



Congressional Record

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House of Representatives

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Wednesday, September 5, 2018

No. 16

CALL TO ORDER

At 3:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Fredenil "Fred" H. Castro called the session to order.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The session is now called to order.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Please rise for the singing of the National Anthem.

Everybody rose to sing the Philippine National Anthem.

PRAYER

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Please remain standing for a minute of silent prayer and meditation.

Everybody remained standing for the silent prayer.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the session for a few minutes.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The session is suspended.

It was 3:02 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:16 p.m., the session was resumed with Deputy Speaker Pia S. Cayetano presiding.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we call the roll.

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

The Secretary General will please call the roll.

*The Secretary General called the roll, and the result is reflected in Journal No. 16, dated September 5, 2018.**

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. Mme. Speaker, the roll call shows that 208 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). With 208 Members responding to the call, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move for the approval of Journal No. 14 dated Monday, September 3, 2018.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, before anything else, we would like to acknowledge the presence of some guests in the gallery, starting with the guests of the Hon. Baby Aline Vargas-Alfonso, Hon. Ramon C. Nolasco of the First District of Cagayan, Hon. Randolph

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

S. Ting of the Third District of Cagayan, and Hon. Michelle M. Antonio of Party-List AGBIAG. These guests are from the Women's Organization of Baggao led by its President, Ms. Cecille Juan, and Cagayan Vice Governor Melvin K. Vargas.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). We welcome our guests to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

REP. ORTEGA (V.). Also, Mme. Speaker, I would also like to acknowledge the presence of the guests of the Hon. Cristina "Chiqui" Roa-Puno, Representative of the First District of Antipolo City: 17 year-old Kandice Zorina Zarate of Barangay Beverly Hills, Antipolo City is the 2018 champion in the Senior Solo Contemporary category and the Senior Solo Classical category of the Association of Ballet Academies of the Philippines or ABAP national dance competition. Her choreography also helped win the championship in the Junior Duo Contemporary category.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). We welcome our special guest. She is over there at the back. Congratulations. *(Applause)*

REP. ORTEGA (V.). Also, Mme. Speaker, we would like to acknowledge the presence of the other guests of the Hon. Michelle M. Antonio who are in the gallery: Mayor Marjorie Apil Salazar, Vice Mayor Randy Cambe, Councilor Eduardo Asuten, Councilor Felix V. Gerardo Jr., ABC President Dominador Cortez Jr., Municipal Administrator Lilibeth Del Rosario, and Executive Assistant to the Mayor George Veja Jr.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). To the guests of Representative Antonio, there at the back, thank you for coming. Please stand so the Members of the House can see you. *(Applause)* Thank you.

The Majority Leader may proceed.

REP. ORTEGA (V.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we now proceed to the Reference of Business.

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

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

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 8170, entitled:

"AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6958 CHANGING THE WORD MACTAN APPEARING THEREIN TO LAPU-LAPU REPEALING THE NAME OF THE AUTHORITY FROM MACTAN-CEBU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY (MCIAA) TO LAPU-LAPU - CEBU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY (LCIAA), AND REPEALING CORRESPONDINGLY THE NAME OF THE AIRPORT FROM MACTAN - CEBU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (MCIA) TO LAPU-LAPU - CEBU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (LCIA)"

By Representatives Del Mar, Abellanosa, Gullas, Caminero, Garcia (G.), Salimbangon, Durano, Cortes and Calderon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 8171, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE AUTOMATIC SUSPENSION OF THE EXCISE TAX ON FUEL AND REPEALING THE EXCISE TAX IMPOSED ON KEROSENE AND DIESEL UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10963, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'TAX REFORM FOR ACCELERATION AND INCLUSION (TRAIN), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE (NIRC) OF 1997, AS AMENDED'"

By Representatives Quimbo, Banal, Belmonte (J.C.), Bordado, Daza, Limkaichong and Ramirez-Sato

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 8173, entitled:

"AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9184, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT REFORM ACT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Gatchalian

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 8174, entitled:

"AN ACT FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4566 TO PROMOTE COMPETITION AND INVESTMENTS IN THE CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTING SERVICES INDUSTRY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Gatchalian

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 8178, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 4 AND 8 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6758, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘COMPENSATION AND POSITION CLASSIFICATION ACT OF 1989’, AS AMENDED, THEREBY EXEMPTING THE JUDICIARY FROM SAID LAW, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Velasco

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 2120, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE SEVERE RICE CRISIS NOW DEVASTATING THE POOR, IN THE LIGHT OF THE REPORTS OF THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY’S (NFA) NEAR-ZERO PALAY PROCUREMENT IN 2017, ITS ILLEGAL DIVERSION OF P5.1 BILLION BUDGET FOR FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM TO PAY ITS MATURING LOANS, AND PRES. DUTERTE’S POLICY AND DECISION TO PRIORITIZE RICE IMPORTATION AT THE EXPENSE OF FILIPINO FARMERS”

By Representatives Casilao, Zarate, Tinio, De Jesus, Brosas and Elago

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2121, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE MINING OPERATIONS OF THE FILMINERA RESOURCES CORPORATION IN ARORAY, MASBATE”

By Representative Villarín

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2122, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEMISE OF UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL AND NOBEL PRIZE WINNER HIS EXCELLENCY KOFI ANNAN”

By Representative Olivarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2123, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF

REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSING WARM FELICITATIONS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO MS. HIDILYN DIAZ FOR WINNING GOLD MEDAL IN WOMEN’S CATEGORY WEIGHTLIFTING IN 18TH ASIAN GAMES”

By Representative Olivarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2124, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSING WARM FELICITATIONS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PHILIPPINE WOMEN’S TEAM IN WINNING THE GOLD MEDAL IN WOMEN’S GOLF TOURNAMENT IN 18TH ASIAN GAMES”

By Representative Olivarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2125, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSING WARM FELICITATIONS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO MS. YUKASASO FOR WINNING THE GOLD MEDAL IN WOMEN’S GOLF TOURNAMENT IN 18TH ASIAN GAMES”

By Representative Olivarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2126, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSING WARM FELICITATIONS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. FIDEL CALALANG, JR. FOR WINNING SECOND PRIZE IN THE 5TH INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION OF CHORAL COMPOSITION ‘ENNIO MORRICONE’ IN FLORENCE, ITALY”

By Representative Olivarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2127, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING THE PHILIPPINE TEAM FOR THEIR ALL-OUT PERFORMANCE AND DEDICATION IN THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED 18TH ASIAN GAMES HELD IN JAKARTA AND PALEMBANG, INDONESIA, FINISHING AS 19TH BEST OUT OF THE 45 NATIONS THAT COMPETED”

By Representative Vargas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2128, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON GOOD GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE ON-GOING QUARRY OPERATIONS IN BARANGAY DULONG BAYAN, MUNICIPALITY OF QUEZON, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJABY PACIFIC CONCRETE PRODUCTS INC., A CONTRACTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CENTRAL LUZON LINK EXPRESSWAY”

By Representative Suansing (E.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2129, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING, COMMENDING, AND AWARDING CONGRESSIONAL MEDALS OF DISTINCTION TO HIDILYN DIAZ FOR WINNING GOLD MEDAL IN THE WOMEN’S 53-KILOGRAM WEIGHTLIFTING DIVISION, YUKA SASO FOR WINNING GOLD MEDAL IN WOMEN’S INDIVIDUAL GOLF, AND FOR WINNING THE WOMEN’S TEAM GOLF GOLD MEDAL, AND MARGIELYN DIDAL FOR WINNING THE GOLD MEDAL IN THE WOMEN’S STREET SKATEBOARD COMPETITION IN THE 2018 ASIAN GAMES HELD IN JAKARTA AND PALEMBANG, INDONESIA ON 18 AUGUST TO 2 SEPTEMBER 2018”

By Representative Yap (A.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2130, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING MARGIELYN ARDA DIDAL FOR WINNING GOLD IN THE WOMEN’S SKATEBOARDING STREET EVENT ON WEDNESDAY, 29 AUGUST 2018, IN THE 2018 ASIAN GAMES HELD AT THE JSC SKATEBOARD STADIUM, PALEMBANG, INDONESIA”

By Representative Sambar
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2131, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING THE COACHES AND STAFF OF ALL THE PARTICIPATING ATHLETES IN THE 2018 ASIAN GAMES HELD IN JAKARTA, INDONESIA”

