyon pong mga sinasabing nanlaban, ang mga kabataan na namatay, sana po tayo ay lumaban para paghingi ng katarungan para sa kanila. Tigilan na po natin ang kalagayan na magluluwal ng isang kultura ng impunity, isang kultura ng insecurity.

Magandang gabi po, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the Honorable De Jesus to the Committee on Rules.

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

The speech of the Hon. Emmi De Jesus is referred to the Committee on Rules.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, the next to speak is the Lady from ACT Teachers. I move that we recognize the Hon. France L. Castro.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The Hon. France Castro is hereby recognized.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. CASTRO (F.L.)

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

Ako po ay isang ina at isa ding guro. Nang mabalitaan ko ang nangyari kay Kian, bigla kong naalala ang aking dalawang anak. Dalawang lalaki po ang aking anak, Mme. Speaker, kaya damang-dama ko ang paghihirap ng puso ng mga magulang ni Kian Loyd Delos Santos na walang awang pinatay ng Caloocan City police bilang bahagi ng kanilang tinatawag na “One-Time, Big-Time” operation or Oplan Galugad noong Huwebes ng gabi.

Pangatlo sa apat na magkakapatid, Grade 11 student sa Our Lady of Lourdes sa Valenzuela, ang binatilyong si Kian ay nahilig sa panonood ng “Narcos,” isang American tv crime drama na tungkol sa pagsugpo ng droga. Si Kian ay isang mapagmahal at nangahas mangarap na maging isang pulis, maging taga-pagtanggol at taga-pagligtas balang araw. Nangako siya sa kanyang ina na aagapay na siya sa mga gastusin ng pamilya once na makapagtapos siya. Pauwiin na ang kanyang ina upang hindi lumayo pa para lang kumita ng sapat.

Three deadly gunshots. Iyan pala ang kikitil sa matatayog na pangarap na naglaho sa isang iglap. Habang nagsasara ng kanilang maliit na tindahan ng school supplies si Kian bandang alas-otso ng gabi, siya ay tinugis ng mga pulis at na-corner sa isang dead-end sa kanila. Kitang-kita, Mme. Speaker, sa CCTV footage ang pagkaladkad kay Kian ng mga pulis. Natagpuan ang bangkay ni Kian, suot ang pantulog na boxers. Nagtamo ang kanyang katawan ng tatlong tama ng baril na malinaw na nanggaling sa kanyang likuran. Walang kalaban-laban si Kian. Tinaniman ng dalawang sachet ng shabu at 45 kalibre na baril.

Noong linggong iyon din po ay sunod-sunod ang pagpatay sa Maynila, sa Caloocan at sa Bulacan. Paano po humantong sa ganito?

Pagsugpo sa droga at kriminalidad, iyan ang pangako ni Pangulong Duterte. Lahat naman po tayo, Mme. Speaker, ay naniniwalang dapat mapuksa ang problema ng ilegal na droga sa ating lipunan. Ngunit, ano ang napala? Walang habas na War on Drugs. Libo-libo ang patay, karamihan ay mga mahihirap, mga nasa maralitang komunidad. Sabi ni Pangulong Duterte at ni PNP Chief Ronald “Bato” dela Rosa na sagot nila ang mga pulis nila kaya’t tuluyang tumapang at lumakas ang loob ng mga pulis sa kanilang sunod-sunod na operasyon. Drug suspect, runner, pusher raw si Kian at siya ay nanlaban. Iyan na ang modus operandi ng mga elemento ng PNP upang pagtakpan ang kanilang pagpatay.

Sa halip na maging ligtas ay mas lalong nawala ang kasiguruhan, ang kaligtasan ng kahit na sino mang maglalakad sa daan. Sa nakalipas na isang taon, naghasik ng takot ang kapulisan. Mayroong natotokhang gabi man o kahit na katanghaling tapat. Lahat raw ay nanlaban. Summary killings ang naging kalakaran. Hindi po si Kian ang unang menor de edad na

binawian ng buhay dito sa war on drugs ng ating gobyerno. Narito po ang ilan sa ating mga menor de edad, mga college students, mga youth na nabiktima ng war on drugs: Althea Barbon, apat na taon; Hideyoshi Kawata, 17 taon; Kian Loyd Delos Santos, 17 taon; Joshua Cumilang, 18 taon; Jefferson Bunuan, 20 taon; at two minors in Ampatuan, Mindanao. Mga vigilante-style killings naman po na bunga din ng giyera sa droga: Danica May Garcia, limang taon; Francis Mañosca, limang taon; San Niño Batucan, pitong taon; Kristine Joy Sailog, 12 taon; Michael Diaz, 16 taon; Erica “Angel” Fernandez, 17 years old; Raymart Siapo, 19 years old; Roman Manaos, 20 taon; at Rowena Tiamson, 22 years old.

