



Congressional Record

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

Vol. 3

Tuesday, September 19, 2017

No. 26

CALL TO ORDER

At 4:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Rolando G. Andaya, Jr. called the session to order.

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

NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Andaya). Please rise for the singing of the Philippine National Anthem.

Everybody rose to sing the Philippine National Anthem.

PRAYER

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Andaya). Please remain standing for a moment of silent prayer.

Lord, please give bread to those who are hungry; and those who have bread to hunger for Thee.

Everybody remained standing for the silent prayer.

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

Ayos ba? (Laughter)

ROLL CALL

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

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

The Secretary General will please call the roll.

The Secretary General called the roll, and the result is as follows, per Journal No. 26, dated September 19, 2017:

PRESENT

Abayon
Abellanosa
Abu
Abueg
Acop
Acosta
Acosta-Alba
Advincula
Aggabao
Albano
Alejano
Almario
Almonte
Alonte
Alvarez (F.)
Alvarez (P.)
Amatong
Andaya
Angara-Castillo
Aquino-Magsaysay
Aragones
Arcillas
Arenas
Atienza
Aumentado
Bag-ao
Bagatsing
Baguilat
Banal
Barbers
Barzaga
Bataoil
Batocabe
Bautista-Bandigan
Belaro
Belmonte (F.)
Belmonte (J.C.)
Bertiz
Billones
Bolilia
Bondoc
Bordado
Bravo (A.)
Bravo (M.V.)
Brosas
Bulut-Begtang
Cagas
Calderon
Calixto-Rubiano
Caminero
Campos
Cari
Casilao
Castro (F.L.)
Castro (F.H.)
Cayetano
Cerilles
Chavez
Chipeco
Co
Cortes
Cortuna
Cosalan
Cua
Cuaresma
Cueva
Dalipe
Datol
De Jesus
De Venecia
De Vera
Defensor
Del Mar
Del Rosario
Deloso-Montalla
Dimaporo (A.)
Dimaporo (M.K.)
Elago
Enverga
Erice
Eriguel
Ermita-Buhain
Escudero
Espina

Espino	Mercado	Tambunting	Vargas
Fariñas	Mirasol	Tan (A.)	Vargas-Alfonso
Ferrer (J.)	Montoro	Tan (M.)	Velarde
Ferrer (L.)	Nava	Tan (S.)	Velasco
Ferriol-Pascual	Nieto	Teves	Velasco-Catera
Floirendo	Noel	Tiangco	Veloso
Flores	Nogralas (K.A.)	Ting	Vergara
Fortun	Nuñez-Malanyaon	Tinio	Villanueva
Fortuno	Oaminal	Treñas	Villaraza-Suarez
Garbin	Ocampo	Tugna	Villarica
Garcia (G.)	Olivarez	Tupas	Villarin
Garcia (J.E.)	Ong (E.)	Ty	Violago
Garcia-Albano	Ong (H.)	Umali	Yap (A.)
Garin (R.)	Ortega (P.)	Unabia	Yap (M.)
Garin (S.)	Ortega (V.N.)	Ungab	Yap (V.)
Gasataya	Pacquiao	Unico	Yu
Gatchalian	Paduano	Uy (J.)	Zamora (M.C.)
Geron	Palma	Uy (R.)	Zamora (R.)
Go (A.C.)	Pancho	Uybarreta	Zubiri
Go (M.)	Panganiban		
Gomez	Panotes		
Gonzaga	Papandayan		
Gonzales (A.P.)	Pichay		
Gonzales (A.D.)	Pimentel		
Gonzalez	Pineda		
Gullas	Plaza		
Hernandez	Primicias-Agabas		
Herrera-Dy	Quimbo		
Hofer	Radaza		
Jalosjos	Ramirez-Sato		
Javier	Ramos		
Kho	Relampagos		
Khonghun	Revilla		
Labadlabad	Roa-Puno		
Lagman	Rocamora		
Lanete	Rodriguez (I.)		
Lazatin	Roman		
Leachon	Romualdez		
Lee	Romualdo		
Limkaichong	Roque (R.)		
Lobregat	Salceda		
Lopez (B.)	Salimbangon		
Lopez (M.L.)	Salo		
Loyola	Salon		
Macapagal-Arroyo	Sambar		
Maceda	Sandoval		
Madrona	Santos-Recto		
Malapitan	Sarmiento (C.)		
Manalo	Sarmiento (E.M.)		
Mangaoang	Savellano		
Marcoleta	Sema		
Mariño	Siao		
Marquez	Silverio		
Martinez	Suansing (E.)		
Matugas	Suansing (H.)		
Mending	Suarez		