By Representative Sambar
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2132, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING PAULINE LOUISE LOPEZ, RODOLFO REYES JR., DUSTIN JACOB MELLA, JEORDAN DOMINGUEZ, JUVENILE FAYE CRISOSTOMO, RINNA BABANTO, JANNA DOMINIQUE OLIVA, JEFFERSON RHEY LOON, DINES DUMAAN, CHERRY MAY REGALADO, DIVINE WALLY, AGATHA CHRYSTENZEN WONG, MARGARITA OCHOA, JUNNA TSUKII, DANIEL CALUAG, BIANCA PAGDANGANAN FOR WINNING THE BRONZE MEDAL IN THEIR RESPECTIVE SPORTS IN THE 2018 ASIAN GAMES HELD IN JAKARTA, INDONESIA”

By Representative Sambar
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2133, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING FILIPINA MARGIELYN DIDAL FOR WINNING GOLD IN THE SKATEBOARD WOMEN’S STREET COMPETITION IN THE 18TH ASIAN GAMES IN JAKARTA, INDONESIA”

By Representative Pacquiao
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2134, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING FILIPINA WEIGHTLIFTER HIDILYN DIAZ FOR WINNING THE PHILIPPINES’ FIRST GOLD MEDAL IN THE 18TH ASIAN GAMES IN JAKARTA, INDONESIA”

By Representative Pacquiao
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2135, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING FILIPINA GOLFERS YUKA SASO, BIANCA PAGDANGANAN, AND LOIS KAYE GO FOR DOMINATING THE WOMEN’S TEAM CATEGORY FOR GOLF IN THE 18TH ASIAN GAMES IN JAKARTA, INDONESIA”

By Representative Pacquiao
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2136, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING FILIPINA GOLFER YUKA SASO FOR WINNING THE WOMEN’S INDIVIDUAL GOLF COMPETITION IN

THE 18TH ASIAN GAMES IN JAKARTA,
INDONESIA”

By Representative Pacquiao
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2137, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND
COMMENDING MEDAL-WINNING
ATHLETES OF THE PHILIPPINE
DELEGATION TO THE 2018 ASIAN GAMES
HELD IN JAKARTA AND PALEMBANG,
INDONESIA FROM 18 AUGUST TO 02
SEPTEMBER 2018”

By Representatives Bernos and Mangaoang
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2138, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXTENDING
CONGRATULATIONS TO WEIGHTLIFTER
HIDILYN FRANCISCO DIAZ FOR
WINNING A GOLD MEDAL IN THE
WOMEN’S 53-KILOGRAM (KG)
WEIGHTLIFTING EVENT IN THE 2018
ASIAN GAMES”

By Representative Nieto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2139, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING
GOLFERS YUKA SASO, BIANCA
PAGDANGANAN, AND LOIS KAY GO FOR
WINNING THE WOMEN’S TEAM GOLF
EVENT IN THE 2018 ASIAN GAMES”

By Representative Nieto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2140, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE
COMMITTEES ON HUMAN RIGHTS
AND LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT OF
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF
LEGISLATION, ON POSSIBLE HUMAN
RIGHTS VIOLATIONS COMMITTED
AGAINST MR. PATRICIO M. TAGO, JR.,
A LABOR LEADER BASED IN CAPAS,
TARLAC”

By Representative Mendoza
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2141, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND
COMMENDING ROGEN LADON AND
KIYOMI WATANABE FOR WINNING
THE SILVER MEDAL IN THEIR
RESPECTIVE SPORTS IN THE 2018

ASIAN GAMES HELD IN JAKARTA,
INDONESIA”

By Representative Sambar
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2142, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH TO
CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CLAIMS
OF DR. FARRAH AGUSTIN-BUNCH
NATURAL MEDICAL CENTER IN
VICTORIA, TARLAC REGARDING
CANCER TREATMENT FOR THE
PURPOSE OF PROTECTING THE
HEALTH AND WELFARE OF THE
PUBLIC AND UPHOLDING THE RIGHT
OF PATIENTS TO FIND CURE FOR
THEIR ILLNESSES CONSISTENT WITH
GOVERNMENT STANDARDS ON
MEDICAL PRACTICE”

By Representative Tan (A.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2143, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING MS.
MARGIELYN DIDAL FOR WINNING
THE WOMEN’S STREET SKATEBOARD
COMPETITION IN THE 2018 ASIAN
GAMES”

By Representative Brosas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2144, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING
GOLFERS MS. YUKA SASO, MS. BIANCA
PAGDANGANAN, AND MS. LOIS KAY
GO, FOR WINNING THE WOMEN’S
INDIVIDUAL GOLF DIVISION AND TEAM
GOLF DIVISION IN THE 2018 ASIAN
GAMES”

By Representative Brosas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2145, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING
WEIGHTLIFTER MS. HIDILYN DIAZ, FOR
WINNING THE 53-KG CATEGORY OF THE
WOMEN’S WEIGHTLIFTING DIVISION IN
THE 2018 ASIAN GAMES”

By Representative Brosas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2146, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION COMMENDING OUR
FILIPINA GOLD MEDALISTS IN THE

RECENTLY CONCLUDED 18TH ASIAN GAMES IN INDONESIA”

By Representative Silverio
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2147, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING MR. SARJI ELIJAH SEE BONA FOR WINNING THE BRONZE MEDAL IN THE BULGARIA INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICS COMPETITION 2018 HELD AT BURGAS, BULGARIA”

By Representative Abueg
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Resolution No. 2148, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING BOXER RAGON LADON AND JUDOKA KIYOMI WATANABE FOR THEIR COMMENDABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE 2018 ASIAN GAMES WHICH RESULTED IN TWO SILVER MEDALS FOR THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Nieto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2149, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE PROPOSED RULES FOR MEDIA COVERAGE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES”

By Representative Roa-Puno
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2150, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING OUR FILIPINO ATHLETES WHO HAVE GIVEN HONOR TO OUR COUNTRY BY WINNING MEDALS IN THE VARIOUS SPORTING COMPETITIONS IN THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED ASIAN GAMES HELD IN JAKARTA AND PALEMBANG, INDONESIA LAST AUGUST 18 UP TO SEPTEMBER 2, 2018”

By Representative Tambunting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2151, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION TO CONDUCT AN IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION AND/OR INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION, DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN CONNECTION TO THE DAMAGED LEARNING MATERIALS DISCOVERED AT LEXICON INC. WAREHOUSE THEREBY

CAUSING THE GOVERNMENT TO LOSE A TOTAL AMOUNT OF P25,513,511.10 THEREBY CONSIDERING POSSIBLE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TEXTBOOK PROGRAM”

By Representative Cortuna
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2152, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING THE METROBANK FOUNDATION OUTSTANDING FILIPINOS OF 2018”

By Representatives Macapagal-Arroyo, Andaya, Durano, Hofer, Espino, Acop, Gorriceta, Oaminal, Cuaresma, Belmonte (F.), Cayetano, Banal, Bautista-Bandigan and Uy (J.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Message dated August 29, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on even date the Senate approved the Conference Committee Report of the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes on House Bill No. 6202, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SOUTH COTABATO STATE COLLEGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SURALLAH, PROVINCE OF SOUTH COTABATO, INTEGRATING THEREWITH THE SURALLAH NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SURALLAH, PROVINCE OF SOUTH COTABATO, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated August 29, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on even date the Senate approved the Conference Committee Report of the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 1233, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE COCONUT FARMERS AND INDUSTRY TRUST FUND, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND UTILIZATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

and House Bill No. 5745, entitled:

“AN ESTABLISHING THE COCONUT FARMERS AND INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND AND PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND UTILIZATION”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated August 30, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on August 29, 2018, the Senate designated Senators Joel Villanueva, Sonny Angara, Joseph Victor G. Ejercito, Win Gatchalian and Paolo Benigno “Bam” Aquino IV as conferees to the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 1363, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING TELECOMMUTING IN THE WORKPLACE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

and House Bill No. 7402, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING TELECOMMUTING AS AN ALTERNATIVE WORK ARRANGEMENT FOR EMPLOYEES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report by the Committee on Labor and Employment (Committee Report No. 849), re H.B. No. 8186, entitled:

“AN ACT REDUCING THE MINIMUM MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENT FOR REGISTRATION OF UNIONS OR FEDERATIONS, AND STREAMLINING THE PROCESS OF REGISTRATION, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 1355 and 4928

Sponsors: Representatives Ting, Nograles (K.A.) and Mendoza

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker, may we acknowledge the presence of the guests and visitors of Rep. Baby Aline Vargas-Alfonso from the municipality of Lasam, province of Cagayan: the Hon. Marjorie Apil Salazar, Mayor; the Hon. Randy Cambe, Vice Mayor; and the Members of the Sangguniang Bayan of Lasam: the Hon. Eduardo Asuten, the Hon. Felix Gerardo Jr., the Hon. Dominador Cortez Jr., the Hon. Ernesto Umbrero and the Hon. Robert Maruzzo. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). Our guests are welcome. Thank you for visiting us in the House of Representatives.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

OMNIBUS CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL BILLS ON SECOND READING

REP. ORTEGA (V.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider bills under the Calendar of Business for Thursday and Friday.

