



# Congressional Record

PLENARY PROCEEDINGS OF THE 17<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, THIRD REGULAR SESSION

## House of Representatives

Vol. 3

Monday, October 8, 2018

No. 24

### CALL TO ORDER

*At 3:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Linabelle Ruth R. Villarica called the session to order.*

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

### NATIONAL ANTHEM

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

*Everybody rose to sing the Philippine National Anthem.*

### PRAYER

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). Please remain standing for a minute of silent prayer and meditation.

*Everybody remained standing for the silent prayer and meditation.*

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

### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we suspend the session for a few minutes.

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

*It was 3:02 p.m.*

### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 3:05 p.m., the session was resumed.*

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

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, may I defer the calling of the roll and the approval of the Journal and instead, move that we proceed to the Reference of Business and direct the Secretary General to read the same.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). 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 on First Reading, Message from the Senate, Communication and Committee Reports, and the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding references:*

### BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 8320, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A REVISED WILDLIFE RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION ACT, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Ramirez-Sato

TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 8321, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A UNIFORM TAXATION OF METALLIC MINING OPERATIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Villafuerte

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 8323, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 22, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32, 34, 37, 38, 39, 42, 51, 52, 54, 56, 57, 73, 108, 121, 122, 123, 127, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, AND 199 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8424, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Villafuerte  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 8324, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE PRESERVATION OF MANGROVE FORESTS”

By Representative Villafuerte  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 8325, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE RETENTION AND UTILIZATION OF THE INCOME DERIVED BY THE NATIONAL MUSEUM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 26 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8492, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘NATIONAL MUSEUM ACT OF 1998’ ”

By Representative Villafuerte  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 8326, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT CENTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Villafuerte  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Bill No. 8327, entitled:

“AN ACT REDUCING ELECTRICITY RATES BY ALLOCATING THE NET NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SHARE FROM THE MALAMPAYA NATURAL GAS PROJECT FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE STRANDED CONTRACT COSTS AND STRANDED DEBTS OF THE NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION”

By Representative Villafuerte  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Bill No. 8328, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE SEVENTEENTH

OF NOVEMBER OF EVERY YEAR AS NATIONAL STUDENT LEADERS' DAY”

By Representative Villafuerte  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 8329, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE CATCHING, SALE, PURCHASE, POSSESSION, TRANSPORTATION, IMPORTATION, AND EXPORTATION OF ALL SHARKS, RAYS, AND CHIMAERAS AND ANY PART THEREOF IN THE COUNTRY”

By Representative Villafuerte  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 8330, entitled:

“AN ACT TO RESTRUCTURE, RATIONALIZE AND INTEGRATE THE GOVERNMENT'S LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY SUPPORT AGENCIES INTO THE PHILIPPINE LIVESTOCK AUTHORITY IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN ITS DEVELOPMENT, PROTECTION AND REGULATORY FUNCTIONS, INCLUDING THE PROMOTION OF DAIRY AND NATIVE ANIMALS, PROVIDE FOR A LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT FUND, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Villafuerte  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 8331, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING DULY APPOINTED JUDGES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT AN INCENTIVE REMUNERATION, HEREIN KNOWN AS HAZARD PAY, EQUIVALENT TO AT LEAST TWENTY PERCENT (20%) OF THEIR BASIC MONTHLY SALARY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Nieto  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 8332, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES AS THE NATIONAL POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, STRENGTHENING IT FOR THE PURPOSE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Nieto  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 8333, entitled:

“AN ACT TO ASSIST PERSONS WITH HEMOPHILIA AND OTHER BLEEDING DISORDERS, ESTABLISHING FOR THE PURPOSE FOUR (4) TREATMENT CENTERS IN METRO MANILA, LUZON, VISAYAS AND MINDANAO, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Nieto  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 8334, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 141, 142, AND 143 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8424, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS □THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997’ ”

By Representative Nieto  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 8335, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A UNIVERSAL SOCIAL PENSION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE R.A. NO. 7432, AS AMENDED BY R.A. NO. 9994, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE □EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS ACT OF 2010’ ”

By Representative Nieto  
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS

House Bill No. 8336, entitled:

“AN ACT RENAMING GRACE PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN CALOOCAN TO DON TORIBIO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF”

By Representative Erice  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 8337, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE SOLAR ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Chipeco  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Bill No. 8338, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE AND FREE PORT IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF SAN JOSE AND MAGSAYSAY IN THE PROVINCE

OF OCCIDENTAL MINDORO PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Ramirez-Sato  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY AND THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 8339, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE COLLECTION, CHARACTERIZATION, CONSERVATION, PROTECTION, SUSTAINABLE USE OF AND ACCESS TO AND BENEFIT SHARING OF PLANT GENETIC RESOURCES FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Ramirez-Sato  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 8340, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING VAPORIZED NICOTINE PRODUCTS”

By Representative Alejano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY AND THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 8341, entitled:

“AN ACT INCORPORATING THE VALUE OF RESPONSIBLE, FAIR, AND TRUTHFUL USAGE AND ENJOYMENT OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Alejano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 8342, entitled:

“AN ACT TO RATIONALIZE THE FUNCTIONAL ASSIGNMENTS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS BY AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS IN REPUBLIC ACT 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991”

By Representative Alejano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 8343, entitled:

“AN ACT UPDATING THE REQUISITES FOR THE CREATION OF MUNICIPALITIES, CITIES, AND PROVINCES BY AMENDING

CERTAIN PROVISIONS IN BOOK III OF REPUBLIC ACT 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991”

By Representative Alejano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

THE PROMOTION OF DAIRY AND NATIVE ANIMALS AND TO PROVIDE FOR A LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT FUND, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Alejano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 8344, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GOVERNMENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM, PROVIDING FUNDS FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

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

House Bill No. 8349, entitled:

“AN ACT TO ADOPT INTEGRATED COASTAL MANAGEMENT AS A NATIONAL STRATEGY TO ENSURE THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COASTAL AND MARINE ENVIRONMENT AND RESOURCES AND TO ESTABLISH SUPPORTING MECHANISMS FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION AND PROVIDE FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Alejano  
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE

House Bill No. 8345, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE CHARITY OFFICE”

By Representative Alejano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GAMES AND AMUSEMENTS

House Bill No. 8350, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE STATE POLICY ON FOOD PRODUCTION AND SECURITY, ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL FOOD SECURITY COUNCIL, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Alejano  
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD SECURITY

House Bill No. 8346, entitled:

“AN ACT TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN AND REORGANIZE THE NATIONAL PROSECUTION SERVICE AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10071, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Alejano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 8351, entitled:

“AN ACT FIXING THE VALIDITY PERIOD OF THE LICENSE TO OWN AND POSSESS, PERMIT TO CARRY OUTSIDE OF RESIDENCE OR PLACE OF BUSINESS AND REGISTRATION OF FIREARMS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 7 AND 19 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10591, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE □ COMPREHENSIVE FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION REGULATION ACT”

By Representative Alejano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

House Bill No. 8347, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING FUNERAL DISCOUNT PRIVILEGES TO ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION WHO DIED ON ACCOUNT OF WORK-RELATED SICKNESS AND INJURIES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Alejano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 8352, entitled:

“AN ACT REDUCING ELECTRICITY RATES BY ALLOCATING THE NET NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SHARE FROM THE MALAMPAYA NATURAL GAS PROJECT FOR THE PAYMENT OF THE STANDARD CONTRACT COSTS AND STRANDED DEBTS FOR THE NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION”

House Bill No. 8348, entitled:

“AN ACT TO RESTRUCTURE AND RATIONALIZE THE LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN ITS DEVELOPMENT, PROTECTION, AND REGULATORY FUNCTIONS, INCLUDING

By Representative Alejano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Bill No. 8353, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING A STANDARD OF CARE FOR THE TREATMENT OF PERSONS WITH BLEEDING DISORDERS, ESTABLISHING TREATMENT CENTERS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Alejano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 8354, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE APPOINTMENT OF BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS IN EVERY BARANGAY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991, FURTHER EXPANDING THE BENEFITS OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Alejano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 8355, entitled:

“AN ACT PROTECTING THE RIGHT OF ATHLETES TO SERVE THE PHILIPPINES AS PART OF THE NATIONAL TEAM”

By Representative Sy-Alvarado  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

#### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Message dated October 2, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on October 1, 2018, the Senate designated Senators Aquilino “Koko” Pimentel III, Win Gatchalian, Juan Miguel F. Zubiri and Paolo Benigno “Bam” Aquino IV as conferees to the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 1985, entitled: “AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 11 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9006, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE □FAIR ELECTION ACT”

and House Bill No. 6604, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE RATES OF POLITICAL PROPAGANDA ON TELEVISION, RADIO AND PRINT DURING AN ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN PERIOD, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 11 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9006, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘FAIR ELECTION ACT’ ”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

#### COMMUNICATION

Letter dated 26 September 2018 of Jose R. Fajardo, Director and Head, LAIG, Office of the General Counsel and Legal Services, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), furnishing the House of Representatives with a duly certified and authenticated BSP issuances, to wit:

Circular No. 1014 dated 24 September 2018; and Circular Letter No. CL-2018-068 dated 24 September 2018.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report by the Committee on Natural Resources (Committee Report No. 882), re H.B. No. 8365, entitled:

“AN ACT RATIONALIZING THE MANAGEMENT OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES IN THE CAMOTES ISLANDS, PROVINCE OF CEBU, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PROCLAMATION NO. 2152 DATED DECEMBER 29, 1981, ENTITLED □DECLARING THE ENTIRE PROVINCE OF PALAWAN AND CERTAIN PARCELS OF THE PUBLIC DOMAIN AND/OR PARTS OF THE COUNTRY AS MANGROVE SWAMP FOREST RESERVES”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 2050 reported out under Committee Report No. 297, which was recommitted to the Committee on March 20, 2018