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. The roll call shows that 234 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Andaya). With 234 Members present, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. GULLAS. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve Journal No. 25 dated September 18, 2017.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Andaya). There is a motion to approve the Journal. Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Andaya). 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 Committee Reports, and the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding references:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 6397, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FISH PORT IN

THE MUNICIPALITY OF MINALABAC,
PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE
AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 6398, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FISH PORT IN
THE MUNICIPALITY OF PASACAO,
PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE
AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 6399, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FISH PORT IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF SAN FERNANDO,
PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE
AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 6400, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FISH PORT IN
THE MUNICIPALITY OF LIBMANAN,
PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE
AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 6401, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL
POLICY ON EASE OF DOING BUSINESS,
CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE EASE
OF DOING BUSINESS COMMISSION, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND
INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 6402, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING JOB PLACEMENT
OFFICES IN PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS TO
PROVIDE CAREER SERVICES TO THE
YOUTH”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND
EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 6403, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE PRACTICE
OF SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

IN THE PHILIPPINES, PROVIDING
FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

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

House Bill No. 6404, entitled:

“AN ACT RATIONALIZING THE ECONOMIC
REGULATION OF WATER UTILITIES,
CREATING THE WATER REGULATORY
COMMISSION AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Yap (A.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION AND
THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 6406, entitled:

“AN ACT TO REGULARIZE AND TO PROVIDE
SECURITY OF TENURE TO ‘JOB ORDER
(JO)’, ‘CONTRACT OF SERVICE (COS)’,
‘MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
(MOA)’ AND CASUAL GOVERNMENT
WORKERS”

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

ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

Reps. Manuel Luis T. Lopez and Arnolfo “Arnie”
A. Teves Jr. for House Bill No. 2871;

Rep. Rozzano Rufino B. Biazon for House Bills
No. 5061, 5370, 5505, 6148, and 6350;

Rep. Marisol C. Panotes for House Bills No. 76,
180, 2622, 2624, 2625, 2627, 2628, 2716, 2881, 3468,
4174, 4344, 4689, 4703, 5164, 5213, and 5523;

Rep. Joaquin M. Chipeco Jr. for House Bills No.
1106, 2171, and 5784;

Rep. “Kuya” Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado for
House Bills No. 2290, 4940, 6236, 6287, 6288, 6289,
6290, 6291, 6292, 6293, 6366, 6375, 6378, and 6384;

Rep. John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto for House
Bills No. 6222, 6223, 6224, and 6227;

Rep. Estrellita B. Suansing for House Bills No.
6067 and 6287;

Rep. Eleanor C. Bulut-Begtang for House Bills No.
1096 and 6251;

Rep. Rico B. Geron for House Bills No. 64 and
5707;

Rep. Mario Vittorio “Marvey” A. Mariño for House
Bill No. 6014;

Rep. Ricardo “RJ” T. Belmonte Jr. for House Bills
No. 1598 and 4208;

Rep. Salvador B. Belaro Jr. for House Bill No. 6349;
Rep. Edward Vera Perez Maceda for House Bill No. 5576;

Rep. Gus S. Tambunting for House Bill No. 4174;
Reps. Florida “Rida” P. Robes, Glona G. Labadlabad, Winston “Winnie” Castelo, Carlos Isagani T. Zarate, and Lawrence H. Fortun for House Bill No. 146;