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

House Bill No. 6326, contained in Committee Report No. 823;

House Bill No. 8112, contained in Committee Report No. 825;

House Bill No. 8133, contained in Committee Report No. 827;

House Bill No. 8140, contained in Committee Report No. 829;

House Bill No. 8141, contained in Committee Report No. 830;

House Bill No. 8142, contained in Committee Report No. 831;

House Bill No. 8146, contained in Committee Report No. 835;

House Bill No. 8147, contained in Committee Report No. 836;

House Bill No. 8151, contained in Committee Report No. 838; and

House Bill No. 8156, contained in Committee Report No. 840.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ORTEGA (V.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider the respective Explanatory Notes of the bills as the sponsorship speeches on the said measures.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ORTEGA (V.). Mme. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate on or speak against the said measures, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. ORTEGA (V.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments and approve the

Committee amendments, if any, as contained in the respective Committee reports of the aforementioned bills.

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

REP. ORTEGA (V.). Mme. Speaker, there being no Committee or individual amendments, I move that we terminate the period of amendments.

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

The period of amendments is terminated.

REP. ORTEGA (V.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Second Reading on the said House bills.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). As many as are in favor of the approval of the aforementioned bills, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). As many as are against, please say *no*. (*Silence*)

OMNIBUS APPROVAL OF LOCAL BILLS ON SECOND READING

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

The aforementioned bills are hereby approved on Second Reading.*

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ORTEGA (V.). Mme. Speaker, I move to suspend the session for a few minutes.

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

It was 3:47 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:51 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8165 ON SECOND READING

REP. ORTEGA (V.). Mme. Speaker, under the Calendar of Business for the Day, I move that we consider House Bill No. 8165, contained in Committee Report No. 842, as reported out by the Committee on Government Reorganization, the Committee on National Defense and Security, and the Committee on Appropriations.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). 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. 8165, entitled: AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF DISASTER RESILIENCE, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

REP. ORTEGA (V.). Mme. Speaker, I move that the author of the said Bill be recognized to begin sponsorship of the measure, namely: the Hon. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo of the Lone District of Camiguin; and coauthors, the Hon. Rodel M. Batocabe of AKO BICOL and the Hon. Joey Sarte Salceda of the Second District of Albay, for them to be likewise recognized subsequently.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). Representative Romualdo is recognized, to be followed by Representatives Batocabe and Salceda.

You may proceed.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REP. ROMUALDO

REP. ROMUALDO. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, ladies

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

and gentlemen, the Committees on Government Reorganization, National Defense and Security, and Appropriations all have the honor to report out for consideration of this august Chamber, House Bill No. 8165 as contained in Committee Report No. 842. The measure, which is the product of the numerous bills and resolutions filed by our colleagues, seeks to create the Department of Disaster Resilience.

Mme. Speaker, based on figures from the Office of Civil Defense, from 1990 to 2015, tropical cyclones claimed 24,862 lives; injured 58,746 people; 7,112 are still considered missing; and 33,780,860 families have been affected. The damage to agriculture, infrastructure and private property is in excess of P482.3 billion. These figures do not take into consideration the damage wrought by other natural disasters such as earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. On the other hand, for the same period, human-induced incidents accounted for 10,146 lives lost and 27,737 injured, while 2,441 people are still listed as missing. The damage to agriculture and public and private property is estimated to be in excess of P113 billion.

Mme. Speaker, a close look at government's approach to disasters would show that it has been ad hoc and coordinative in nature. A slew of executive issuances lodged responsibility for disaster response in committees or bodies composed of Cabinet Members and other government officials. That is, in addition to their main responsibilities of running their respective agencies, they were saddled with the task of overseeing the government's response to disasters and calamities. Given the ad hoc nature of these government bodies, disaster management merely centered on the hazards and the impact of disasters. In other words, the government's response was reactive, consisting mainly of responding to a disaster and its aftermath. Hardly any attention was given to preparing for or mitigating the impact of disasters.

Even with the creation of the National Disaster Coordinating Council in 1978, the government's thrust was still ad hoc, coordinative and reactive. The agency, now known as the Office of Civil Defense, is presently the nucleus of government response to disasters. Created in 1954 by virtue of Republic Act No. 1190, then National Civil Defense Administration's primary task was to formulate and prepare at all times plans and policies for the protection and welfare of the civilian population in times of war directly involving the Philippines or other national emergency of equally grave character. The OCD, aside from serving as the core of the NDCC and the current National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, is also charged with civil defense functions.

We are all aware of the adage that when everyone is responsible, no one is.

On May 27, 2010 or a little over eight years ago, the Fourteenth Congress passed Republic Act No.

10121 or the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010. While this law's strength lies in the institutionalization of stakeholder participation in policy-making for disaster risk reduction and management, it however stopped short of creating an agency that is at a high enough level to oversee the implementation of streamlined disaster risk reduction and management policies nationwide. In other words, under R. A. No. 10121, the NDRRMC does not have the appropriate authority, mandate and resources to direct efforts towards a more resilient nation.

Our recent experiences in catastrophic events have taught us that hazards are becoming more intense and uncertain, and our exposures to these hazards are constantly increasing but our vulnerabilities are not being addressed. Our current systems are not as ably prepared and responsive as we would want them to be due to challenges in our current risk governance system. Thus, an able, fully-equipped and responsive Department that will prepare and lead our citizenry to cope with the rapid and slow-onset catastrophic events is needed.

Mme. Speaker, the Bill at hand is a concrete step towards transforming what was once an ad hoc, coordinative and reactive response to disaster risk management to one that anchors climate and disaster resilience to the very foundations of sustainable development. The Bill creates a Cabinet-level agency that builds a culture of resilience, organizes and strengthens the nation to face catastrophic events, and reduces the complexity of responding to the threats of current and future climate and disaster risks.

It institutionalizes a disaster-resiliency system with the centralized leadership of a Cabinet-level department that has an enhanced capability to provide unity of command and ensure effective and coordinated efforts to prepare and implement plans under the four thematic areas of disaster risk reduction, namely: prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery, and rehabilitation. It affirms the validity of the four thematic areas.

It complies with international commitments. It ensures an integrated and more coherent institutional risk governance structure that is able to enhance the capacity of the national government necessary to act on slow and rapid-onset events and address catastrophic events through the abolition of certain agencies and offices. It ensures an integrated and more coherent institutional risk governance structure that is able to effectively enhance the capacity of the national government.

It shifts to a paradigm towards a science-based and probabilistic risk assessment through formal collaboration with the academe and research institutions. It institutionalizes a humanitarian logistics system that facilitates the integration of disaster resiliency,

specifically, in pre-disaster plans and actions, post-disaster response, and recovery and rehabilitation efforts. It emphasizes the whole of government, the whole of nation, and the whole of society approaches to disaster resiliency efforts through convergence of efforts by the government and stakeholders. It establishes a disaster resilience knowledge center with the creation of the disaster resilience research, education, and training institute. It launches a structure and system to manage inbound and outbound international disaster response and relief operations. It provides resources for the effective and efficient operation of the department and the judicious management of national and local disaster resilience funds.

In addition, Mme. Speaker, the proposed Department of Disaster Resilience will be provided with ample powers to deal with disasters and calamities, including the power of command and control over government agencies and GOCCs. With this Bill, disaster resiliency, response, and rehabilitation and recovery will all be under one roof and so, the government's response will no longer be ad hoc, coordinative or reactive.

Mme. Speaker, too many lives and too much treasures have been lost to disasters. That our country is in the typhoon belt and in the Pacific Ring of Fire is not our fault. The monies expended for urban and rural infrastructure and economic development are wasted by disaster events. The cost to rebuild is more than triple, and the loss of loved ones cannot, in any way, be quantified. What we can do is to prepare for and mitigate the impact of disasters before they occur. This is the primordial reason it is more prudent for us as a nation to invest in disaster resilience. Further, the wholistic approach to disasters ought not to be the sole responsibility of government; it needs a multi-stakeholder approach and strong partnership so we can achieve a disaster-resilient culture.

During his State of the Nation Address last July 23, 2018, the President declared that we need a truly empowered Department characterized by a unity of command, science-based approach, and full-time focus on natural hazards and disasters, and the wherewithal to take charge of disaster risk reduction, preparedness and response, with better recovery and faster rehabilitation. This Bill, we submit, is the House's response to that call.