Sponsors: Representatives Abellanos and Durano

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Labor and Employment (Committee Report No. 883), re H.B. No. 8368, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE REGULATION OF EMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGN NATIONALS AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 40, 41 AND 42 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE □LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 277 and 710

Sponsors: Representatives Ting, Nograles (K.A.), Nograles (J.J.) and Angara-Castillo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Higher and Technical Education (Committee Report No. 884), re H.B. No. 8370, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES (SUCs) TO PREPARE AND IMPLEMENT LAND USE DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN THAT SHALL INCLUDE THE CONSTRUCTION OF DORMITORIES FOR STUDENTS AND HOUSING SITES FOR EMPLOYEES”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 820

Sponsors: Representatives Javier and Batocabe  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Trade and Industry (Committee Report No. 885), re H.B. No. 8374, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE REVISED CORPORATION CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 528, 877, 1324, 2917, 5970 and 7245

Sponsors: Representatives Biron, Romualdo, Batocabe, Garbin, Co, Sarmiento (E.M.), Pimentel and Escudero

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, may we request that we acknowledge the presence of the guests of the Hon. Jeffrey D. Khonghun: the barangay council members and officials of Barangay San Jose, Castillejos, Zambales.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). Welcome to the House of Representatives, the guests of the Hon. Jeffrey D. Khonghun. *(Applause)*

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, may we also acknowledge the presence of the guests of the Hon. Anthony M. Bravo, PhD, the Dep. Minority Leader and Representative, COOP-NATCCO Party-List; and the Hon. Sabiniano S. Canama, Representative likewise of the COOP-NATCCO Party-List; and the Chairperson of the Committee on Cooperatives Development, the Hon. Rico B. Geron. They are members of the San Dionisio Community Cooperative, Victo National Federation, ACDI Multi-Purpose Cooperative, Tagum Cooperative, Buenavista Development Cooperative and Sacred Hearth Savings Cooperative, with all the 1,284 leaders from Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica).

Welcome to the House of Representatives, the guests of the Hon. Tony Bravo, all 1,284 of you. Welcome to the House of Representatives.

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, may we request the honorees from the San Dionisio Community Cooperative, Victo National Federation, ACDI Multi-Purpose Cooperative, Tagum Cooperative, and Buenavista Development Cooperative, and Sacred Heart Savings Cooperative to please come to the Plenary Hall.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). Welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)* Will you please come to the podium.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

*It was 3:15 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 3:23 p.m., the session was resumed.*

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### ROLL CALL

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

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

The Secretary General will please call the roll.

*The Secretary General called the roll, and the result is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.\**

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. The Speaker is present.

Mme. Speaker, the roll call shows that 199 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 199 Members responding to the call, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 3297  
ON THIRD READING

REP. SALO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 3297 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on October 3, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 3297, entitled: AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE COUNTRY'S GROSS INTERNATIONAL RESERVES (GIR) AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 32 AND 151 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 3297  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 192 affirmative votes, four negative votes and one abstention, House Bill No. 3297 is hereby approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8176  
ON THIRD READING

REP. SALO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8176 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 12, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8176, entitled: AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO RADIOWORLD BROADCASTING CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8219, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING RADIOWORLD BROADCASTING CORPORATION, A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES."

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8176  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 201 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8176 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8177  
ON THIRD READING

REP. SALO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8177 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 12, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

\* See ANNEX (printed separately)

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8177, entitled: AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO RAJAH BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC. TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED FORTY-FIVE HUNDRED AND FIVE, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED EIGHTY-ONE HUNDRED AND FOUR.

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8177  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 202 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8177 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8014  
ON THIRD READING

REP. SALO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8014 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 10, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

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 Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 204 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8014 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8139  
ON THIRD READING

REP. SALO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8139 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 10, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

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 Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 205 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8139 is approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

\* See ANNEX (printed separately)



NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8143  
ON THIRD READING

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8143 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 12, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8143, entitled: AN ACT MANDATING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS TO PRIORITIZE THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NECESSARY INFRASTRUCTURE TO ENSURE THE ACCESSIBILITY OF ALL TOURISM SITES IN THE COUNTRY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8143  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 205 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8143 is approved on Third Reading.

REP. SALO. Mme. Speaker.

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

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8175  
ON THIRD READING

REP. SALO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8175 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for the nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 12, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8175, entitled: AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO SOUTHERN BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8147, ENTITLED “AN ACT GRANTING THE SOUTHERN BROADCASTING NETWORK A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN, ESTABLISH AND OPERATE COMMERCIAL RADIO/ TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES.”

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8175  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 205 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8175 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. SALO. Mme. Speaker, I respectfully move that we suspend the consideration of the bills on Third Reading.

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

REP. SALO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider measures under the Calendar of Business for the Day.

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

\* See ANNEX (printed separately)

CONSIDERATION OF R.B.H. NO. 15  
ON SECOND READING

REP. SALO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider Resolution of Both Houses No. 15, contained in Committee Report No. 881, as reported out by the Committee on Constitutional Amendments.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). 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. Resolution of Both Houses No. 15, entitled: RESOLUTION OF BOTH HOUSES PROPOSING THE REVISION OF THE 1987 CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES.

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

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. SALO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate and recognize the Hon. Corazon T. Nuñez-Malanyaon to sponsor the measure.

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

The distinguished Hon. Corazon Nuñez-Malanyaon is recognized to sponsor the measure.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF  
REP. NUÑEZ-MALANYAON

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

Mme. Speaker, honorable colleagues, ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon.

Allow me to start this sponsorship speech by refreshing this abled Chamber on why constitutions matter. A constitution is a legal document which defines

the basic principles of the State, the structures and processes of the government, the fundamental rights of its citizens, and the road map of the nation to attain a sustained sense of security and prosperity. It is the wellspring of laws and practical rules that govern the daily lives of its constituents. It must evolve over time to reflect changes in society and meet shifting realities to respond to the present needs of the people, and to effect a renewed sense of prosperity and unity.

Mme. Speaker, I stand before this honorable Body as a Representative who will highlight six basic facts that are undeniable:

1. The 1987 Constitution was drafted by the Constitutional Commission formed by then Pres. Corazon Aquino, following the 1986 EDSA Revolution as a result of the abrogation of the 1973 Constitution of then President Marcos. It provided fundamental provisions to limit the declaration of martial law, among others. It is, for a good part of it, a direct response against a past which our Representatives three decades ago did not want to happen again.

2. The global landscape is rapidly changing. The nations around us and across the world have been constantly amending or revising their constitutions to adapt to the evolving needs of the times. In the ASEAN Region alone: Singapore made 46 amendments since 1965; Malaysia undertook 42 amendments since 1957; Indonesia, from 1999 to 2002, saw their Constitution grow from 37 to 73 Articles, with only 11 percent thereof remaining unchanged; Vietnam ratified their new Constitution in 2013; and Thailand enacted their Constitution just last year.

3. Our 1987 Constitution, Mme. Speaker, has not been amended even a single time since three decades ago. It stood as if we have existed in isolation, as if we have not been a party to the changing times, but we know deep in our hearts and minds, that is far from the truth.

4. Times have changed. We exist in an ever-changing environment where the socio-economic and political needs of our children and the people we serve are more diverse and different. While our beloved Philippines has provided for our people a chance to grow, succeed and be secured they also deserve to attain development, sustainability and stability—something our neighbors have adequately responded to.

5. In the ASEAN Region, a regional bloc founded by five States in 1967, including the Philippines, we are ranked sixth in the International Monetary Fund's April 2018 estimates of GDP per capita, Mme. Speaker, and it is even estimated that in 2023, if we were not to do anything, we shall remain sixth. We are likewise sixth in the region when we talk of net foreign direct investments, net inflows, according to

\* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

ASEAN Statistics. The question is, Mme. Speaker and dear colleagues, do we want to retain the status quo and remain sixth—sick at sixth? Or do we want to do something now and fix it?

6. The sixth fact that I would like to express is the need to revisit the nation's blueprint, the 1987 Constitution, which is both of urgency and importance. This fact, Mme. Speaker, is not mine alone. During the six in-house consultations of the Committee in 2016 with 62 groups belonging to business and finance, the academe and research institutions, local government organizations, legal luminaries, basic sectors, NGOs and POs, and other government agencies, 52 of them or 84 percent believed that there is a necessity to amend the Constitution. This was further echoed during the four out-of-town Committee public consultations in 2017 with our constituents across Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, where 79 percent of 1,295 participants was in favor of amending the Constitution.

The country now, more than ever, needs retrofitting by revisiting the 1987 Constitution. No less than the member of the Constitutional Commission who drafted the blueprint, Supreme Court Associate Justice Adolfo Azcuna stated that most of the framers did not expect it to last unamended for more than five years. At 31 years old, it is now, by far, the longest-running Constitution in the history of this country, while the average lifespan of its counterparts around the world is just 19 years.

Together with this abled Chamber, let us revisit our blueprint to encapsulate more encompassing principles, strengthen structures and processes, expand and secure more fundamental rights, and ultimately transform our country from being a mere place of residence for Filipinos to that which they can also proudly call a livable home. Tayo po ay matagumpay na sa larangan ng pagbibigay sa ating mga mahal na taumbayan ng ligtas na bansang mapapanirahan. Bilang mga halal na lingkod-bayan, Mme. Speaker, atin din po sanang pagsumikapan na bigyan sila ng isang bayang kanilang gugustuhing balik-balikan at taas-noong matatawag na tahanan.

Maraming salamat po. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, may we now recognize the Chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, the Hon. Vicente “Ching” S.E. Veloso for his sponsorship speech.