Reps. Florida “Rida” P. Robes, Glona G. Labadlabad, Winston “Winnie” Castelo, Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alba, and Lawrence H. Fortun for House Bills No. 3023 and 3789;

Reps. Edwin C. Ong, Joey Sarte Salceda, Fernando V. Gonzalez, Johnny Ty Pimentel, Tricia Nicole Q. Velasco-Catera, Luis “Jon-Jon” A. Ferrer IV, Jonas C. Cortes, Anthony M. Bravo, Ph.D., Amado T. Espino Jr., and Arnel M. Cerafica for House Bill No. 6251;

Rep. Tom S. Villarín for House Bills No. 152 and 2286;

Rep. Ma. Lucille L. Nava, M.D. for House Bill No. 6286;

Rep. Deogracias Victor “DV” B. Savellano for House Bill No. 4415;

Reps. Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong and Luis “Jon-Jon” A. Ferrer IV for House Bill No. 180;

Rep. Manuel Jose “Mannix” M. Dalipe for House Bills No. 4700, 5326, and 5898;

Rep. Teddy Brawner Baguilat Jr. for House Bills No. 1104, 2881, 3419, 3458, 5782, 6087, and 6251;

Reps. Divina Grace C. Yu, Angelina “Helen” D.L. Tan, M.D., Ma. Lourdes R. Aggabao, Anna Marie Villaraza-Suarez, and John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto for House Bills No. 2235 and 3581;

Reps. Divina Grace C. Yu, Ma. Lourdes R. Aggabao, Strike B. Revilla, Anna Marie Villaraza-Suarez, and John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto for House Bill No. 894;

Rep. Angelina “Helen” D.L. Tan, M.D. for House Bills No. 734, 737, and 2917;

Rep. Carmelo “Jon” B. Lazatin II for House Bills No. 5994, 5995, 6001, 6002, and 6327;

Rep. Gwendolyn F. Garcia for House Bill No. 5085;

Rep. Rosanna “Ria” Vergara for House Bill No. 5782;

Reps. Leo Rafael M. Cueva, Raul “Boboy” C. Tupas, Greg G. Gasataya, Melecio J. Yap Jr., and Emmanuel A. Billones for House Bill No. 4670;

Rep. Peter “Sr. Pedro” M. Unabia for House Bill No. 4498; and

Rep. Scott Davies S. Lanete, M.D. for House Bill No. 4982.

WITHDRAWAL OF COAUTHORSHIP

Reps. Arlene D. Brosas and Emmi A. De Jesus withdrew their coauthorship of House Bill No. 5745

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report by the Committee on Natural Resources (Committee Report No. 384), re H.B. No. 4387, entitled: “AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF KIBUNGAN, BENGUET A MINING-FREE ZONE AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF”

recommending its approval without amendment

Sponsors: Representatives Ty and Cosalan

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Natural Resources (Committee Report No. 385), re H.B. No. 3979, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING TWO PARCELS OF LANDS OF THE PUBLIC DOMAIN LOCATED IN THE CITY OF NAGA, PROVINCE OF CEBU AS AGRICULTURAL LAND OPEN TO DISPOSITION FOR AGRICULTURAL, RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL OR OTHER PRODUCTIVE PURPOSES”

recommending its approval without amendment

Sponsors: Representatives Ty and Gullas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Housing and Urban Development (Committee Report No. 386), re H.J.R. No. 15, entitled:

“JOINT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY TO AWARD TO OTHER QUALIFIED BENEFICIARIES THE UNAWARDED HOUSING UNITS IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP)/PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP)/BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION (BFP)/BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY (BJMP)/BUREAU OF CORRECTIONS (BUCOR) HOUSING PROJECTS, AWARDED HOUSING UNITS THAT ARE NOT YET OCCUPIED AND WHOSE OWNERSHIP AND POSSESSION ARE SURRENDERED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE AWARDEES, AND HOUSING UNITS WHOSE RESPECTIVE AWARDS WERE CANCELLED BY REASON OF DEFAULT IN THE PAYMENT OF AMORTIZATION OR FOR ANY VIOLATION OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE INDIVIDUAL LOAN AGREEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING LAWS”

recommending its adoption in substitution of House Joint Resolution No. 11

Sponsor: Representative Benitez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Revision of Laws (Committee Report No. 387), re H.B. No. 6418, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING OCTOBER 26 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF CATANDUANES TO BE KNOWN AS THE ‘FOUNDATION DAY OF CATANDUANES’ ”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 2039