In view of all the foregoing, I earnestly urge our colleagues to support and approve the Bill creating the Department of Disaster Resilience.

Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). Thank you, Honorable Romualdo.

The Majority Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. BATOCABE. Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). The Honorable Batocabe is recognized to deliver his sponsorship speech as well.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REP. BATOCABE

REP. BATOCABE. Yes. Before I deliver my sponsorship speech, Mme. Speaker, may I manifest that I have also with me the sponsorship speech of the Hon. Yedda Marie K. Romualdez. As such, may I also put on record that her sponsorship speech be made an integral part of the proceedings on the pending measure.

May I now proceed with the delivery of my sponsorship speech.

Good afternoon to my dear colleagues in Congress. It has been such a grueling journey toward a more resilient Philippines. In 2015, we created the Special Committee on Climate Change here in Congress in order to ensure that vulnerable communities would be resilient to the adverse impact of vastly shifting climate change patterns. In the review of our collective experiences with disasters in the previous years, we have found that what our country needs right now is a Department that will embody and exude resilience from the national government down to local government units. We have examined all possible frameworks of action and we incorporated relevant approaches like the "whole of nation approach" and the "whole of government approach" to ensure that all stakeholders are given an avenue to participate and fulfill their roles. We have come a long way into ensuring that we provide the best response for the Filipino people. Our constituents deserve the best and we will deliver the best.

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the fruits of our labor. We have finally come up with a Bill creating a Department that will have full-time focus on disaster resilience and more importantly, will operate under the unity of command. I, therefore, fully support this pending measure authored by the Hon. Yedda Marie K. Romualdez, the Hon. Joey Sarte Salceda, Majority Leader Rolando G. Andaya Jr., and all the other colleagues who have spearheaded the creation of the new Department of Disaster Resilience.

Every disaster differs from each other. There is no one solution to all our problems. We can never stop the next typhoon from hitting us, but we can prepare for it better by reducing the risks and ensuring the most effective response from our local governments. Admittedly, the current Committee Report, however, is not perfect as it is and may need further inputs from our colleagues. Our experience has taught us that the use of advisory councils leads to many delays, confusion and lack of accountability, thereby making the government incapable of properly preparing and responding to natural and man-made disasters. The costs of these government inefficiencies are properties,

livelihoods and even lives. We envision the Department of Disaster Resilience to champion the cause of all local governments in the Philippines to ensure that the full power of this new Department is mobilized in ensuring that our vulnerable communities are able to adapt to the impact of climate change and disaster.

I, therefore, encourage my colleagues in this Chamber to join us in this historic Bill that will not only strengthen our local government units in responding to natural hazards, but also would be inclusive to vulnerable communities in our quest for resiliency. Join me and Congresswoman Romualdez, Congressman Salceda, Majority Leader Andaya, and all our other colleagues in our path towards making the Philippines disaster-resilient.

Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). Thank you, Honorable Batocabe.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we officially insert into our records the sponsorship speech of the Hon. Yedda Marie K. Romualdez as moved by the Honorable Batocabe.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). The Secretariat is directed to insert into the records the sponsorship speech of the Hon. Yedda Marie K. Romualdez. *

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Joey Sarte Salceda from the Second District of Albay for his sponsorship speech.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). The Honorable Salceda is recognized for his sponsorship speech.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REP. SALCEDA

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

Mme. Speaker, the Hon. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, the Chairpersons of the House Committees on Government Reorganization, National Defense and Security, and Appropriations, esteemed colleagues of the Seventeenth Congress, and guests, I stand privileged before this august Body to be the cosponsor of House Bill No. 8165, known as AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF DISASTER RESILIENCE, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

I hope to bring you back to a disaster not so long ago that devastated our beloved country. For almost five years, we are still on the recovery phase from the devastation brought about by typhoon Yolanda, which took nearly 10,000 lives and destroyed billions of pesos in livelihood and economic assets in one fell swoop. Weather experts around the world predicted that similar types and large-scale disasters will increase more in frequency and in intensity due to the effects of climate change. Climate change is real; it is even human-induced, and it is a threat that is truly scarier than any of the risks we are facing. In truth, more or less 20 typhoons have been passing our country in a one-year span and among these, an average of five to nine typhoons will make landfall in the Philippines next year. This is even aggravated with the inherent vulnerability of our poor people to disaster, our poverty rate and land areas in Metro Manila marked as “in extreme risk.”

May magtatanong na daw. Can I insert this into the *Congressional Record*?

Let me just preface this, Your Honor, Mme. Speaker, that I take a very personal view on this because my mother died due to a typhoon in July 27, 2011. So this is, for me, a mission, a way of thanking her, and no one life is too many. I lost her due to typhoon Juaning, and the cause of her death is being addressed by this Bill, especially in terms of the institutional capacity of the State. Climate change is a given, and geological risks are a given. Poverty, though, is not a given and is something that we must confront. Although rising urbanization is a given, it is essentially what you do about it that shapes the complexion and the direction of human welfare in our country.

Therefore, Mme. Speaker, I earnestly appeal to our colleagues for the prompt approval of this Bill because our country should develop in the midst of all the risks. Therefore, for the sake of our poor people, our vulnerable young children who died—and most of the casualties to climate change are young children, pregnant women, lactating women, senior citizens and persons with disabilities—I therefore ask for prompt and expeditious deliberations on this Bill. Mme. Speaker.

Thank you very much, Mme. Speaker, and may I just endorse the complete sponsorship speech to our Secretariat.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). Thank you, Honorable Salceda. The Presiding Officer would have wanted to hear you deliver your speech, but we are happy that despite the sadness on the demise of your beloved mother, she is the inspiration behind this Bill.

Thank you.

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

REP. SALCEDA. That is true. Thank you very much.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). We ask the Secretariat to insert the full sponsorship speech of the Honorable Salceda into the records.*

The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8165

REP. ORTEGA (V.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we suspend the consideration of House Bill No. 8165.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The consideration of House Bill No. 8165 is hereby suspended.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ORTEGA (V.). Mme. Speaker, I move for a few minutes suspension of the session, Mme. Speaker.

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

It was 4:15 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:16 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8014 ON SECOND READING

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 8014, contained in Committee Report No. 808, as reported out by the Committee on Social Services and the Committee on Appropriations.

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

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). 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. 8014, entitled: AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MANDATORY PHILHEALTH COVERAGE OF ALL PERSONS WITH DISABILITY (PWD), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7277, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “MAGNA CARTA FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITY.”

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

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate and for this purpose, that we recognize the Hon. Rodel M. Batocabe, Vice Chairman of the Committee on Social Services and one of the authors of said Bill, for his sponsorship speech.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). The Honorable Batocabe is recognized to deliver his sponsorship speech.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REP. BATOCABE

REP. BATOCABE. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. Mme. Speaker and Members of this august Body: According to the United Nations, there are approximately 650 million people living with disabilities in the world today and there are two billion family members directly affected by disability worldwide. The data from our own NCDA or the National Council on Disability Affairs put the figure to at least 15 million Filipinos with disability. The provision of accessible health care to persons with disability manifests the State’s resolve in achieving the development goals enshrined in the development agenda of this present government. To fully realize these development goals, there must be additional mechanisms that will ensure

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

** See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

that PWDs, who have been marginalized, are able to access health care facilities and services and are afforded health insurance which they deeply need.

Several measures, 14 to be exact, seeking to provide the mandatory PhilHealth coverage of PWDs were filed in this present Congress in response to the needs of the PWDs for additional mechanisms to help alleviate their conditions as well as ensure their inclusion in development by providing them access to health insurance from the PhilHealth. House Bill No. 8014, which is a consolidation of these 14 measures, is an answer to the desire of the PWDs for full inclusion in the country's development, and provides an avenue for them to enjoy the services afforded by the government to make their lives comfortable.

We all know that PWDs, like our senior citizens, are spending a lot on their medications and other hospital-related expenses, thus, providing them with automatic PhilHealth benefits is equitable and just as it will afford PWDs with the same entitlements presently being enjoyed by our senior citizens. We must act urgently, Mme. Speaker, so that our PWDs could receive the necessary health care support from the government.

I am pleased to report to this august Body that the Senate of the Philippines has already approved on Third Reading its version of the bill. Given that, we respectfully submit for approval House Bill No. 8014 contained in Committee Report No. 808.

Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). Thank you, the Honorable Batocabe.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme Speaker, I move for a few minutes suspension of the session.

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

It was 4:21 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:23 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move to open the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Jose "Lito" L. Atienza Jr. of Party-List BUHAY for his interpellation.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). The Honorable Atienza is recognized.

REP. ATIENZA. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. Thank you, Majority Leader.