Ang Oplan Tokhang ay paglapastangan sa pundamental na karapatan ng bawat tao sa due process of law. Tinanggalan ang bawat pinatay ng pagkakataong mapakinggan at mahusgahan sa harap ng hukom bilang inosente o nagkasala. Malinaw po ang Section 1 ng ating Bill of Rights that “No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor shall any person be denied the equal protection of the laws.” Ibig pong sabihin nito, Mme. Speaker, pusher man o hindi, adik man o hindi, lahat ay may karapatang magpaliwanag.

Ang mga sangkot sa kontrobersyal na P6.4-billion shabu sa Bureau of Customs ay inimbitahan sa ilang mga pagdinig dito sa Kongreso. Ang malalaking tao na pinaghihinalaan ay hiningan ng mga pahayag, humarap sa Kongreso, sa Senado at mga hukom. Sila po ay pinakinggan, hindi pinatay. Ang giyera kontra droga na ito ay giyera kontra mahihirap. Naka-tsinelas, naka-sando. Inamin mismo ng mga pulis na hirap silang makapasok sa mga exclusive villages tulad ng sa Makati. Okay lang naman daw ito dahil may kakayahan namang magpagamot.

Malinaw sa autopsy at mga report na murder ang ginawa kay Kian. Ngunit ano ang naging sagot ni PNP Chief “Bato” Dela Rosa? Napakatigas ng kanyang puso tulad ng isang bato nang ipagtanggol pa na lehitimo raw ang operasyon ng Caloocan 7 Drug Enforcement Unit. Hindi sasapat ang pagkakulong sa mga pumatay kay Kian, Mme. Speaker. Ang malagim na sinapit ng binata ay dagdag patunay lamang na ang Oplan Tokhang ay isang pasista at kontra-maralitang patakaran na nagtatago sa likod ng kampanyang kontra droga. Si Kian ay pinaratangang sangkot sa ilegal na droga at basta-basta na lamang pinatay.

Ako po, Mme. Speaker, ay labis na nababahala tulad ng kalakhan ng mga guro, kawani at mga mag-aaral sa nalalapit na Oplan Tokhang sa mga paaralan. Sa bisa ng CHED Memo No. 64 ay binabasbasan ng higher education institutions na gawin dagdag na admission requirement ang mandatory drug test. Dagdag itong harang sa pagkamit ng mga kabataan sa kanilang karapatan sa edukasyon. Ang DepEd naman ay naglabas ng Department Order Nos. 40 and 37 na nagmamamandato ng random drug testing sa senior high schools. Mai-involve po dito ang 20,000 mag-aaral sa ating mga eskuwelahan, mga teachers at mga non-teaching personnel.

Ano ang kasiguruhan natin na rehabilitation ang

interes at tunguin ng mga polisiyang ito kung ngayon pa lamang ay libo-libu ng mga mamamayan, mga mahihirap at ilan pa ay mga menor de edad ay pinapatay agad, habang sina Peter Lim, Kenneth Dong, mga Chinese smugglers at maging si Vice Mayor Paolo Duterte mismo ay hindi tinutugis ng administrasyon. I fear that the drug testing directed by the DepEd ang the CHED will claim more lives and give greater license to police to conduct tokhang-like operations involving students, teachers and personnel of the schools. Children are already being made victims of tokhang even without the drug testing. What more if it is fully implemented in our schools, against our students and teachers? They say it is for rehabilitation and prevention, and determining the prevalence of drug addiction in schools, but in an anti-drug campaign such as this, no rehabilitation and prevention at all will happen.

Itong giyera kontra droga ay tunay ngang isang giyera kontra mamamayan na karamihan ay mga maralita na pinapatay base lamang sa mga suspisyon o sabi-sabi ng mga kapulisan. Nararapat lamang na kagyat na itigil na ng ating Pangulo ang kanyang war on drugs. Dapat itigil ang pamamaslang at bigyang hustisya si Kian delos Santos at lahat ng mga nabiktima ng war on drugs.

Ito lang po, Mme. Speaker, at maraming salamat.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the Lady from ACT Teachers Party-List to the Committee on Rules.

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

The speech of Rep. France Castro is referred to the Committee on Rules.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we adjourn the session until tomorrow, August 23, 2017, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Sema). The session is adjourned until tomorrow, August 23, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

It was 7:18 p.m.