Sponsors: Representatives Primicias-Agabas and Sarmiento (C.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Revision of Laws (Committee Report No. 388), re H.B. No. 2097, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING DECEMBER 2 OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF PASAY TO BE KNOWN AS THE ‘FOUNDATION DAY OF PASAY CITY’ ”

recommending its approval without amendment

Sponsors: Representatives Primicias-Agabas and Calixto-Rubiano

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

REP. GULLAS. Mr. Speaker, last week, the House approved Journal No. 23 dated Tuesday, September 12. I move for the reconsideration of the approval of Journal No. 23.

RECONSIDERATION OF THE APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Andaya). There is a motion for reconsideration of the approval of the Journal. Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

REP. GULLAS. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the honorable Gentleman from the First District of Cebu City, the Hon. Raul V. Del Mar.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Andaya). The Gentleman from the First District of Cebu City, the Honorable Del Mar, is recognized.

REP. DEL MAR. Thank you, Dep. Majority Leader; thank you, Mr. Speaker.

On page 17, third paragraph, under the heading “EXPLANATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DEL

MAR,” may I propose the following correction in the last two lines which read: “should be decided upon during the period of amendments,” to be amended to read: “CAN ONLY be decided during the NEXT CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.”

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

REP. GULLAS. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve the amendment of the Honorable Del Mar to the Journal.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Andaya). There is a motion to approve the amendment. Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

REP. DEL MAR. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL, AS AMENDED

REP. GULLAS. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve Journal No. 23, dated September 12, 2017, as amended.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Andaya). There is a motion for the approval of the aforementioned Journal as amended. Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

REP. GULLAS. Mr. Speaker, we would like to acknowledge the presence of some guests in the gallery of the Hon. Kaka J. Bag-ao of the Lone District of Dinagat Islands. They are the DepEd officials and participants of Educators Congress from Dinagat Islands: Karen Galanida, Mila Geraldino, Lope Palpeleras, Alejandra Cagampang, Teresita Loca, Emma Pecato, Rosa Agocoy, Benjie Japay, Arcia Feliza, Elda Cabalhin, Nora Baliling, Jeanete Modelo, Evelyn Baguinaon and Vivian Elicante.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Andaya). Your presence is hereby noted. Welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)

REP. GULLAS. Mr. Speaker, also in the gallery are the guests of the honorable Chairman of the Committee on Good Government, the Hon. Johnny Ty Pimentel. They are Division Superintendent Josita Carmen, Rita Reyes, Marvilyn Francia, Irene Ajoc, Marlita Sulapas, Nonita Patalinghug, Lilifreda Almazan, Lina Solloso, Imelda Siano, Monalisa Tolang, Lilybeth Montanez, Gerry Popera, Victor Odtohan, Lucille Abunales, Evelyn Lesiguez, Juanita Gerida, Nola Talicug, Swen Cubero, Randy Bocani, Teresa Buray and Noel Millan.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Andaya). Your presence is hereby noted. Welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)

REP. GULLAS. Lastly, Mr. Speaker, are the guests of the Hon. Sabiniano “Ben” S. Canama of the COOP-NATCCO Party-List. They are the principals and supervisors of DepEd Tangub City Division, Misamis Occidental, Region X and DepEd South Cotabato Division, namely: Eva Cosep, Benny Toribio, Stephen Salazar, Glen Soldevilla, Marilyn Evangelista, Felly Maru, Melrose Caceres, Marivic Cabuguas, Christy Enoc, Evelyn Rodriguez, Elsa Soronio, Judy Cabrera, Crispina Gayem, Beverlie Raagas, Sheldon Honculada, Redeemer Denapo, Leolyn Simora, John Arnel Suscano, Dennis Galve, Roselyn Dando and Lalaine Maluntag.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Andaya). Your presence is hereby noted. Welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*) The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

PRIVILEGE HOUR

REP. GULLAS. Mr. Speaker, with leave of the House, I move that we hold the Privilege Hour.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Andaya). There is a motion for the declaration of Privilege Hour. Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The Privilege Hour is hereby declared.