At the outset, we would like to emphasize that we are 101 percent in favor of this proposed law. In fact, we have also prepared our own version of it as we share the sentiments of the principal sponsors that the Filipino PWDs need to be given more in law as they are physically and mentally disadvantaged, many of them, and that if we were to help the needy and the poorest of the poor, we should give special attention to those suffering from some defects in their condition.

Kaya gusto kong liwanagin in the final version that we are taking up today, is it very clear that the funding for this verily timely measure is assured to be given by the Committee on Appropriations and the department concerned? I am sure it will be taken up from somewhere. Puwede po bang ilagay natin sa ating pag-uusap ngayon kung saan po ba manggagaling ang pera na gugugulin para sa pangangailangang ito?

REP. BATOCABE. Napakagandang tanong po iyan. Salamat po sa katanungan ng ating magiting na Kinatawan mula sa BUHAY. Alam ko po na matagal na kayong kampeon, hindi lang po ng mga may mga kapansanan pero ang alam ko ay pati iyong mga senior citizen, na kayo rin po ang naging kampeon nila. Ito po, batay ho sa batas, ay may pagkukunan po na pondo. Ito po ang National Health Insurance Fund na manggagaling po doon sa excise tax ng alcohol at tobacco. So, ang gusto ko pong sabihin, hindi na po basta-basta na maghahanap pa tayo ng pondo, mangangalap pa tayo ng pera para mabigyan natin ng mga benepisyo ang ating mga kapatid na may kapansanan. Mayroon na pong pagkukunan na pondo para dito.

REP. ATIENZA. Sino po ba, Mme. Speaker, ang may kontrol sa pondong ito?

REP. BATOCABE. Nasa PhilHealth po ito, sa National Health Insurance Fund ng PhilHealth po. Ang nangyayari po, sa pagkakaalam ko, ay iyong kinakalap po na mga buwis, iyong mga tinatawag nating excise tax sa ating mga sigarilyo, tabako at alak, ay kinukuha at ibinibigay po dito sa pondong ito.

REP. ATIENZA. Maganda po iyong pagpapaliwanag na iyon na magbibigay ng garantiya sa mga benepisyaryong umaasa dito sa ating batas na ito, na mayroong salaping gugugulin ang gobyerno kung ito ay ipapasa natin. Mayroon po ba pagsang-ayon ang PhilHealth Insurance Fund managers, na sila ay walang pagtutol dito, hindi sila magpa-file ng anumang pagkontra, at ito ay isasama na nila agad sa kanilang appropriations? In fact, dadaan sila sa atin for their appropriations. Isasama na ba nila ito para ito ay mapakinabangan agad ng ating mga benepisyaryong Pilipino PWDs?

REP. BATOCABE. Actually, mapapakinabangan na po ito kasi automatic yata po inilalagay ho dito ang pondo doon sa National Health Insurance Fund at dito na po kukunin sa PhilHealth. Ang maganda po dito ay hindi na po magmamakaawa ang ating mga kapatid na may kapansanan para ho sila ay maging miyembro ng PhilHealth dahil ho kapag ikaw po ay PWD o may kapansanan, ay awtomatiko po na ikaw ay magkakaroon ng PhilHealth coverage kagaya rin ng mga senior citizens.

REP. ATIENZA. Mme. Speaker, isa na lang pong pagpapaliwanag at ako po ay tatanggap na ng garantiya na ito ay matutuloy, ito ay hindi pangako at hindi talaga ipagkakait ang bunga nitong pagsisikap ng mga miyembro ng Kongreso na matulungan ang mga Pilipinong PWDs.

Wala po bang hihingin, sisingilin na anumang salapi ang mamamahala ng programang ito dahil kadalasan o kung minsan iyong mga benepisyaryo ay bigla na lang magugulantang na mayroon palang kaunting babayaran? Akala namin na ito ay libre—iyon ang madalas nating naririnig—pero ito pala ay mayroong sisingilin sa amin. Kapag may sisingilin, the very intention of the Sponsors and this Representation will be defeated. Kung mayroong sisingilin, tingnan po natin kung ano ang magagawa para wala na pong sisingilin. Ang batas, kapagka ipinasa, ay may pondo at ang mga benepisyaryo ay puwede nang pumila sa susunod o pagdating ng madaling panahon.

REP. BATOCABE. Maganda po at nailabas po iyan kasi iyan po ang magpapakita kung ano ang intensiyon ng lehislatura. Ang intensiyon po ng lehislatura ay para ho huwag na mabigyan pa ng pasanin ang ating mga kapatid na may kapansanan. Sa madaling salita, hindi na po dapat singilin pa sila. Kapag nagkasakit po sila o walang coverage ang ating mga may kapansanan ay dapat po na bigyan sila ng coverage at maisailalim po sila sa benepisyong ng PhilHealth ng walang babayaran.

REP. ATIENZA. Iyon po ay napakagandang garantiya na nakalagay po sa ating records ngayon na

kapagka nagkaroon ng anumang uri ng usapin na ang isang Pilipinong naghahangad matulungan ay bibigyan pa ng kondisyon na kailangan ay magbayad ka ng ganito, magbayad ka ng ganoon, bago ka mag-qualify. Ito po, malinaw dito sa ating pag-uusap na ito ay garantiya na, garantisadong walang babayaran ang mga benepisyaryo na nilalayan nating matulungan, at iyon po ay isang bagay na dapat nating lahat suportahan.

I would like to move for an immediate approval of this measure and I would like to join the 100 or so, marami pong cosponsors dito. Kung hindi pa po naisama iyong pangalan ko sa listahan, ako po ay humihingi ng pahintulot ng kagalang-galang na pangulo ng mga party-lists na Sponsor nitong measure. Kasama po kami diyan, ang BUHAY Party-List, at ang inyong lingkod bilang coauthor nitong measure na ito.

REP. BATOCABE. Malaking karangalan po na maging isang coauthor din po ang Kinatawan ng BUHAY Party-List because I have known the Congressman, the Representative from the BUHAY Party-List, to be a champion of health care, the rights of the marginalized, especially the senior citizens, and the PWDs. It is with more reason that, with your support, this Bill will finally become a law. I really appreciate your clarificatory questions because it will put on record that the legislative intention of this Congress is to provide PhilHealth coverage for free, at no added cost, to our people with disabilities.

REP. ATIENZA. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. As I suggested earlier, I would propose that we immediately approve this measure in the soonest possible time as every day, there are people coming from this sector who are economically, physically or mentally disadvantaged, na wala pong kalaban-laban sa panahon ngayon na napakamahal ang gugugulin ng isang nagkakasakit. Congratulations to the Sponsor. Thank you for clarifying these matters as they are very important issues that the implementation of this measure, I am sure, will encounter. We will all be one, and one voice in clarifying this, in helping any member of that particular sector na hindi po makikinabang sapagkat may mga kondisyon na inilagay sa rules and regulations covering the implementation of the measure, na sila po ay hindi matulungan ng bisa ng batas na ito. Magkakaisa po tayo sa pagpuna at pagtuwid ng ganoong klaseng pagkakamali ng appreciation ng magpapatupad ng batas.

Again, my congratulations and my appreciation for the efforts of the Gentleman. Thank you.

REP. BATOCABE. Maraming, maraming salamat po. Mabuhay po kayo, mabuhay ang Kongresong ito.

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

Just a follow-up question from the Presiding Officer. This is additional earmarking under the existing law and so, this is an amendment to the law creating the earmarking under the PhilHealth—under the RA on the excise tax. I asked because I was a Sponsor of the measure when I was in the Senate.

REP. BATOCABE. Yes, that is correct, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). So, you are adding another earmarking which is for the PWDs.

REP. BATOCABE. Yes, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). Thank you very much for that clarification, the Honorable Batocabe.

REP. BATOCABE. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). Thank you for the questions, the Honorable Atienza. The Majority Leader is recognized.

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

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments and proceed to consider Committee amendments..

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. However, Mme. Speaker, there being no Committee amendments, I move that we proceed to consider individual amendments.

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

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

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve House Bill No. 8014 on Second Reading.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). There is a motion for the approval of House Bill No. 8014 on Second Reading. As many as are in favor, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*

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

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8014 ON SECOND READING

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

House Bill No. 8014 is approved on Second Reading.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, before we proceed, we would like to acknowledge the presence of our guest Fr. Francis B. Lucas, the special guest of Cong. Franz E. Alvarez of the First District of Palawan. He is a CBCP Director for Franchise.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). We welcome our guest. Thank you for visiting us in the House. (*Applause*)

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, the House and the Senate have approved on Third Reading House Bill No. 5000 and Senate Bill No. 178, respectively, which seek to provide for the regulation and supervision of payment systems.