REP. VELOSO. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

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

## SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REP. VELOSO

REP. VELOSO. Mme. Speaker, Resolution of Both Houses No. 15 tackles, as earlier mentioned by the Hon. Nuñez-Malanyaon, revisions of our Constitution on the following: first, as to objectives, Mme. Speaker, we will be making the Constitution responsive to the exigencies of the times, including the need to provide a long-term solution to the decades-old conflict in Mindanao and other poor regions, spur regional economic development in the countryside and provide impetus to much-needed socio-economic and political reforms. We will be reviewing certain provisions of the 31 year-old Philippine Constitution, revise them in order to make them more attuned and responsive to the demands of present conditions on the economic realities that have not only been sustained but affirmed with the overwhelming victory of Pres. Rodrigo Roa Duterte who stood on a platform for a shift from a unitary to a federal form of government, among others.

What are the key provisions of this proposed revised Constitution? The form and structure of government shall be that of a presidential–bicameral federal system. The principles and policies of the proposed revised Constitution, as laid down in its Article II, are:

The Government of the Philippines is the protector of the people and the State. The goal of the Armed Forces of the Philippines is to secure the sovereignty of the State and to safeguard the integrity of the national territory.

x x x

The separation of church and State shall be inviolable. Relations between them shall be governed by benevolent neutrality.

Take note, Mme. Speaker, “benevolent neutrality”—we will be discussing this at the time of interpellation. One of the policies of the State is that it shall enact measures that protect and enhance the right of every person to human dignity, reduce social, economic, and political inequalities, and remove cultural inequalities. It shall promote social justice in all phases of national development. We also have, in the Bill of Rights, the provision that states that the natural right to protect oneself shall always be respected by the State.

This will be inserted in our Bill of Rights, Mme. Speaker. Article IV speaks of Bill of Duties, a new article on Bill of Duties will be highlighted in the course of interpellation. As to Suffrage, Mme. Speaker, this is Article VI, where we provided that citizens are required to be domiciled in the Philippines for at least one year and in the place wherein they propose to vote, for at least six months immediately preceding the election in order

that they can exercise the right of suffrage. In addition, it also provides that qualified Filipinos abroad under the system for absentee voting or as may be provided by law are exempt from this requirement.

On Political Parties, Mme. Speaker, we will be coming up with a drastic shift from a multi-party system to a two-party system. We have, under Article VII on Political Parties, a separate provision that will call for the establishment of a two-party system. This will be subsidized by the State on the basis of their electoral performance in the previous election. Now, who will be these two political parties? The first two parties that would garner the two highest votes will be the two contending political parties, Madam Speaker.

The Legislative Department is on Article VIII. Its power is vested in the Congress of the Federal Republic of the Philippines which shall consist of a House of Representatives and a Senate. That is why we still have a bicameral system of legislation. The House of Representatives shall be composed of not more than 300 Members, 80 percent of whom shall be elected by a plurality vote where each single Member of a legislative electoral district shall have one seat in Congress.

The remaining 20 percent, Mme. Speaker, will be assigned to the Members of the House of Representatives under the party-list system of registered federal or regional sectoral party-list organizations.

The party-list Representatives shall be elected at large. They shall represent the marginalized—emphasis on the word “marginalized”—sectors of Philippine society which include labor, peasant, fisherfolk, urban poor, indigenous cultural communities, elderly, handicapped, women, youth, veterans, overseas workers and seafarers. All sectors shall be represented by at least one party-list group as shall be provided by law and it will be the task of Congress to ascertain which these party-list organizations or sectoral parties shall be.

The Members of Congress shall be elected for a term of four years which shall begin, unless otherwise provided by law, at noon on the 30th day of June following their election—a term four years, meaning, there will be no term limits, Mme. Speaker. The reason we are coming up with a provision against term limits or deleting term limits is that—as I explained to Chief Justice Puno when we had our meeting about three weeks ago—under the 1935 Constitution, we had great names in the Senate, Senator Diokno, Senator Tañada, Senator Primicias, Senator Tolentino, Senator Padilla, a lot of them, Mme. Speaker, and if we had term limits then, and their terms were limited only to two, who would be prominent in our history books now? It would not have been Senator Diokno, not Senator Tañada, not Senator Tolentino, but perhaps, the wife of Senator Tolentino, Mrs. Padilla, Mrs. Diokno, because the anti-political dynasty provision in the 1987 Constitution was an offshoot of term limits.

There is also a provision here that states: “No person shall be a Member of the House of Representatives unless he or she is natural-born citizen of the Philippines and, on the day of the election, is at least twenty-five (25) years of age”—respectively, 25 years of age for the Members of the House of Representatives and 35 years of age for the members of the Senate; but they must be holders of a college degree. In this matter of holding a college degree, the educational requirement will not apply to those who were already elected or had been elected as Members of Congress before the ratification of this Constitution.

Mme. Speaker, “Majority vote is hereby defined as the votes by the majority of the Members present in the session of either House of Congress, provided that there is a quorum.”

The Congress shall also have an Electoral Tribunal, and we have proposed a change here. Whereas now, we have a Senate Electoral Tribunal and a House of Representatives Electoral Tribunal but here, Congress will have an Electoral Tribunal whose jurisdiction will be to resolve contests on qualification and the like concerning both Senators and Congressmen. There will be nine members of the Electoral Tribunal, two members each from the House of Representatives and from the Senate, and five Justices of the Supreme Court to be designated by the presiding Chief Justice. The most senior Justice in the Electoral Tribunal shall be the Chairperson.

Mme. Speaker, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall be the ex-officio Chairperson of the Commission on Appointments. As of now, it is the Senate President who is the ex-officio Chairperson but this time, since the House of Representatives has more representatives of the people than the Senate, it is just right that the ex-officio Chairperson of the Commission on Appointments shall be the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Congress may not increase the appropriations recommended by the President for the operation of the government except the appropriations for Congress and the Judicial Department. During the budget deliberations, Mme. Speaker, I personally pointed out that in the 1935 Constitution, while the President had the power or the right to submit a proposed budget which Congress cannot increase but may reduce, there is an exception there, “x x x except where it involves Congress, except when it involves the Judiciary,” and it is just right, Mme. Speaker, because these are co-equal branches of government. We cannot see fiscal autonomy and independence on the part of the Judiciary if it is the Executive Department that will fix what amount of budget they will receive.

We also have a Bicameral Conference Committee composed of Members chosen by each House that would reconcile conflicting provisions of the bill passed by each House.

Also important, Mme. Speaker, is that charitable institutions, churches, parsonages and other similar establishments actually, directly and exclusively used for religious, charitable, or educational purposes shall be exempt from real property tax.

The Members of Congress may also be removed from office through recall as may be provided by law.

On the part of the Executive Department, Mme. Speaker, we have, in Article IX, "The President and the Vice President shall have the same powers and functions as those in the 1987 Constitution," and we have a provision here that a vote for the President shall be considered as a vote for the Vice President, in order that we will avoid a situation where the sitting President would be wishing that the Vice President will not succeed him. They also have a term of four years with one re-election. In the proposed revision, Mme. Speaker, only the Office of the President and Vice President will be subject to term limits and entitled to only one re-election.

Then, "No person shall be elected President unless he or she is at least forty-five (45) years old on the day of the election, a holder of a college degree, and domiciled in the Philippines for at least ten (10) years immediately preceding the election."

In addition to those provided in the 1987 Constitution, Mme. Speaker, the President shall also nominate and appoint, with the consent of the Commission on Appointments, the Ombudsman and his or her Deputies and the Members of the Constitutional Commissions.

On the matter of martial law, Mme. Speaker, lawless violence has been added as a ground for the declaration of martial law when public safety requires it. On the matter of military bases, it is provided that "No foreign military bases, troops and facilities shall be allowed in the Philippines except under a treaty duly concurred in by the Senate and, when Congress so requires, ratified by a majority of the votes cast by the people in a national referendum held for that purpose, and recognized as a treaty by the other contracting State." So, it is not enough that the treaty is ratified by the Senate, but it is necessary that such ratification be further ratified by our citizenry by a majority vote.

The Judiciary, Mme. Speaker, had a few changes, and these were basically on the part of the Judicial and Bar Council. Under Article X, in lieu of the Judicial and Bar Council, we now have a Judicial Appointments and Disciplinary Council which will be tasked not only with the job of vetting nominees to the Judiciary, but also of disciplining members of the Judiciary. The members are the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Court Administrator of the Supreme Court, a representative from the Senate belonging to the Minority, a representative from the House of Representatives belonging to the Minority, the Chairperson of the Civil Service Commission, and the Secretary of Justice. We had opted, Mme. Speaker,

to make a member or a representative of the Minority both from the Senate and the House as members of the Judicial Appointments and Disciplinary Council in order that the appointees of the President who are aligned with the Majority will, more or less, be checked via the representation of the Minority. We also have, Mme. Speaker, the Chairperson of the Civil Service Commission and the Secretary of Justice as ex-officio members. For the regular members, we still have a representative from the IBP, a law professor designated by the Philippine Association of Law Schools, and a retired member of the Supreme Court. Again, the Council, among other powers, shall have the principal function of recommending appointees to the Judiciary and recommending dismissals, when necessary, of Members of the Judiciary. Still, the members of the Supreme Court and the justices and judges of lower courts shall be appointed by the President from a list of at least three nominees prepared by the Council. The members of the Supreme Court shall hold office during good behavior for a term of 10 years or until they reach the age of 70, whichever comes first.

The local governments of federal states, Mme. Speaker, was the product of extensive debates, taking off from the criticisms by the economic managers. So, we have here the local government—the territorial and political subdivisions of the Republic of the Philippines are the provinces, cities, municipalities and barangays. Article XII provides for a mechanism to establish federal states in the future and take note, Mme. Speaker, to establish a federal state, there should be a petition addressed to Congress by any contiguous, compact and adjacent provinces, highly urbanized and component cities, and cities and municipalities in metropolitan areas through a resolution of their respective bodies, subject to approval by a majority of the votes cast in a plebiscite in the political units affected.

It had been asked in media why we did not define just how many federal states we would have and what they would be. Mme. Speaker, if we will—I have only three more points—be tied to this question of how many federal states we should have and what they are, who would be benefitted by this? What urban areas should they be attached to? So, we will no longer have time to finish our job here. But take note, Mme. Speaker, we opted to retain the power of Congress to define who and what will constitute a federal state.