REP. GULLAS. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Micaela S. Violago of the Second District of Nueva Ecija who wishes to avail of the Privilege Hour.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Andaya). The Lady is recognized. Please proceed.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. VIOLAGO

REP. VIOLAGO. Thank you.

Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker and my dear colleagues in this august Chamber.

I rise before you today on this matter which I entitled: “Wrong Portrayal of Filipino Women Working in South America” which, to my understanding affects not only the OFWs in South America but OFWs globally. As you very well know, our population is now 100.98 million according to the 2015 survey by the Philippine Statistics Authority, and there are 2.2 million overseas Filipino workers, with 5,600 of them working in North and South America, according to the 2016 Survey On

Overseas Filipinos released by the Philippine Statistics Authority last May 24, 2017.

Mr. Speaker and my esteemed colleagues, please allow me to share with you a very bothersome movie I recently watched over Netflix entitled “Madre” which puts into bad light a Filipina nanny who was employed in Chile working for a family whose pregnant mother is under stressful conditions due to her autistic son and a husband who works in Japan. In the first part of the movie, the Filipina nanny portrayed the customary personality of the Filipino woman, being hardworking, efficient, thoughtful and caring person to the family she was serving, most especially to the autistic son. But in the middle portion and in the final segment of the movie, the Filipina nanny was depicted as an evil one, a drug inducer, a witch doctor, a person who can easily manipulate an autistic child into becoming a criminal, and a child trafficker.

It would be the height of injustice to our very loving OFWs who work very hard for their families and sacrifice their loneliness for their loved ones here in the Philippines. If we allow this kind of movie to be shown and played for the whole world to see, this would besmirch the reputation of our modern-day heroes and prevent them from being gainfully employed, more particularly as nannies to accepting families. Mr. Speaker and esteemed colleagues, I am seeking your support in collaboration with the proper government agency in order to minimize the negative impact which has resulted or which may have resulted, because of the continuous presentation of the said movie, on the reputation of the good-willed OFWs who continuously bring honor to the country and significantly raise the image of all OFWs worldwide.

Maraming salamat po sa inyong pakikinig at pagaalay ninyo ng inyong oras sa hapon na ito. Pagpalain po nawa ng ating butihing Diyos ang ating mga gawain dito sa House of Representatives para na rin po sa ating mga masisigasig na mga OFWs.

Maraming, maraming salamat po.

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

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. GULLAS. Mr. Speaker, I move that we refer the privilege speech of the Hon. Micaela S. Violago to the Committee on Rules.

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

REP. GULLAS. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Emmi A. De Jesus of GABRIELA Party-List who wishes to avail of the Privilege Hour.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Andaya). The Lady is recognized. Please proceed.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. DE JESUS

REP. DE JESUS. Maraming salamat po, G. Speaker.

Mga kapwa Kinatawan at mga mamamayang naniniwala sa demokrasya at kalayaan, magandang hapon sa ating lahat.

Kung babaybayin ang mga pahayag ng Palasyo kaugnay sa paggunita ng September 21, mismong sila ay nalilito at tila naliligalig. Nauna nilang idineklara na magkakaroon ng nationwide earthquake drill. Kahapon naman, idineklara ng Malacañang na National Day of Protest ang September 21 at dahil dito ay suspendido ang mga klase sa pampublikong paaralan at trabaho sa gobyerno. Subalit hindi iprinoklama na holiday ang naturang petsa. Ngayong araw, inanunsiyo na kanselado na ang nationwide earthquake drill. Paano nga naman mag-earthquake drill kung suspendido ang mga klase at trabaho ng mga kawani ng gobyerno? Paulit-ulit din ang babala laban sa umano ay maaaring panggugulo sa gaganaping malaking pagkilos sa darating na September 21.