We have been informed that the Committee on Banks and Financial Intermediaries, the sponsoring Committee of House Bill No. 5000, as well as the authors thereof, is in concurrence with the provisions of Senate Bill No. 178.

In accordance with our rules, I move that we adopt Senate Bill No. 178 as an amendment to House Bill No. 5000.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8155
ON SECOND READING

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 8155, contained in Committee Report No. 839, 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.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). 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. 8155, entitled: AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF THE PHILIPPINES, INC., UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 5172, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7530.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Sponsor, the Chairman of the Committee on Legislative Franchises, the Hon. Franz E. Alvarez of the First District of Palawan, to deliver his sponsorship speech.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Hon. Franz Alvarez is recognized for his sponsorship speech.

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

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

The Secretariat is directed to enter into the records the Explanatory Note of the Bill as the sponsorship speech of the Sponsor, the Hon. Franz Alvarez, on the measure.

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

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

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

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

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The period of sponsorship and debate is closed.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The period of amendments is opened.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, there being no Committee amendments, and no Members of the House who wish to introduce individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The period of amendments is closed.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve House Bill No. 8155 on Second Reading.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). There is a motion for the approval of House Bill No. 8155 on Second Reading. As many as are in favor, please say *aye*.

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye.*

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

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8155
ON SECOND READING

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

House Bill No. 8155 is approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8157
ON SECOND READING

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 8157, contained in Committee Report No. 841, 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.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). 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. 8157, entitled: AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO TIRAD PASS RADIO TV BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8070, ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING THE TIRAD PASS RADIO TV BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN COMMERCIAL AM-FM RADIO AND TELEVISION STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.'

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Sponsor of the said Bill, the Hon. Franz E. Alvarez of the First District of Palawan, the Chairman of the Committee on Legislative Franchises, for his sponsorship speech.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Sponsor of the measure, the Hon. Franz Alvarez is recognized for his sponsorship speech.

REP. ALVAREZ (F.). Mme. Speaker, may I request that the Explanatory Note of the Bill be entered as my sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

The Secretariat is directed to insert into the records the Explanatory Note of the Bill as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

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

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The period of sponsorship and debate is hereby opened.

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

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The period of sponsorship and debate is closed.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The period of amendments is hereby opened.

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

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

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The period of amendments is closed.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve House Bill No. 8157 on Second Reading.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). There is a motion to approve House Bill No. 8157. As many as are in favor, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8157 ON SECOND READING

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

House Bill No. 8157 is approved on Second Reading.

CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 2084

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider House Resolution No. 2084. May I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). 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 Resolution No. 2084, entitled: RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE

PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE AND NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER ROILO S. GOLEZ.

ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 2084

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we adopt House Resolution No. 2084, in consolidation with House Resolutions No. 1951, 1952, 1958 and 1961.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

House Resolution No. 2084, in consolidation with House Resolutions No. 1951, 1952, 1958 and 1961, is hereby adopted.

CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 2085

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider House Resolution No. 2085. May I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). 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 Resolution No. 2085, entitled: RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF MANUEL SWEGEN AGYAO, FORMER REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LONE DISTRICT OF KALINGA DURING THE FOURTEENTH, FIFTHTEENTH AND SIXTEENTH CONGRESSES.

ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 2085

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we adopt House Resolution No. 2085.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

House Resolution No. 2085 is adopted.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we take up items in the Unfinished Business.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7652

Continuation

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we continue the consideration of House Bill No. 7652, contained in Committee Report No. 732, and reported out by the Committee on Information and Communications Technology.

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

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). 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.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7652, entitled: AN ACT REQUIRING PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENTITIES TO PROVIDE NATIONWIDE MOBILE NUMBER PORTABILITY TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, the parliamentary status of this Bill is that we are in the period of sponsorship and debate. There being no Member who wishes to interpellate our Sponsor or speak against the measure, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The period of amendments is opened.

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

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The period of amendments is closed.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve House Bill No. 7652 on Second Reading.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). There is a motion to approve House Bill No. 7652 on Second Reading. As many as are in favor, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7652 ON SECOND READING

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

House Bill No. 7652 is approved.

REP. YAP (V.). Thank you, Mme. Speaker. Thank you Majority Leader.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8139 ON SECOND READING

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 8139, contained in Committee Report No. 828, as reported out by the Committees on Higher and Technical Education, on Labor and Employment, and on Appropriations.

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). 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. 8139, entitled: AN ACT INSTITUTING A PHILIPPINE LABOR FORCE COMPETENCY COMPETITIVENESS PROGRAM AND FREE ACCESS TO TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (TVET).

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

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate. For this purpose, I move that we recognize the Hon. Randolph S. Ting, Chairman of the Committee on Labor and Employment, and the Sponsor of the said Bill, for his sponsorship speech.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Honorable Ting is recognized. Please proceed.

REP. TING. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

May I move that the Explanatory Note of House Bill No. 8139 be considered as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Secretariat is directed to insert into the records the Explanatory Note of the measure as the sponsorship speech of the Sponsor, the Honorable Ting.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate the Sponsor, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The period of sponsorship and debate is closed.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

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

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 8139.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). There is a motion to approve House Bill No. 8139 on Second Reading.

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

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8139 ON SECOND READING

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

House Bill No. 8139 is approved on Second Reading.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we include additional coauthors of House Bills No. 1700, 7513, 8100, 8101, 8102, 8112, 8121, 8143, 8144,

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

8145, 8146, 8147, 8155, 8165, 8176, 8177 and 8179, as contained in the lists to be submitted by the Committee on Rules.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we include Rep. Ramon V.A. “Rav” Rocamora as an additional coauthor of House Bill No. 6475, who was inadvertently excluded from the list of authors of the said Bill.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we include as additional coauthors of bills and resolutions that are pending in the Committees, the names of Members appearing in the lists to be submitted by the Committee on Rules after due verification of their requests for inclusion as coauthors of such bills and resolutions.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. BELMONTE (J.). Mme. Speaker.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Jose Christopher “Kit” Y. Belmonte.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). I am sorry. I did not hear—is that asking for the recognition of the Hon. Kit Belmonte?

REP. BELMONTE (J.). Yes, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). The Hon. Kit Belmonte is recognized.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE OF REP. BELMONTE (J.).

REP. BELMONTE (J.). Thank you very much, Mme. Speaker.

I rise on a question of personal privilege as a Member of this House, as a Representative of my constituents from the Sixth District of Quezon City, and as a person

granted amnesty in 2011. I rise on collective privilege for all equally situated persons, and as someone who was prosecuted when I took on the engagement as legal counsel for then Magdalo soldiers.

If I may be allowed to continue, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). The Gentleman has been recognized. Please proceed.

REP. BELMONTE (J.). Thank you. I am sorry, Mme. Speaker.

Before I continue, let me extend my heartfelt congratulations to Sol. Gen. Jose Calida. Mr. Calida, you did a good job silencing another irritant of this administration. Nakakarami na po kayo and, I understand, unbeaten ang track record ninyo sa Supreme Court. As Solicitor General, you continue to enrich our jurisprudence. Kung may basketball team ang OSG, maganda sigurong ipangalan ninyo ay ang “The Quo Warrantos.”

It seems that Senator Trillanes’ amnesty revocation is another application of the same theory. No less than the AFP spokesperson has publicly admitted that your actions led to the issuance of a certification that there was no available copy of Senator Trillanes’ application for amnesty, hence, he did not file an application; and that incomplete ang requirements kasi walang admission of guilt, therefore, void *ab initio* ang amnesty and everything reverts back to the situation before the amnesty proclamation. Hindi ba ito rin ang teorya sa pagtanggap kay Chief Justice Sereno?

Mme. Speaker, dear colleagues, I am requesting for your indulgence for today, I speak out of fear.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Cayetano relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Linabelle Ruth R. Villarica.

In 2011, I was granted amnesty by then Pres. Benigno Simeon Aquino. I was one among four other civilians whose application for amnesty was favorably acted upon. By virtue of the amnesty, I embraced my calling as a Representative of my constituents and I was embraced back. Being on my second term, I would like to think that I have done well to my constituents, having brought to the best of my abilities crucial projects, services and programs for the benefit and development of my district, while working hand in hand with both the national government and the local government regardless of politics or political affiliations.