It is also provided, Mme. Speaker, that the Congress shall strengthen the existing Local Government Code to provide for a more responsive and accountable local government structure instituted through a system of decentralized local government units. Each local government of a federal state shall have the power to create its own sources of revenue and to levy taxes, fees and charges subject to such guidelines and limitations as Congress, again, may provide. Such taxes, fees and

charges shall accrue to the concerned local government units or autonomous territories.

The national government is mandated, Mme. Speaker, to provide local governments their just share, as determined by law, in the national taxes which shall be automatically released to them. Unlike what is happening now that all collections are given to Manila and will return until kingdom come to the local government units. The local government units shall be entitled to an equitable share in the proceeds of the utilization and development of the national wealth within their respective areas, in the manner provided by law which shall be automatically released to them. These areas include but are not limited to off-shore sites beyond the municipal waters. The local government units may be authorized by law to collect the proceeds and retain their equitable share.

Elective officials and local officials shall serve for four years except barangay officials which shall be determined by law. Again, it is only in the case of the President and the Vice President that we have term limits but those below them, until the last councilor that we have, they are not subject to any term limit.

For the Constitutional Commissions, we have Article XI; and for the economic provisions, we have Article XIV and these will be expounded more by the other members of the Committee who have been tasked to highlight the economic provisions in the proposed revised Constitution.

Reclaimed lands are classified as land of public domain. The phrase “unless otherwise provided by law” is added in the following matters: Section 2, Article XII, on leasing alienable lands of the public domain; Section 7, Article XII, on conveyance of private lands; Section 11, Article XII on the equity sharing provision of public utilities. The 60-40 sharing or equity participation of foreign investors are removed in the following provisions: Section 10, Article XII on reserved investments; Section 4, paragraph 2, Article XIV on ownership of educational institutions; Section 11, paragraphs 1 and 2, Article XVI on ownership and management of mass media and in the policy for engagement in the advertising industry.

Mme. Speaker, we have the same provisions in the Accountability of Public Officers in Article XIII who are impeachable.

On Amendments or Revisions, we have revised the provision in Section 1, Article XVII and now, the voting requirement for all the Members, when they will amend or revise the Constitution, is reduced from three-fourths to two-thirds vote. But again, Congress, by a vote of two-thirds this time of all its Members, can call a constitutional convention—emphasis on the two-thirds vote of all its Members, instead of saying “jointly or voting separately.”

On the Transitory Provisions, Article XVII, we have

to highlight the following points: 1.) All branches of the government shall continue to function on a transitory character until all their successors are elected or appointed and are duly qualified; 2.) The first election under the proposed Constitution shall be held on the second Monday of May 2022; 3.) The term of the President and the Vice President which shall end on June 30, 2022 shall not be extended; and 4.) The incumbent President is prohibited from running in the 2022 elections under the proposed Constitution.

Mme. Speaker, this, more or less, is a summary of what the proposed revised 2018 Constitution would be.

Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we suspend the consideration of House Bill ...

REP. ATIENZA. Mme. Speaker.

REP. NOEL. ... No. 8374—I am sorry, ...

REP. ATIENZA. Mme. Speaker, allow us to manifest our position and our sentiments. We are taking up a very serious matter, constitutional changes, and yet we are doing it without a quorum.

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

REP. ATIENZA. Is that correct? Is that legal? Is that the right way? Is it in accordance with the Rules of the House, rules of decency, rules of the public? People expect us to work diligently within the bounds of law. Changing the Constitution is a national matter, national interest, and we cannot tackle it with only 50 Members on the floor. We are questioning the quorum and we would insist on this.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move to suspend the session.

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

*It was 5:02 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 5:04 p.m., the session was resumed.*

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF  
R.B.H. NO. 15

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we suspend the consideration of Resolution of Both Houses No. 15 as contained in Committee Report No. 881.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The consideration of Resolution of Both Houses No. 15 is hereby suspended.

REP. ATIENZA. Mme. Speaker.

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. NOEL. I move that we recognize the Hon. Jose "Lito" L. Atienza for his manifestation.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). The Hon. Jose "Lito" L. Atienza Jr. is recognized.

REP. ATIENZA. Allow me to complete my manifestation and to present a continuing objection to the way we are handling constitutional changes in this Chamber. Hindi po tama, Mme. Speaker, na umpisahan natin ang pagtalakay ng pagbabago ng Saligang Batas ng ating bansa sa ganoong paraan. Unang-una ay wala po sa agenda natin ngayon. Ang pinag-uusapan natin ay measures on Third Reading, pagkatapos, biglang pumasok iyan. Ako po ay nagsusulat sa aking opisina ko noong narinig kong pinag-uusapan na pala ang constitutional changes. You may consider it insignificant, but I consider it significant that sponsorship speeches should be heard by the Body because our interpellation will be based on record on what they are claiming in their sponsorship speeches. Kaya pinapaalala po namin sa inyo, at kami ay marubdob na nakikiusap, huwag na po natin gawing ganito ang ating pagtalakay ng pagbabago ng ating Saligang Batas. Let us do it properly and let us vote on it accurately, as we will not allow any effort to deprive any Member of this Chamber to speak freely and vote freely according to his conscience.

Salamat po.

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

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, may we now be allowed to acknowledge the presence of the guests of the Hon. Jeffrey D. Khonghun. They are barangay council members and officials of Barangay San Jose, Castillejos, Zambales.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). Please rise to be recognized. Welcome to the House of Representatives, the guests of Hon. Jeffrey D. Khonghun. (*Applause*)

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, we would also like to acknowledge the presence of guests of the Representative from BAGONG HENERASYON Party-List, the Hon. Bernadette "BH" Herrera-Dy. They are the following: youth leaders from Maguindanao, Lanao del Sur and the National Capital Region, Philippine Legislators Committee on Population and Development, Oxfam, Global Affairs Canada, United Youth of the Philippines, Al-Mujadillah Development Foundation, and the Philippine Business for Social Progress.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). The guests of the Hon. Bernadette "BH" Herrera-Dy, welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)

The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, may we request for a suspension of the session for a few minutes.

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

*It was 4:08 p.m.*

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 5:10 p.m., the session was resumed.*

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8374  
ON SECOND READING

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 8374, contained in Committee Report No. 885, as reported out by the Committee on Trade and Industry.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). 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. 8374, entitled: AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE REVISED CORPORATION CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES.

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

#### PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate and recognize the Chairperson of the Committee on Trade and Industry, the Hon. Ferjanel G. Biron, MD to begin the sponsorship of the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). The Honorable Biron is recognized for his sponsorship speech on House Bill No. 8374.

#### SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REP. BIRON

REP. BIRON. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleagues in the House of Representatives, ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon.

On behalf of the Committee on Trade and Industry, it is my honor and privilege to sponsor House Bill No. 8374, entitled: AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE REVISED CORPORATION CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES. House Bill No. 8374, which is the subject of Committee Report No. 885, in substitution of House Bills No. 528, 877, 1324, 2917, 5970 and 7245. The Revised Corporation Code of the Philippines is the much-awaited sequel to Republic Act No. 11032, otherwise known as the “Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018,” which was signed into law last May 28, 2018. Incidentally, Republic Act No. 11032 was similarly enacted through the efforts of the House Committee on Trade and Industry.

To recall, the amended Corporation Code is one of several bills included in the list of priority measures under the present Seventeenth Congress. Among the key amendments in the proposed law amending the

Corporation Code of the Philippines are provisions that remove the minimum number of incorporators, permit the establishment of a one-man corporation, allow the electronic filing of reportorial requirements, and allow attendance in meetings via remote communication or in absentia. Later on, my co-sponsor, Representative Xavier Jesus “XJ” D. Romualdo, who is our Senior Vice Chairman of the Committee on Trade and Industry, will discuss these amendments in greater detail. At this point, I would like to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate Committee Senior Vice Chairman Romualdo for successfully chairing and steering the Technical Working Group tasked to draft the bill amending the Corporation Code.

The proposed amendments to Batas Pambansa Animnapu’t Walo may be divided into four reform clusters consisting of policies that seek to: (1) improve the ease of doing business in the country; (2) prioritize corporate and stockholder protection; (3) instill corporate and civic responsibility; and finally, (4) strengthen the country’s policy and regulatory corporate framework. The proposed changes will streamline the process of incorporation. If we were to keep up with the rest of the financial world, we need to codify best international corporate practices and address the archaic bottlenecks in the areas of starting a business and protecting minority investors. We must equally provide an environment conducive, not just to big businesses, but to make the corporate vehicle an appealing prospect for start-ups and would-be entrepreneurs. To contribute to the ease of doing business, the proposed Revised Corporation Code would introduce the concept of the one-person corporation, simplify the name verification process, and grant a perpetual life as the default option for corporations.

The current provision requiring corporations to have at least five incorporators has been a common stumbling block for many investors. As a consequence, investors name individuals, with no real interests, as incorporators in the corporation just to comply with the legal requirement. It is common knowledge that, sometimes, people get their drivers, their maids or their cooks just to form the required five. One thing that will change is that we will allow a one-person corporation so that a single person can put up a corporation.

The second reform cluster includes provisions on the creation of emergency boards, revised rules on the right to inspect corporate books, modified quorum requirements, and expanded grounds for disqualification of directors. The creation and recognition of an emergency board, which can operate for a limited period and purpose, will allow the corporation to continue its daily operations despite vacancies in the board. The proposed Code also provides additional qualifications for directors in the hope of fostering a more principled corporate decision-making.

\* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)



The third reform is on the imposition of more stringent corporate and civic responsibility, which specifically proposes to impose corporate criminal liability and penalties for graft and corruption. This is consistent with the country's obligation under the United Nations Convention Against Corruption which seeks, among others, to prevent the use of the corporation as a vehicle for committing crimes. This is in recognition of the fact that corporations are effective vehicles for the accumulation of capital, production of goods, and delivery of services, but are also social institutions in which the public has an interest. House Bill No. 8374 will likewise strengthen corporate responsibility, especially in cases of corporations vested with public interest, which may now be required to have independent directors and compliance officers.

*At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Villarica relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Mercedes K. Alvarez.*

The fourth reform cluster includes provisions on arbitration of commercial disputes, amendments on dissolution, and the alignment of SEC's power under the Corporation Code with the Securities Regulation Code. In general, the proposed amendment promotes efficiency and encourages transparency in corporate dealings from formation to daily operations. Having them in place will allow the Philippines to compete with other countries as a viable investment destination and small-business-friendly jurisdiction.

Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, in view of the foregoing, this Representation urges this Chamber to enact this much-needed legislation without further delay.

Thank you and good afternoon to everyone.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Alvarez, M.). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Gentleman from the Lone District of Camiguin, the Hon. Xavier Jesus "XJ" D. Romualdo, to deliver his sponsorship speech.

I so move.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Alvarez, M.). The Hon. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo of Camiguin is recognized to sponsor House Bill No. 8374.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REP. ROMUALDO

REP. ROMUALDO. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

Mme. Speaker, the Committee on Trade and Industry, to which was referred House Bills No. 528, 877, 1324, 2917, 5970 and 7245, has the distinct honor to report out, for the consideration of this Chamber, House Bill No. 8374 or the Revised Corporation Code. This Bill is the product of not only the measures filed by our colleagues but also the inputs of stakeholders from the public and private sectors. In crafting the Bill, and cognizant of its wide-ranging impact, the Committee likewise took into consideration the pertinent provisions of laws such as the Securities Regulation Code, Data Privacy Act, Philippine Competition Act, and Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act. Mme. Speaker, the current Corporation Code was enacted more than 40 years ago in an era where protectionism was the norm. Globalized, and not just bilateral trade, would not become a reality until the next decade. To communicate with customers and other stakeholders here and abroad, businesses had to use landlines, telex machines and the postal service. The terms "video conferencing," "emails" and e-commerce have yet to enter our vocabulary. These days, it is common practice for a business concern to communicate with its stakeholders through a video conference. Voluminous documents such as contracts are now being sent through email, and it is not uncommon now for documents to be signed electronically. According to the Philippine Statistics Authority, the sales from e-commerce transactions amounted to P39.5 billion pesos in 2014. Mme. Speaker, while the current Corporation Code remains a good law, many of its provisions can no longer cater to the needs of the business community, investors and the general public.

*At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Alvarez (M.) relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Linabelle Ruth R. Villarica.*

The Bill at hand seeks to remedy this situation by updating the law and making it more attuned to the current world order and bringing the country's legal framework for corporations into the 21st century. Among others, the Bill:

- 1) enables corporations registered in the Philippines to compete globally by codifying international corporate best practices;
- 2) encourages entrepreneurship and the formation of small businesses by authorizing the establishment of one person corporations;
- 3) contributes to the ease of doing business by a) mandating the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to develop and implement electronic filing and monitoring systems, and b) permitting corporations to exist perpetually, unless their Certificates of Incorporation specify otherwise;
- 4) enhances the country's competitiveness by

favorably impacting two ease-of-doing-business indicators, particularly in starting a business and protecting minority stockholders;

5) promotes stockholders' rights by a) expanding the right of a stockholder to inspect the books of the corporation to include a stockholder's representative who may be more knowledgeable in corporate issues; b) affording stockholders and members of the Boards to remotely participate in meetings and to vote in the same;

6) deters corporate abuse by a) requiring the election of independent directors in entities vested with public interest; b) providing for corporate criminal liability, holding not only the individuals responsible for their violations but the corporation itself, subjecting the latter to hefty fines; c) streamlining cooperation between various regulatory agencies and the SEC; and d) endowing the SEC with additional powers, including the power to hold persons in contempt for failing to comply with any of the SEC's orders or subpoenas.

Mme. Speaker, this Bill is another step towards enhancing competitiveness and ease of doing business. I therefore urge our colleagues to approve House Bill No. 8374.

Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

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

#### SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8374

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we suspend the consideration of House Bill No. 8374 as contained in Committee Report No. 885.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The consideration of House Bill No. 8374 is hereby suspended.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we take up some bills on Third Reading.

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

#### NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 7774 ON THIRD READING

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote

on Third Reading on House Bill No. 7774 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 13, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7774, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE RIGHTS OF PASSENGERS OF TAXIS, TOURIST CAR TRANSPORT SERVICES (TCTS) AND OTHER SIMILAR VEHICLES FOR HIRE (VFH).

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

#### APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7774 ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 212 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 7774 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, may we be allowed to acknowledge the presence of the guests of Deputy Speaker Arthur C. Yap, and they are the 12 Barangay Captains from the Municipality of Paluan, Occidental Mindoro.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). The guests of the Hon. Arthur Yap will please rise. Welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8237 ON THIRD READING

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8237 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 27, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8237, entitled: AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO SOLIDNORTH BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8089, ENTITLED “AN ACT GRANTING THE SOLIDNORTH BROADCASTING SYSTEM A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN COMMERCIAL RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

#### APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8237 ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 212 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8237 is approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, may we be allowed to acknowledge the presence in the gallery of some guests of the Hon. Ferjanel G. Biron, MD. They are Atty. Sergio Mujica, the Secretary General of International Organization for Standardization (*Applause*); Mr. Kolin Low of ISO-Singapore (*Applause*); Atty. Ruth Castelo of DTI-Consumer Protection Group Undersecretary (*Applause*); Director James Empeño of DTI-Bureau of Philippine Standards (*Applause*); and Assistant Director Marimel Porciuncula (*Applause*).

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). Welcome to the House of Representatives, the guests of the Honorable Biron. (*Applause*)

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### PRIVILEGE HOUR

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, today being a Monday,

and pursuant to our Rules, I move that we proceed to the Privilege Hour.

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

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that the Gentleman from Party-List AGAP, the Hon. Rico B. Geron, be recognized to avail of the Privilege Hour.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). The Gentleman from the AGAP Party-List, the Hon. Rico B. Geron is recognized.

#### PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. GERON

REP. GERON. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

Today, I rise to start the celebration of the Cooperatives Month beginning of the month of October.

Change has been the battle cry for purposes of transformation, improvement, cleansing of the ranks, the elimination of evils of society which have made the Philippines, on one side, downtrodden but this has been balanced by the fact that despite the Philippine situation, the Philippines is still a destination of choice of local and international tourists. Change is coming and in fact, has been felt in the upliftment of all sectors, aspects in the Philippine homeground. The goal is to make life better for all the denizens in the Philippines.

Change is not alien to the cooperative movement. In fact, ito na yata ang laging pinaghahandaan natin, ang walang hanggang usapin ng pagbabago. Sabi nga nila: “Nothing is constant in this world except change.” Change is what has kept the cooperative sector going as it improves the life of its members towards a productive and progressive coop sector. The month of October had been tagged as the Cooperative Month under Proclamation No. 493 by former President and now our Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Hon. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. The cooperative sector, the cooperative movement awaits the coming of this month to showcase the accomplishments, improvements and successes of the cooperatives.

The Committee on Cooperatives Development contributed to the celebration of the Cooperative Month by spearheading the photo exhibits and the display of cooperative products and produce, with the participation of the Land Bank of the Philippines through its Gawad PITAK Program and the Cooperative Development Authority’s Gawad Parangal. This year’s theme in

\* See ANNEX (printed separately)

the House of Representatives is “Parangal sa mga Kapita-pitagang Kooperatiba.” I would like to thank the Cooperative Development Authority and the Land Bank of the Philippines for their participation.

Mme. Speaker, dear colleagues, with your indulgence, may I present the 2018 Gawad Parangal and Gawad PITAK winners: the Cortes Cooperative is a multi-purpose cooperative from Dinagat Island, while the next one is the Topdac Multi-purpose Cooperative from Benguet; the San Jose Sico Landfill Cooperative is a multi-purpose cooperative from Batangas City, na nabubuhay ng marangal sa pamamagitan ng pagmamana ng mga basura.

Sa Medium Cooperative Category: Coop Naton mula sa Lalawigan ng Iloilo—ang Kooperatiba NATON Multi-Purpose Cooperative. Samantala ang Lezo Multi-purpose Cooperative ay mula sa Aklan. Nandiyan din ang Leyte National High School MPC ng Tacloban City, ang SIBBAP Multi-Purpose Cooperative ng Batangas City, ang Malalim Multi-Purpose Cooperative ng Batangas City din, ang PWARC mula sa Capiz. Mula naman sa Large Cooperative Category ang Barbaza Multi-Purpose Cooperative ng Antique; Lamac Multi-Purpose Cooperative ng Pinamungajan, Cebu; the San Jose Del Monte Multi-Purpose Cooperative ng San Jose, Bulacan; the Sibuguey Valley Multi-Purpose Cooperative from Zamboanga Sibugay; the DCCCO Multi-Purpose Cooperative from Negros Oriental; the Watchlife Workers Multi-Purpose Cooperative from Bataan; the Manuel Gianga and Sirib Growers Multi-Purpose Cooperative from Davao City; the Bagong Barrio Multi-Purpose Cooperative of Pandi, Bulacan; and the Saint Vincent Ferrer Parish Multi-Purpose Cooperative of Romblon.

There are also Microfinance Cooperatives which are engaged in lending for the needs of our farmers: the Diocese of Maasin Credit Cooperative from Southern Leyte, and the Paracale Municipal Employees and Community MPC of Camarines Norte.