Hindi holiday pero walang pasok. Pero ngayong araw na ito, "Day of Protest" na at idineklara nang walang pasok. "Day of Protest" pero magpo-protesta rin daw iyong po-protestahan. Huwag manggugulo pero magulo ang mga anunsiyo sa kung ano ang magaganap sa ika-21 ng buwang ito. Tila sinasadya na ang layunin ng mga pahayag ay para makapagpalaganap ng kultura ng paglimot at pagpapahupa sa kapasyahan ng mamamayan na lumahok sa mapayapa at demokratikong pagkilos, at tila ba ito ay isang conditioning para i-legitimize ang martial law sa buong bansa sa harap ng paulit-ulit na banta ng Pangulo.

Subalit kahit anupaman ang gawing anunsiyo, malinaw ang halaga ng September 21, lalo na sa isang martial law survivor na katulad ko. Ito ay petsa ng pag-aalala sa madilim na yugto ng kasaysayan nang ipataw ang batas-militar sa bansa ng diktadurang Marcos. Libu-libo ang pinaslang, dinukot, at marami ang iba pang dumanas ng represyon. Malupit at halos makahayop na mga pag-torture ang ginawa, lalo na sa mga kababaihan, pero sa petsa ring ito ang pagkilos para pigilan ang mga panibagong hakbangin para sa pagpapanumbalik ng malagim na yugtong ito.

Mr. Speaker, hindi hinugot sa kawalan ang pangamba ng mamamayan. Baka naririyang ang nagbabadyang deklarasyon ng martial law at pagsupil sa mga batayang karapatan at kalayaan. Nariyan ang kaliwa't kanang extrajudicial na pagpaslang, partikular sa mga mahihirap at maging sa mga nagsasalita o kritiko ng gobyerno. Mahigit 10,000 ang biktima ng giyera kontra droga at ilang libo ang pinaslang sa ngalan ng kontra-insurhensiyang programa na Oplan Kalayaan. Tuloy-tuloy ang pambobomba sa mga komunidad at dislokasyon ng marami nating kababayan, kasama ang mga Lumad. Nandiyan ang hindi matapos-

tapos na giyera sa Marawi at ang deklarasyon ng batas militar sa Mindanao, na ang tingin ng Representasyong ito ay nakatuntong sa arbitraryong mga batayan. Tumitingkad ang animo militarisasyon ng burukrasya, kung saan dumadami ang mga heneral sa mga sibilyang institusyon at mga susing ahensiya sa gobyerno. Mabilis ang pagpasa sa Kapulungang ito ng mga panukala na maaaring maging instrumento sa malawakang paniniktik at represyon at hindi ang pagsasaayos ng serbisyo ng gobyerno. Nakakasa ang pagpilay sa mga natitirang check and balance sa gobyerno, at ang nakaambang pagpapataliks sa iba't ibang kinikilalang kritiko sa mga ahensiya ng ating gobyerno.

Sa larangan ng ekonomiya, ang sunud-sunod na pagtaas ng presyo ng langis at singil ng kuryente at ng tubig ay patuloy na nararamdaman ng maraming mamamayan. Ang patuloy na pagbagsak ng halaga ng piso habang hindi umaagapay ang sahod ng mga manggagawa sa walang ampat na pagtaas ng presyo ng mga bilihin. Sa kabila ng sinasabing paglago ng ekonomiya, nananatiling lubog sa depisito ang kalakalan at binabayaran pa rin magpasahanggang ngayon ang utang panlabas na incurred sa ilalim ng diktadurang Marcos. Higit pa sa déjà vu ang mga indikasyong ito, sinasalamin mismo ng kasalukuyan ang malagim na yugto ng nakaraan sa aspeto ng pulitika at ekonomiya. Apatnapu't limang taon mula nang idineklara ng diktadurang Marcos ang batas militar sa buong bansa, at ang mga kalagayang umiiral pa rin sa kasalukuyan ay ramdam ng mamamayan.