Proclamation No. 572 published in the newspaper yesterday, dated 4 September 2018, is unconstitutional, Mme. Speaker. Isang tahasang paglabag ito ng ating Saligang Batas. The recorded interview even included an official of the Department of National Defense outlining the tedious process—from receiving applications,

assessing and processing these applications, waiting for opposition papers for a period of 15 days from publication, final processing leading to the grant of amnesty, and the issuance of a Certificate of Amnesty. For the government to claim now, seven years after Senator Trillanes was granted amnesty, that a form was not filed is highly irregular. Ano ang sinasabing effects ng Proclamation No. 572? In its Section 2, the Department of Justice and the Court Martial were ordered to: one, pursue all criminal and administrative cases filed against Senator Trillanes in relation to the Oakwood Mutiny; and two, apprehend Senator Trillanes so he can be recommitted.

Ano po ang kasong itutuloy kung napa-dismiss na ito noong 2012? Ano ang basehan ng pagkulong kung walang pagkukunan ng arrest warrant? Ang arrest warrant ay ini-issue ng korte sa isang criminal case laban sa isang akusado. Kung walang pending na kaso, walang warrant na mai-issue. That this proclamation has a built-in arrest order makes it clearly unconstitutional dahil ang korte lang ang puwedeng mag-issue ng warrant. Sadly, the AFP may just follow it because they are required to execute orders without question.

Malinaw sa batas na ang amnesty ay nagbubura ng mga nagawa ng isang tao. As discussed in the case of *Barrioquinto vs. Enrique A. Fernandez et al.*, in 1949, states that amnesty abolishes and puts into oblivion the offense itself, it so overlooks and obliterates the offense with which he is charged, that the person released stands before the law precisely as though he had committed no offense. Having been granted amnesty, Senator Trillanes filed a motion to dismiss his case before the Makati Regional Trial Court for coup *d'état*. Said motion was granted by the court in an order dated 21 September 2011. Kung wala nang kaso, ano ang basehan ng pagkulong?

Mme. Speaker, hindi po nag-iisa si Senator Trillanes sa mga taong nanganganib na ma-review ang amnesty kapag pinayagan natin ang pag-implement ng Proclamation No. 572. There were 19 officers and 20 enlisted personnel whose applications for amnesty were approved by the Department of National Defense in the same approval for Senator Trillanes. In total, there were 192 personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines who were granted amnesty. Ang amnesty ay isang pulitikal na desisyon na nagsasabing niyayakap ng gobyerno ang maaaring maitulong ng isang grantee nito sa ating bansa. It is a grant of second chances. It is a reaching out in the name of unity. It is a signal that we have chosen to move forward as a nation.

Sino pa nga ba ang mga tao na nag-apply at nabigyan ng amnesty? Nandito kami ni Cong. Gary Alejandro ng Magdalo Party-List. Nandiyan din si Civil Defense Deputy Administrator Nicanor Faeldon na na-appoint ng ating Presidente Duterte at tumutugon tuwing mayroong national disaster. Bago pa man na-

appoint sa Civil Defense ay namuno na rin si Nick sa ating anti-smuggling efforts sa Bureau of Customs. Nandiyan din si Chairman Danilo Lim na patuloy na nakaupo sa Metro Manila Development Authority at nagbibigay solusyon sa ating problema sa traffic. Mahirap ang trabaho pero patuloy na gumagalaw pa rin para sa bayan.

Then what about those involved during those times who refused amnesty pero nakinabang din sila by virtue of the dismissal of all cases? Then Major Jason Aquino comes to mind, our current NFA administrator. Unlike Senator Trillanes, wala silang admissions at all pero nakinabang sila. I know of others in positions of responsibility—in the CAAP, in the DND, in the PDEA, in the Bureau of Customs, and other government agencies and private sector corporations. Also, there are those who were lucky enough not to be prosecuted at all. I see them all over the place holding prominent positions, even in Malacañang, Mme. Speaker. So, kapag naupo, kapag napuno na ang powers-that-be, hindi lang sa katulad ni Senator Trillanes na maingay na oposisyon kung hindi pati na rin sa mga hindi makaharang sa tuloy-tuloy na drug smuggling sa Customs, sa sloppy disaster responses, sa patuloy na pagtindi ng traffic, sa palyadong airport, sa rampant inflation at sa krisis sa bigas, puwede na rin ba silang gamitan ng doctrine na iyan para ipakulong?

Amnesty offers a chance to return and be a better member of society. It obliterates the supposed crime committed by the grantee, unlike pardon which merely forgives the perpetrator. If there is any premium in accepting amnesty, it is in standing tall in recognition of one's own shortcomings.

Proclamation No. 572 is clearly another tool of political persecution, and this holds true regardless of how we may feel about Senator Trillanes, of how we may disagree with his stance, his position or his principles. The fact remains that Proclamation No. 572 finds no basis in fact or in law.

May nagtanong nga sa akin galing sa aking distrito, “Kapag hindi ba nila makita ang aking marriage certificate or nag-allegation na hindi wholehearted ang pagbigay ko ng aking marriage vows ay wala bang maghahabol sa akin ng payong dahil hindi na ako kasal?” Iyon ba ang extension ng doctrine na ito? Siyempre, hindi po, Mme. Speaker, pero parang ganoon na po ang patutunguhan natin.

Usong ngayon ang pag-erase. Usong ngayon ang pagpindot ng restart button. Usong ngayon ang makalimot. Usong ngayon ang walang forever. This is the context behind the *quo warranto* and the void *ab initio* theory. Usong na talaga ngayon ang political persecution. Usong na talaga ngayon ang makalimutan ang nakaraan. Usong ngayon ang gumawa ng isyu para pagtakpan ang mas malalaking problema. Pero never naman nawala sa usong ang pangunurakot.

Tila nalimutan na natin ang panahon ng diktadura, Mme. Speaker. Hindi ko po makakalimutan ang mga panahon na iyon. Masyadong marami sa ating mga kababayan ang nagbigay ng kanilang kabataan, nagbuhos ng dugo, pawis at buhay para kalabanin ang mga salik nito, para pumayag na bumalik lang ang lahat?

Sabi ni Rizal, “Ang hindi marunong lumingon sa pinanggalingan ay hindi makakarating sa paroroonan.” Paano na sa ngayon ang pagbabago, Mme. Speaker?

Inaamin ko, Mme. Speaker, natatakot ako pero sanay na akong matakot para sa sarili ko. Ngayon, mas takot ako para sa mga anak ko. Mas takot ako para sa mga anak nating lahat.

Maraming salamat po. Magandang gabi po sa ating lahat.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Edcel C. Lagman from the First District of Albay for his interpellation.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). The Honorable Lagman is recognized.

REP. LAGMAN. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

We congratulate the distinguished Gentleman from Quezon City for his privilege speech denouncing the improvident and unlawful revocation of the amnesty granted to Senator Antonio Trillanes IV. Would the distinguished Gentleman yield to very few questions?

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Villarica relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Pia S. Cayetano.

REP. BELMONTE (J.). From the Hon. Edcel Lagman, it would be an honor, Mme. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. In your assessment, distinguished Representative Belmonte (J.), what do you think prompted the President in issuing Proclamation No. 572, revoking the grant of amnesty to then LTSG Antonio Trillanes IV?

REP. BELMONTE (J.). Mme. Speaker, I would not be in a position to interpret the mind of the President. However, the circumstances seem to be too coincidental for comfort, Mme. Speaker.

It has been known that the current Senator Trillanes has been a thorn on the side of this current administration. He has always been critical of the administration and has stood up on many occasions, questioning not only

the President but a lot of the policies and actions. So, that could be a main reason for singling out Senator Trillanes, Mme. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. Is the Gentleman aware of any pending criminal case in any regular court or military tribunal against Senator Trillanes IV in connection with the Oakwood Mutiny, the Marines’ standoff at the Manila Peninsula incident?

REP. BELMONTE (J.). To the best of my knowledge, Mme. Speaker, all these cases had been dismissed. In fact, this Representation was in receipt only last week of a notice from the Department of Justice certifying that certain cases of rebellion were actually dismissed outside of the circumstances of the amnesty, Mme. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. And these cases had been dismissed and virtually obliterated consequent to the grant of amnesty to Senator Trillanes. Is that correct?

REP. BELMONTE (J.). That is right, Mme. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. This afternoon, Mme. Speaker, distinguished Representative Belmonte (J.), we filed, at 4:23 p.m., House Resolution No. 2155, entitled: RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE COLLECTIVE SENTIMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DENOUNCING THE BASELESS, UNLAWFUL AND IMPROVIDENT REVOCATION OF THE GRANT OF AMNESTY TO SENATOR ANTONIO TRILLANES IV UNDER PROCLAMATION NO. 572, ISSUED BY PRESIDENT RODRIGO DUTERTE ENTITLED “REVOCATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AD HOC COMMITTEE RESOLUTION NO. 2, DATED JANUARY 31, 2011 INSOFAR AS IT GRANTED AMNESTY TO FORMER LTSG ANTONIO TRILLANES IV” AND URGING THE IMMEDIATE RECALL OF SAID PROCLAMATION.