We are witness to the Kapita-pitagang Kooperatiba na binigyan ng parangal. Their growth is apparent. Their discipline in the management of their affairs has borne fruits. These cooperatives excelled and are the ideals and idols of other cooperatives. But make no mistake as cooperatives that did not join the Gawad PITAK or the Gawad Parangal are, in themselves, exceptional as well as they have catered to their members’ needs. Hindi pa lang siguro ito ang tamang panahon para sa kanila, or in some way, they may not have the courage yet to join this search, as qualifying under the criteria of the Gawad Parangal ng Cooperative Development Authority and the Gawad PITAK Program ng Land Bank of the Philippines is not easy. The detailed programs and operations of the vying cooperatives are scrutinized and evaluated accordingly. Adherence to governing laws is strictly and thoroughly checked, lalo na ang paggamit nito sa kanilang statutory funds.

The goal of the cooperative is to promote socioeconomic upliftment and provide for its members’ access to any assistance from government, if there is any. Cooperatives are self-help organizations, at mula sa pinagsama-samang maliliit na resources ng bawat miyembro, binubuo at pinatatakbo ng kooperatiba ang kanilang negosyo. Cooperatives educate their own members, not only in cooperativism, but more so on livelihood and self-sustaining business upang ang bawat isa ay maayos na makatayo sa sariling mga paa, with minimal supervision, sakali mang ito ay mangangailangan. That is the essence of why cooperatives are not taxed and if they are taxed, it is only for transactions with non-members.

Mme. Speaker, dear colleagues, ito po ang isang bagay na malaki ang pasasalamat ng cooperative sector sa ating House of Representatives—allowing us to continue to enjoy the tax exemption privilege under the TRAIN Law. *(Applause)* The cooperative does not ask funds from the government for its formation and organization. It uses its pool of meager funds sourced from the share from capital contributions and savings of the members of the cooperative to contribute to the national economy. The cooperative extends assistance to individuals who cannot avail of loans from financial institutions.

Ang kooperatiba po ang nagsisilbi sa ating mga kababayang hindi nabibigyan ng pagkakataong mabigyan ng financial assistance sapagkat sa tingin ng mga bangko ay hindi sila bankable o kaya naman ay hindi sila magbabayad. Tanging mga kooperatiba ang tumutulong sa kanila sa pagkakaroon ng pamumuhunan upang paunlarin din ang kanilang mga sarili. These loans extended by the cooperatives are imposed a lower interest and are therefore more affordable for its members. It also provides employment to its members and non-members. Cooperatives come in various levels of development and there are cooperatives that are exceptional because of their leaders and their membership’s patronization and cooperation.

Let me present the realities on the ground of the effect of the cooperatives on ordinary people’s lives. We have data where there are around 27,000 registered cooperatives in the country with around 14 million individuals as members of these cooperatives. Sa mga naririto noong October 1 at sa opening ng Cooperative Month photo exhibit sa North Wing Lobby ay narinig siguro ninyo ang aking sinabi na minsan maitatanong natin, “Bakit kaya ang atensiyon na ibinibigay sa kilusang kooperatiba ng ibang sektor ay matamlay, malamig, parang hindi nila nakikita ang mga ginagawa nating mga pamamaraan upang makapagbigay ng tulong sa mga nangangailangan sa paraang sariling sikap?” Reviewing the profiles of these cooperatives that we are honoring now, masasabi ko na nabigyan natin ng sigla at puso ang ating sektor. Ang katibayan ay ang

pagdalo ng ating mga lider, mula sa iba't ibang sulok ng ating bansa, ng mga kooperatibang naririto ngayong hapon para makisalo sa pagdiriwang ng Cooperative Month celebration. Ang aking pagsaludo sa inyong lahat na naririto (*Applause*) sa inyong mga kabayanihang maglingkod upang tumulong na paunlarin ang buhay ng ating mga maliliit na mga kababayan. Tunay na kayo ay bayani ring maituturing sapagkat ang ginagawa ninyo ay hindi para sa inyong sarili lamang, kung hindi, ay upang tulungang paunlarin ang buhay ng iba. Understanding the coop way of life is difficult if your heart is not into it. Lahat ng gawain ay isasapuso at isasabuhay; a must-have too is a personal commitment to serve. Cooperativism is a way of life, a way of living, and it is a movement with a heart. As it is, it is good, but there is still more to accomplish for the cooperative movement, for the cooperative sector.

The Committee is now addressing the issue on the strengthening of the Cooperative Development Authority so that it can be more effective in responding to the needs of the sector. Mme. Speaker, dear colleagues, the proposed measures are geared towards changing the perspective of the Cooperative Development Authority by enhancing its powers and functions. It is hoped that with this change, coupled with heightened and stronger partnership and collaboration among the cooperatives and the private sector and other vital government agencies in the development of cooperatives, and assistance in its regulatory functions, the CDA will have a reinforced structure.

We have to give it to the cooperative leaders because, in all fairness, they strive to make their coops flourish. They strive to achieve that, and their development plan says it all. Let us look at the bigger picture. The coop sector is splintered. Although many are into cooperativism, but each has its own "cooperative walk," so to speak. There is a need for unification of the sector and the integration of innovations for better management of the cooperative affairs. Let this individual "coop walk" stop and let us have a common "coop walk." Let us walk the talk of solidarity and subsidiarity; let us walk hand in hand for as we say, "Alone I am weak, but with others I am strong."

Coop is spelled as business, as livelihood for the sustenance of its members, of the cooperative itself and the community where it operates. Alam natin na sa bawat organisasyon ay may malakas at mahina, mahina in a sense na kulang marahil ang kanilang resources o kaalaman sa mga bagay-bagay na kanilang hinaharap. I am referring to agricultural and service cooperatives. This relates to a need for an integrated coop financial system that will fund the needs for its development and progress. Considering that we are an agriculture-based country, there is need to augment the present marketing and distribution plan of products and produce, and to have more access for small farmers to credit, to more

enhanced farm-to-market roads. An area that is in need of rehabilitation and transformation because of its vital importance and impact on the daily grind in the people's existence are the service cooperatives, specifically the electric cooperatives and transport cooperatives. Further, all elements taken for the upliftment of the status, not only of the members of the coop but also of the public at large, is the necessity of continuing education and information systems to institutionalize the best management strategies that will ensure the development and the flourishing of the business of cooperatives.

There are success stories of cooperatives which have gone far and strong to achieve their goals. Their strategy must be cascaded to the evolving coops to ensure that they will also take the right path. We have to recognize that there are stumbling blocks which have marred the implementation of the true essence of the seven principles of cooperativism such as the principle of voluntary and open membership in cooperatives, and the involvement of all people in our society like the youth, the women, among others. Also noteworthy is the need for cooperation among cooperatives as the sector is fragmented and there is no single identity for the coop sector except for the common denominator "cooperative." Despite these shortfalls, cooperativism has always been steadily growing, grounded on the seven cooperative principles. The unification and integration of all aspects of coop operation and management has been a need then and much more in the present times because of globalization. The world of cooperatives is rich and enriching, and to make it more responsive, we in the sector must build a formidable partnership with the government, follow regulations for our protection, assume shared responsibility in all levels and categories of cooperatives to ensure vertical development. Lastly, there must always be a constant advocacy and continuing education for our guidance and awareness.

This Representation will file a bill that seeks to register every Filipino farmer with the Department of Agriculture, regardless of the category of the cooperative and particularly the backyard raisers, to give due attention to the rights, needs and protection of Filipino farmers so as to secure food supply in the country. Likewise, I will also file a bill that seeks to create the Farmer's Bank of the Philippines, the bank for farmers, fisherfolk, farm workers, growers of domesticated animals and those in any other agricultural activities for the purpose of supplying food to the nation, so as to ensure that every Filipino farmer will be able to avail of a credit system and receive financial assistance from the government. With the cooperatives in attendance tonight in this august Chamber, I would like to make a call, a shout-out for the establishment of a cooperative identity that will be the beacon of light for the further evolution of cooperative movement.

May I request all the cooperatives groups please stand up to be acknowledged. *(Applause)* Mabuhay and kilusang kooperatiba. Mabuhay ang kapakanan ng mga maliliit. Maraming salamat po. *(Applause)*

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

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, the next Member who will avail of the Privilege Hour, I move that we recognize the Hon. Anthony M. Bravo, PhD of COOP-NATCCO Party-List.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). The Hon. Anthony Bravo of the Party-List COOP-NATCCO is recognized.

#### PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. BRAVO (A.)

REP. BRAVO (A.). Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

Good afternoon, distinguished colleagues. Magandang umaga sa sambayanang Pilipino.

Nasabi ho natin na sa kooperatiba, punung-puno ng pag-asa kaya ho palagi maganda ang umaga. Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, I rise today as again we honor our cooperatives across the country for being resilient amidst the growing inflation and other economic challenges that we are facing today. In the gallery right now are representatives of the 14-million strong cooperative movement committed to advancing the quality of life of Filipinos through the cooperative system. They travelled from the different provinces of Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao to be with us today as proof of their commitment to the government that the cooperative sector remains a strong partner in terms of poverty alleviation and people empowerment. They are our cooperative leaders and stakeholders led by the Cooperative Development Authority.

Along with the delegation, Mme. Speaker, is the cream of the crop of the cooperative movement, the cooperative awardees of Landbank's Gawad PITAK, CDA's Gawad Parangal, and the cooperative recipients of this august Body's adopted resolutions commending their exemplary contributions in nation-building and community development. These cooperatives, Mme. Speaker, are drivers of growth in their respective communities.

Mme. Speaker, we are celebrating the National Cooperative Month with the theme "Cooperatives: Partners for Building Resilient and Empowered Communities Towards a Better and a Stronger Philippines." We take pride of our 27,625 cooperatives that are constantly adapting to the challenges of times. Each of them has good stories to tell. Our cooperatives, then and now, have been true to the role the State has envisioned

them to be, that is, to become a practical vehicle for promoting self-reliance and in harnessing people power towards the attainment of economic development and social justice.