Mr. Speaker, mga kapwa ko Mambabatas, hindi sinuong ng sambayanang Pilipino ang malagim na yugto ng batas militar para lamang tayo maging biktima ng kultura ng paglimot. Hindi tayo nagpabagsak ng dating diktadura para lamang mapasailalim sa panibagong mapanupil na estado. Patuloy tayong titindig at maggigiit ng ating batayang kalayaan at karapatan. Dapat tayong patuloy na lumaban para sa civilian supremacy at pag-iral ng rule of law. Malinaw ang halaga ng rule of law. Malinaw ang halaga ng panawagan para sa September 21. Ito ay pagpapakilos, ito ay pagrerehistro at pagtindig ng sambayanang Pilipino laban sa anumang porma ng represyon at laban sa anumang porma ng mapanupil na estado. Ito ay paglaban para sa demokrasya at kalayaan ng sambayanan.

Sa mga kapwa kong Mambabatas, kilalanin natin ang kabuluhan ng September 21 at mayroong pagkilos na magaganap para sa malawak na hanay ng mamamayan. Ang Representasyong ito ay malugod na nagpapaabot ng paanyaya na tayo ay magkita-kita sana sa araw na ito sa Luneta para gunitain ang makabuluhang araw na ito.

Maraming salamat, G. Speaker. Maraming salamat sa kapwa kong Mambabatas.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Andaya). Thank you very much.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. GULLAS. Mr. Speaker, I move that we refer

the privilege speech of the Hon. Emmi A. De Jesus to the Committee on Rules.

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

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

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

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. GULLAS. I move to suspend the session.

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

It was 4:31 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

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

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

REFERRAL OF HOUSE RESOLUTIONS ON INQUIRIES IN AID OF LEGISLATION

REP. GULLAS. Mr. Speaker, in accordance with our Rules Governing Inquiries in Aid of Legislation, I move that we refer the following House Resolutions to the appropriate Committees:

1. House Resolution No. 1293 - inquiry on the status of the implementation of Republic Act No. 10679, otherwise known as the “Youth Entrepreneurship Act of 2015”, to the Committee on Basic Education and Culture and the Committee on Higher and Technical Education;
2. House Resolution No. 1294 - inquiry on the development of Golden Rice or Vitamin A Rice, a genetically engineered rice, to the Committee on Agriculture and Food;
3. House Resolution No. 1297 – inquiry on the murder of teenagers Kian Loyd Delos Santos, Carl Angelo Arnaiz, and Reynaldo De Guzman, to the Committee on Human Rights;
4. House Resolution No. 1300 – inquiry on

comprehensive review on existing laws, rules and regulations governing preneed companies and health maintenance organizations (HMOs) in the Philippines, to the Committee on Banks and Financial Intermediaries; and

5. House Resolution No. 1306–inquiry on “CATS Motors Philippines” for the Mercedes Benz Lemon Law in accordance with and compliance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 7394 (Consumer Act of the Philippines), to the Committee on Trade and Industry. I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The aforementioned House Resolutions are hereby referred to the aforementioned respective Committees.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. GULLAS. Mr. Speaker, we would like to acknowledge the presence of the guest of the Hon. Gonzalez, this is Hrafn Gunnlaugsson, famous film director and writer from Iceland. (*Applause*)

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Andaya). Your presence is noted. Welcome to the House of Representatives.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. GULLAS. Also in the gallery are the guests of the Hon. Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo of the First District of Lanao del Norte and they are Director Elmira Olavides, Board President; Director Karim Macarompan; Director Baldomero Zamora; Sherwin Mañada; and Engineer Marlon Gapol.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Andaya). Your presence is noted. Welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. GULLAS. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adjourn the session until four o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday, September 20, 2017.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Andaya). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the session is adjourned until Wednesday, September 20, 2017, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

It was 4:34 p.m.