Will the distinguished Gentleman co-author this Resolution?

REP. BELMONTE (J.). By all means, it would be an honor to join the Hon. Edcel Lagman to co-author such Resolution.

REP. LAGMAN. Well, thank you for accommodating this Representation.

Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the Honorable Belmonte (J.) to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve Journal No. 15 of September 4, 2018. I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7882

Continuation

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we resume the consideration of House Bill No. 7882 under Committee Report No. 794. May we request that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). 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. 7882, entitled: AN ACT DECLARING THE BASILICA OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY OF MANAOAG IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MANAOAG, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN A PILGRIMAGE SITE AND TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Chairperson of the Committee on Tourism to sponsor the said measure, Cong. Cora Nuñez-Malanyaon.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). The Chairperson of the Committee on Tourism, Representative Nuñez- Malanyaon is recognized.

PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, our parliamentary status is that we are in the period of amendments and considering individual amendments on House Bill No. 7882. I move that we recognize the Hon. Victoria Isabel G. Noel of Party-List AN WARAY for her individual amendments.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Honorable Noel is recognized.

INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

REP. NOEL. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

May I propose the following amendments: On page 1, to delete Section 1 and in lieu thereof, substitute the following:

SECTION 1. THE BASILICA OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY OF MANAOAG AND ITS ENVIRONS LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MANAOAG, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN, IS HEREBY DECLARED A TOURIST DESTINATION. AS SUCH, ITS DEVELOPMENT SHALL BE PRIORITIZED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM (DOT) AND OTHER CONCERNED AGENCIES, SUBJECT TO THE RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF TOURIST DESTINATIONS.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). What does the Sponsor say?

REP. NUÑEZ-MALANYAON. We accept it.

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

REP. NOEL. On page 2, Section 3, lines 18 to 19, to delete the comma (,) after the word “area” and then the phrase “thereby ensuring the accessibility and the security of pilgrims and” and in lieu thereof, to substitute the following phrase: SURROUNDING THE BASILICA, THEREBY ENSURING ITS ACCESSIBILITY AND THE SECURITY OF.

REP. NUÑEZ-MALANYAON. The Committee accepts it, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. NOEL. On the same page, Section 4, line 23, to delete the words “formulate and.”

REP. NUÑEZ-MALANYAON. The Committee accepts it, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. NOEL. On the same page and section, line 24, after the word “Manaoag,” to insert the phrase AND ITS ENVIRONS.

REP. NUÑEZ-MALANYAON. The Committee accepts it, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. NOEL. Finally, to amend the title of the Bill to read as follows: AN ACT DECLARING THE BASILICA OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY OF MANAOAG AND ITS ENVIRONS LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MANAOAG, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN A TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

REP. NUÑEZ-MALANYAON. The Committee accepts it, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. NOEL. Thank you, Mme. Speaker; and thank you, Mme. Sponsor.

REP. NUÑEZ-MALANYAON. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, there being no other individual amendments to be introduced by any other Member of the House, I move that we close the period of amendments.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). Is

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

The period of amendments is closed.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve House Bill No. 7882, as amended, on Second Reading.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). There is a motion to approve House Bill No. 7882, as amended, on Second Reading. As many as are in favor, say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). As many as are against, please say *no*. (*Silence*)

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7882, AS AMENDED, ON SECOND READING

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

House Bill No. 7882, as amended, is approved on Second Reading.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8084 ON SECOND READING

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 8084, contained in Committee Report No. 819, as reported out by the Committee on Higher and Technical Education.

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

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

The Secretary 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. 8084, entitled: AN ACT RECTIFYING THE PERIOD TO CONSTITUTE THE SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF THE PALOMPON

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND EXTENDING THE DEADLINE FOR ITS COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION FOR CONVERSION INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY, THEREBY AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10599, ENTITLED "AN ACT CONVERTING THE PALOMPON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PALOMPON, PROVINCE OF LEYTE INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE PALOMPON POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY, INTEGRATING THEREWITH THE MARCELINO R. VELOSO NATIONAL POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TABANGO, PROVINCE OF LEYTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the honorable Vice Chair Greg G. Gasataya of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education. He is from the Lone District of Bacolod City. He will be sponsoring the said Bill.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). The Honorable Gasataya is recognized. Please proceed.

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

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

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

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

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

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

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

PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, for her individual amendments, I move to recognize the Hon. Ann K. Hofer from the Second District of Zamboanga Sibugay.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

REP. HOFER. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

Mme. Speaker, Your Honor, I move to propose an amendment to the title of House Bill No. 8084, contained in Committee Report No. 819:

Between the words "AMENDING" and "REPUBLIC," to insert the phrase SECTIONS 9 AND 25. After the numbers "10599," to delete the comma (,) and the phrase "ENTITLED 'AN ACT CONVERTING THE PALOMPON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PALOMPON, PROVINCE OF LEYTE INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE PALOMPON POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY, INTEGRATING THEREWITH THE MARCELINO R. VELOSO NATIONAL POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TABANGO, PROVINCE OF LEYTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.'"

The title, as amended, will now read as follows: "AN ACT RECTIFYING THE PERIOD TO CONSTITUTE THE SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESIDENCY OF THE PALOMPON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND EXTENDING THE DEADLINE FOR ITS COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION FOR CONVERSION INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY, THEREBY AMENDING SECTIONS 9 AND 25 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10599."

I so move, Mme. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). What does the Sponsor say?

REP. GASATAYA. Mme. Speaker, we accept the proposed amendment.

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

REP. HOFER. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, there being no other Member who wishes to introduce amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The period of amendments is closed.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve House Bill No. 8084, as amended, on Second Reading.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). There is a motion to approve House Bill No. 8084, as amended, on Second Reading. As many as are in favor, please, say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). As many as are against, please say *no*. (*Silence*)

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8084, AS AMENDED, ON SECOND READING

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

House Bill No. 8084, as amended, is hereby approved on Second Reading.

REP. GASATAYA. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ROA-PUNO. I move to suspend the session, Mme. Speaker.

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

It was 5:18 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:29 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

REP. REVILLA. Mme. Speaker.

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

ELECTION OF REP. BELARO TO THE CTTEE. ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

REP. REVILLA. May I move for the election of Rep. Salvador B. Belaro Jr. to the Committee on Basic Education and Culture as member.

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

MOTION TO DECLARE VACANT POSITIONS IN CERTAIN COMMITTEES

REP. ANDAYA. On the part of the Majority, Mme. Speaker, I move to declare vacant the position of member no. 60 of the Committee on Energy.

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

REP. ANDAYA. Mme. Speaker, I move to declare vacant the position of member no. 6 of the Committee on Good Government and Public Accountability.

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

REP. ANDAYA. Mme. Speaker, I move to declare vacant the position of member no. 4 of the Committee on Government Enterprises and Privatization.

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

REP. ANDAYA. Mme. Speaker, I move to declare vacant the positions of member no. 8 and no. 10 of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education.

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

ELECTION OF MEMBERS
TO COMMITTEES AND TO THE
COMMISSION ON APPOINTMENTS

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

The Majority Leader read the names of the House Members elected to the various Committees, per Journal No. 16, dated September 5, 2018.

COMMITTEE ON
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Rep. Jesulito A. Manalo vice Rep. Ruwel Peter S. Gonzaga as member

COMMITTEE ON ETHICS AND PRIVILEGES

Rep. Danilo E. Suarez vice Rep. Delphine Gan Lee as Chairperson

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
REORGANIZATION

Rep. Mariano Michael M. Velarde Jr. vice Rep. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo as Chairperson

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

Rep. Romero “Miro” S. Quimbo vice Rep. Rodante D. Marcoleta as member

COMMITTEE ON MINDANAO AFFAIRS

Rep. Karlo Alexei B. Nograles vice Rep. Ruwel Peter S. Gonzaga as member

COMMITTEE ON RULES

Rep. Magnolia C. Antonino as Asst. Majority Leader

COMMISSION ON APPOINTMENTS

Rep. Alfredo A. Garbin Jr. vice Rep. Roy M. Loyola as member

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Rep. Christopher S. Co as member no. 3

COMMITTEE ON GOOD GOVERNMENT AND
PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY

Rep. Rodel M. Batocabe as member no. 6

COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL
EDUCATION

Rep. Salvador B. Belaro Jr. as member no. 8

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker.

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

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. NOEL. I move that we adjourn the session until three o'clock in the afternoon of September 10, 2018.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Cayetano). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the session is adjourned until three o'clock in the afternoon of September 10, 2018.

It was 5:34 p.m.