Cooperative development covers multiple aspects of human and community development, Mme. Speaker. Not only that the sector contributes to the vigorous trade in local communities with their combined assets of P382.5 billion, they too extend livelihood opportunities to our marginalized people through loan services, trainings and a wide array of services that they provide. These create indirect employment for the cooperatives members and their families. While we cannot monitor the exact number of indirect employment the coop sector creates, the CDA keeps track of the number of direct employment that our cooperatives sector generates. In 2017, there were 378,100 Filipinos directly employed by cooperatives. But more than the economic impact, cooperatives also contribute to social cohesion, where the cooperative member or members can feel that they belong in society as cooperatives cultivate a sense of community and solidarity. I believe that that is very important in people empowerment.

Mme. Speaker, we are currently confronted with the escalating prices of food and basic commodities. Inflation is at 6.7 percent, the highest in nine years. The poorest Filipinos suffer most from this inflation. While the government distributed P24 billion cash grants to 10,000,000 indigents through the Unconditional Cash Transfer Program to cushion the inflationary effects of the TRAIN, the P200 per month or P2,400 per year for each beneficiary would hardly make a dent on poverty alleviation. It is during these hard times that we need to promote cooperatives and encourage Filipinos to become part of cooperative enterprises.

Cooperatives are known to be resilient in times of crisis. In fact, in a study by the International Labor Organization in 2009, it was found that cooperative enterprises around the world had shown resilience to financial and economic crisis. To quote, Mme. Speaker, the study reported that financial cooperatives remain financially sound; consumer cooperatives are reporting increased turnover; worker cooperatives are seeing growth as people choose the cooperative form of enterprise to respond to new economic realities. The ILO study was used as basis for strengthening the cooperative elements in ILO's Sustainable Enterprise Programme and in the promotion of cooperatives by the United Nations. In another report by the World Bank, Madam Speaker, in its World Development Report 2008 which focused on agriculture, it also noted the effectiveness of the cooperative model of enterprise as one form of producer organization and thus, the importance of the promotion of cooperative development in the context of rural development.

Mme. Speaker, food inflation was attributed partly to the decreased supply of vegetables from Northern Luzon following the devastation by the habagat and typhoon Ompong. Our cooperatives were there to rescue when the Department of Agriculture tapped farms in Bukidnon, managed mostly by farmer cooperatives and associations, to augment vegetable supply in the NCR and to bring down the prices. Meanwhile, the facilities of some cooperatives in Ilocos, Cagayan and affected provinces in Northern Luzon served as evacuation centers, providing food and shelter to our brothers and sisters during the devastation brought by typhoon Ompong. This is no longer new, Mme. Speaker. In times of disasters, cooperatives are always ready to provide relief assistance to victims of calamities. Many cooperatives also have ongoing programs on disaster risk reduction and management.

Cooperatives utilize their Community Development Fund in conducting various activities like disaster preparedness training, awareness campaign, tree planting, clean-up drives and other activities that seek to protect our environment and mitigate disasters. The Cooperative Development Authority is also working with the Humanitarian Leadership Academy in capacitating its personnel to conduct business continuity management training to cooperatives, which training will allow cooperatives to return to normal operations as quickly as possible when there are disasters. Cooperatives have also taken steps toward peace-building when they committed to take part in rebuilding Marawi. Cooperatives are now pooling resources to capacitate cooperative members through livelihood trainings and assistance and to establish a sustainable cooperative community, according to the CDA. Last July, the CDA launched the Marawi Rehabilitation through the Cooperativism Program. The cooperative movement has already donated houses made out of bricks to Marawi victims. Furthermore, the CDA reported that former combatants of the Moro National Liberation Front in Mindanao had decided to abandon the armed struggle and form cooperatives. There are now 34 cooperatives of former MNLF members in Lanao Del Norte and Lanao Del Sur.

These are significant developments in the cooperative sector, Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleagues. We hope to continue developing the sector through the partnership of the cooperative movement with the civil society and the government. Just this morning, the CDA launched the 2018-2022 Philippine Cooperative Medium-Term Development Plan laying out comprehensive strategies that will help propel cooperative growth and sustainable development such as the enhancement of policies and regulatory environment for cooperatives; improved institutional

development, governance and management; promotion of human capital development among cooperatives; globally competitive cooperative products and services; increased access to finance; and increased access to markets and infrastructure.

Mme. Speaker, I know that this august Body has supported the cooperative sector in the past by passing significant laws that support cooperative growth. Last year, you supported our appeal to retain the VAT exemption of cooperatives under the TRAIN Law. We are grateful to all of you and to the House leadership for that. We hope that there will be no more attempts or threats to repeal the cooperative tax exemption. Let us uphold the tax privileges of cooperatives stipulated in Articles 60 and 61 of the Philippine Cooperative Code.

This humble Representation would also appeal to you for support to pass the bill strengthening the Cooperative Development Authority. We call on the Duterte administration to approve the proposed measure before the Seventeenth Congress ends next year. The role of the CDA as the sole government agency regulating cooperatives is very important, Mme. Speaker. We need a fully-functioning CDA with complete manpower complement to promote the viability and growth of our cooperatives. I firmly believe that cooperatives, although self-reliant, will be able to deliver substantial contributions to the economy and to the alleviation of poverty through sound regulation and institutional support of the CDA. Hence, I would also like to reiterate my appeal to the House leadership to increase the budget of the CDA for Fiscal Year 2019 by at least P100 million.

Mme. Speaker, with the cooperatives now in the gallery, I would like to request them to stand and, once again, thank the leadership of this House for, again, supporting the tax exemption of cooperatives in this country. *(Applause)*

Maraming salamat po. Mabuhay ang kooperatiba. Mabuhay ang buong sambayanang Pilipino. *(Applause)*

REP. SY-ALVARADO. Mme. Speaker.

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

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

REP. SY-ALVARADO. Mme. Speaker, interpellation po.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). The Gentleman from the First District of Bulacan is recognized.

REP. SY-ALVARADO. Mme. Speaker, is the good man from the COOP-NATCCO Party-List available for some questions?

REP. BRAVO (A.). With great honor to be interpellated by the Representative from ...

REP. SY-ALVARADO. Bulacan.

REP. BRAVO (A.). Yes, Bulacan.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). You are recognized, the Hon. “Kuya” Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado.

REP. SY-ALVARADO. Maraming salamat po, Mme. Speaker. Maraming salamat po sa ating iniidolo, Kongresista Anthony Bravo, mula po sa ating ipinagmamalaking sektor ng kooperatiba.

Mme. Speaker, mayroon lamang po akong ilang katanungan sa ating kaibigan, na kung kanya pong mamarapatin ay maibigkas po natin dito sa ating Kapulungan upang mas maintindihan po ng ating mga kababayan, Mme. Speaker.

REP. BRAVO (A.). Pakiulit po ng katanungan.

REP. SY-ALVARADO. Mme. Speaker, maaari po ba akong magbigay ng ilang katanungan?

REP. BRAVO (A.). Certainly.

REP. SY-ALVARADO. Okay po. Mme. Speaker, kanina po ay pinapakinggan ko kung gaano kahalaga ang sektor ng kooperatiba dito sa ating bansa, ngunit sa dami po ng naitutulong ng ating kooperatiba sa bansang Pilipinas, ito pong Representasyon ng Unang Distrito ng Bulacan ay nagtatanong kung ano po ba ang tulong ng gobyerno na naibibigay sa ating mga kooperatiba, Mme. Speaker.

REP. BRAVO (A.). Marami-rami na po, Mme. Speaker, ang naitulong ng ating gobyerno sa pagpalago ng ating mga kooperatiba, lalong-lalo na po sa ating mga magsasaka. Kung maaalala ninyo, naipasa natin noong nakaraang taon ang Free Irrigation Bill para sa ating mga magsasaka na kung saan nakapaloob po sa kooperatiba ng ating bansa.

REP. SY-ALVARADO. Maraming salamat po, Mme. Speaker. Gayon po pala, Mme. Speaker, na marami talaga at napakaimportante ng kooperatiba sa bansang Pilipinas, lalong-lalo na sa atin pong minamahal na lalawigan ng Bulacan, ano naman po ang maaari pang maitulong ng gobyerno sa kooperatiba upang mas lalo po nating mapalago ang sektor na tumutulong sa ating

mga kababayan, lalong-lalo na sa pinakamahihirap sa ating lipunan, Mme. Speaker?

REP. BRAVO (A.). Iyon na nga po sa aking nabanggit, Mme. Speaker, na ipinapanawagan ko po na maipasa ang batas na siyang magpapalakas sa CDA, na kung saan po ay siya ang magre-regulate at gagawa ng mga programa upang matulungan ang ating mga kooperatiba. Gusto ko pong sabihin sa ating magiting na Representante ng Bulacan na sa kabuuan po ng kooperatibang rehistrado sa CDA, 85 porsiyento po ay sinasabi nating micro and small cooperatives, at 15 percent lang po which belongs to medium and large cooperatives. In other words, Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleague, the government’s role to empower and strengthen the cooperative sector is still needed, especially for the 85 percent which is micro and small.

REP. SY-ALVARADO. Mme. Speaker, maraming salamat po sa paglilinaw sa ilang katanungan na ibinigay sa atin ng ating kasama at ipinapahayag po ng Kinatawang ito mula sa Unang Distrito ng Bulacan ang aming suporta sa lahat ng kooperatiba, lalong-lalo na sa CDA (*Applause*) at sa ipinaglalaman po nating micro and small cooperatives upang mas lalo po nating mapalakas ang ating bansa gamit ang sektor ng kooperatiba.

Iyon lang po, Mme. Speaker. Maraming salamat po, distinguished Gentleman. Maraming salamat po sa inyong lahat. (*Applause*)

REP. BRAVO (A.). Maraming salamat po sa ating Kinatawan ng Bulacan, mula sa First District ng Bulacan, at sana po nakapaloob doon ang suporta ng karagdagan na budget para sa ating ahensiya, Cooperative Development Authority.

Maraming salamat. (*Applause*)

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

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we refer the speeches of the Honorable Geron and Honorable Bravo (A.), including the interpellations thereon, to the Committee on Rules.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). Is



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

#### APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve Journal No. 23 dated September 24 to 26 and October 1 to 3, 2018.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we take up the other bills on Third Reading.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8264 ON THIRD READING

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8264 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 27, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8264, entitled: AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO RADYO PILIPINO CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8145, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE RADYO PILIPINO CORPORATION AFRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN COMMERCIAL RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS, SATELLITE AND CABLE STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES."

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

#### APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8264 ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8264 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8265 ON THIRD READING

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8265 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 27, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8265, entitled: AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO BEACON COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8063, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE BEACON COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN COMMERCIAL RADIO STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES."

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

\* See ANNEX (printed separately)

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8265  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8265 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8266  
ON THIRD READING

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8266 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 27, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8266, entitled: AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO MARECO BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8108, ENTITLED “AN ACT GRANTING THE MARECO BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE RADIO BROADCASTING AND TELEVISION STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES.”

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8266  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8266 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8268  
ON THIRD READING

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8268 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 27, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8268, entitled: AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO RADIO AUDIENCE DEVELOPERS INTEGRATED ORGANIZATION, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8083, ENTITLED “AN ACT GRANTING THE RADIO AUDIENCE DEVELOPERS INTEGRATED ORGANIZATION, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN COMMERCIAL RADIO STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES.”

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8268  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8268 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8269  
ON THIRD READING

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8269 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 27, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8269, entitled: AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO PHILIPPINE RADIO CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8032, ENTITLED “AN ACT GRANTING THE PHILIPPINE RADIO CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN COMMERCIAL RADIO STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES.”

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8269  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8269 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8156  
ON THIRD READING

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8156 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 10, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8156, entitled: AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO MOUNTAIN PROVINCE BROADCASTING CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8164, ENTITLED “AN ACT GRANTING THE MOUNTAIN PROVINCE BROADCASTING CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS IN BENGUET, IFUGAO, KALINGA, APAYAO, AND MOUNTAIN PROVINCE (FORMERLY KNOWN AS MOUNTAIN PROVINCES).”

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8156  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8156 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8147  
ON THIRD READING

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8147 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 10, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8147, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MULTISPECIES MARINE HATCHERY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LIBON, PROVINCE OF ALBAY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

\* See ANNEX (printed separately)

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8147  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8147 is approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8100  
ON THIRD READING

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8100 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting. I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 19, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8100, entitled: AN ACT CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ROSARIO, PROVINCE OF BATANGAS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14(E) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS “THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980”, AS AMENDED.

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8100  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica).

With 214 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8100 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8102  
ON THIRD READING

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8102 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 19, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8102, entitled: AN ACT CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LARENA, PROVINCE OF SIKUIJOR, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14(H) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS “THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980”, AS AMENDED.

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8102  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 214 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8102 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8144  
ON THIRD READING

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, I move that

we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8144 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 19, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8144, entitled: AN ACT CREATING TWO (2) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT AND TWO (2) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN THE ELEVENTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY OF MATI, PROVINCE OF DAVAO ORIENTAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14(L) AND SECTION 29 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS “THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980”, AS AMENDED.

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8144  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 214 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8144 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8172  
ON THIRD READING

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8172 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). Is

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 27, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8172, entitled: AN ACT CONVERTING THE SATELLITE OFFICE OF THE MARITIME INDUSTRY AUTHORITY LOCATED IN MAASIN CITY, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE INTO AN EXTENSION OFFICE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8172  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 214 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8172 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8205  
ON THIRD READING

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8205 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 27, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8205, entitled: AN ACT SEPARATING THE SITIO OF PANGAYLAN-IP FROM BARANGAY POBLACION I IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF

\* See ANNEX (printed separately)

SANTIAGO, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL NORTE AND CONSTITUTED AS A DISTINCT AND INDEPENDENT BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY PANGAYLAN-IP.

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8205  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 214 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8205 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8206  
ON THIRD READING

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8206 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 27, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8206, entitled: AN ACT SEPARATING THE SITIO OF LA MEDALLA FROM BARANGAY CARATAGAN IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PIO DURAN, PROVINCE OF ALBAY, AND CONSTITUTING IT INTO A DISTINCT AND INDEPENDENT BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY LA MEDALLA.

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8206  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8206 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8231  
ON THIRD READING

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8231 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 27, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8231, entitled: AN ACT RENAMING PANGLAO ISLAND IN THE PROVINCE OF BOHOL TO DAUIS-PANGLAO ISLAND.

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8231  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8231 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8232  
ON THIRD READING

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8232 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 27, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8232, entitled: AN ACT SEPARATING THE SITIO OF LADOL FROM BARANGAY POBLACION IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ALABEL, PROVINCE OF SARANGANI AND CONSTITUTING IT INTO A DISTINCT AND INDEPENDENT BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY LADOL.

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8232  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8232 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8247  
ON THIRD READING

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8247 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 27, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8247, entitled: AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF WOMEN'S AND

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PAMPLONA IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR, TO BE KNOWN AS THE BICOL WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8247  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8247 is approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8248  
ON THIRD READING

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8248 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 27, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8248, entitled: AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE MASBATE PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL IN MASBATE CITY, PROVINCE OF MASBATE, FROM ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE (125) TO TWO HUNDRED (200) BEDS, UPGRADING ITS SERVICES AND FACILITIES, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

\* See ANNEX (printed separately)

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8248  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8248 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8250  
ON THIRD READING

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8250 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 27, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8250, entitled: AN ACT CREATING ILIGAN CITY DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8250  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8250 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8254  
ON THIRD READING

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8254 and

direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 27, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8254, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE BAYANG HISTORICAL PARK AND CONVENTION CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BAYANG, PROVINCE OF LANA O DEL SUR, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8254  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8254 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8240  
ON THIRD READING

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8240 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on October 1, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

\* See ANNEX (printed separately)



THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8240, entitled: AN ACT REVISING THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF BAGUIO.

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8240  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8240 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8230  
ON THIRD READING

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8230 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on October 2, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8230, entitled: AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY 201, ZONE 20 IN THE CITY OF PASAY, METROPOLITAN MANILA.

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8230  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica).

With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8230 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 5111  
ON THIRD READING

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 5111 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on October 3, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 5111, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) DISTRICT OFFICE IN THE 2<sup>ND</sup> DISTRICT OF CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 5111  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 5111 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8302  
ON THIRD READING

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8302 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

\* See ANNEX (printed separately)

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

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on October 3, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8302, entitled: AN ACT GRANTING MORE ELECTRIC AND POWER CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO ESTABLISH, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN, FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES AND IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST, A DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF ELECTRIC POWER TO THE END USERS IN THE CITY OF ILOILO, PROVINCE OF ILOILO.

*The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading\* on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 24, dated October 8, 2018.*

#### APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8302 ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). With 211 affirmative votes, four negative votes and no abstention, House Bill No. 8302 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we direct the Secretary General to immediately transmit copies of the bills that we approved on Third Reading to the Senate.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

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

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

The Secretary General will please read the Additional Reference of Business.

#### ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

*The Secretary General read the following Committee Report, and the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding reference:*

#### COMMITTEE REPORT

Report by the Committee on Ways and Means (Committee Report No. 891), re H.B. No. 8400, entitled: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE FISCAL REGIME FOR THE MINING INDUSTRY" recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 422 and 7994  
Sponsors: Representatives Suansing (E.) and Quimbo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

#### CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8217 ON SECOND READING

REP. SAVELLANO. Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 8217, contained in Committee Report No. 853, as reported out by the Committees on Poverty Alleviation and on Appropriation.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). 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. 8217, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CONSOLIDATED POVERTY DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

#### PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we proceed to the period of sponsorship and debate and recognize the author of House Bill No. 8217, Rep. Jose

\* See ANNEX (printed separately)

\*\* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

Enrique “Joet” S. Garcia III, to give his sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

The Hon. Joet Garcia is recognized.

REP. GARCIA (J.). Thank you, Mme. Speaker. Thank you, Majority Leader.

Mme. Speaker, I move that we adopt the Explanatory Note of the said Bill as my sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

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

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

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

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve House Bill No. 8217 on Second Reading.

#### VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). There is a motion for the approval of House Bill No. 8217 on Second Reading. As many as are in favor, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*

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

#### APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8217 ON SECOND READING

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

House Bill No. 8217 is approved on Second Reading. (*Applause*)

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### DESIGNATION OF MEMBERS TO THE CONF. CTTEES.

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we designate the following as members of the Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 6775 and Senate Bill No. 1578, creating the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development: Reps. Mariano Michael M. Velarde, Jr., Alfredo “Albee” B. Benitez, Virgilio S. Lacson, Ron P. Salo, Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte, Harlin Neil J. Abayon III and Joseph Stephen S. Paduano.

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

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we designate the following as members of the Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 2158 and Senate Bill No. 1753, rationalizing and expanding the powers and duties of the Social Security Commission: Reps. Jesus Nonato Sacdalan, Mark O. Go, Prospero A. Pichay Jr., Vilma Santos-Recto and Orestes T. Salon.

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

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, I move for the designation of Rep. Maria Carmen S. Zamora to the Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes on House Bill No. 7449, entitled: AN ACT APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF ONE BILLION ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-ONE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P1,161,710,000.00) AS SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR FY 2018 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES vice Rep. Karlo Alexei B. Nograles.

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

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we include additional coauthors of House Bills No. 7162, 8281, 8322 and 8374 as contained in the list to be submitted by the Committee on Rules.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). Is

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. VERGARA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we adjourn the session until four o' clock tomorrow, October 9—correction, Mme. Speaker,

at three o' clock in the afternoon of Tuesday, October 9, 2018.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Villarica). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the session is adjourned until Tuesday, October 9, 2018, at three o' clock in the afternoon.

*It was 7:56 p.m.*