



# Congressional Record

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

## House of Representatives

Vol. 3

Tuesday, November 20, 2018

No. 31

### CALL TO ORDER

*At 3:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Prospero A. Pichay Jr. called the session to order.*

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

### NATIONAL ANTHEM

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

*Everybody rose to sing the Philippine National Anthem.*

### PRAYER

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Kindly remain standing for a minute of silent prayer.

*Everybody remained standing for the silent prayer.*

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker.

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

### ROLL CALL

REP. NOEL. I move that we call the roll of Members.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). There is a motion to call the roll of Members. 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. 31, dated November 20, 2018.\**

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. The Speaker is present.

Mr. Speaker, the roll call shows that 210 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). With 210 Members responding to the call, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, I move to defer the approval of the Journal.

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

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker, before we proceed with the Order of Business, with leave of the House, I move that the copy of the General Appropriations Bill and other documents distributed earlier be considered as our Third Reading copy.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). There is a motion to make the copy of the Budget Bill and other documents distributed earlier as the ...

REP. ANDAYA. Third Reading copy, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we now proceed to the Reference of Business, and request that the Secretary General be directed to read the same.

\* See ANNEX (printed separately)

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). There is a motion that we now proceed to the Reference of Business. Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

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

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 8555, entitled:

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

By Representative Nieto  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 8556, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING A SPECIALLY-DESIGNATED LANE OR OFFICE SPACE LOCATED AT THE GROUND FLOOR OF EVERY GOVERNMENT OR PRIVATE EDIFICE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWDs) AND SENIOR CITIZENS TO TRANSACT THEIR OFFICIAL BUSINESSES”

By Representative Nieto  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES AND THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS

House Bill No. 8557, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ORGANIZATION OF COOPERATIVES FOR FRY GATHERERS, SMALL SCALE FISHERMEN AND FISH FARMERS”

By Representative Nieto  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON COOPERATIVES DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 8558, entitled:

“AN ACT IMPOSING EXCISE TAX ON PLASTIC BAGS USED IN SUPERMARKETS, MALLS, SHOPS, STORES, SALES OUTLETS AND OTHER SIMILAR ESTABLISHMENTS”

By Representative Nieto  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 8559, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR AN AUTOMATIC ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT OF THE CENTENARIAN GIFT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT 10868, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CENTENARIANS ACT OF 2016”

By Representative Zamora (R.)  
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS

House Bill No. 8560, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE CAGAYAN VALLEY MEDICAL CENTER (CVMC) IN TUGUEGARAO CITY, PROVINCE OF CAGAYAN FROM FIVE HUNDRED (500) TO ONE THOUSAND (1000) BEDS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Ting  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 8561, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL POLICY FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND WELFARE OF SENIOR CITIZENS BY PROVIDING A COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM OF BENEFITS, GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE AND SUBSIDY AND OTHER PRIVILEGES, FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘AN ACT TO MAXIMIZE THE CONTRIBUTION OF SENIOR CITIZENS TO NATION BUILDING, GRANT BENEFITS AND SPECIAL PRIVILEGES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES’”

By Representative Marcos  
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS

House Bill No. 8562, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE RIGHT OF CITIZENS TO INFORMATION HELD BY THE GOVERNMENT”

By Representative Pico  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

House Bill No. 8563, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING EMPLOYERS TO PROVIDE DAYCARE FACILITIES FOR THEIR EMPLOYEES’ CHILDREN AGED FIVE (5) YEARS OLD AND BELOW”

By Representative Pico  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 8564, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR BENEFITS TO FAMILIES OF EMPLOYEES WHO ARE MISSING AND IN DANGER OF DEATH”

By Representative Pico  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 8565, entitled:

“AN ACT TO EXPEDITE THE PROCESS OF REPATRIATION OF FILIPINO MIGRANT WORKERS”

By Representative Pico  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 8566, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE CREATION OF A TYPHOON CODE OF PRACTICE IN EVERY OFFICE AND ESTABLISHMENT WHERE EMPLOYEES ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT TO A PLACE OF WORK”

By Representative Pico  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 8567, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4136, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LAND TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC CODE”

By Representative Pico  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 8568, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO ALLOCATE ONE PERCENT (1%) OF THEIR INTERNAL REVENUE ALLOTMENT (IRA) FOR PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS FOR SENIOR CITIZENS AND ONE PERCENT (1%) OF THEIR IRA FOR PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES”

By Representative Pico  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 8569, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING CONTRACTUAL PRE-REQUISITES FOR THE TRANSFER OR ASSIGNMENT OF COPYRIGHT, FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE ORIGINAL AUTHORS”

By Representative Pico  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 8570, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6971, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘PRODUCTIVITY INCENTIVES ACT OF 1990’”

By Representative Pico  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 8571, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE COLLECTION OF ANY AMOUNT OF MONEY IN ANY FORM OR FOR ANY PURPOSE FROM A DEPARTING FILIPINO WORKER AS PRE-CONDITION FOR TRAVEL”

By Representative Pico  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 8572, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY OF WORKERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY”

By Representative Pico  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 8573, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 2 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8187, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘PATERNITY LEAVE ACT OF 1996’”

By Representative Pico  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT AND THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 8574, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING AN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS IN DISTRESS, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Pico  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 8575, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A REVISED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE CHAPTERS I AND II OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS

AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Pico  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 8576, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A POLICY IN SUPPORT OF INFANT FEEDING MOTHERS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Pico  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 8577, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SINGLE TRAFFIC TICKETING SYSTEM”

By Representative Pico  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 8578, entitled:

“AN ACT ENSURING THE WELFARE AND PROTECTION OF BUSINESS PROCESS OUTSOURCING (BPO) WORKERS IN THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Pico  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 8579, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE TAX-FREE AND DUTY-FREE IMPORTATION OF BOOKS AND SELECTED PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS INTO THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Pico  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 8583, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA FOR RESCUE WORKERS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Nieto  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT

House Bill No. 8584, entitled:

“AN ACT STANDARDIZING THE TENURE OF COLLEGE PROFESSORS”

By Representative Nieto  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 8585, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE OFFICE OF COMMUTER AFFAIRS IN THE

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Nieto  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 8586, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A SYSTEM OF REDISTRIBUTING AND RECYCLING FOOD WASTE TO PROMOTE FOOD SECURITY”

By Representative Nieto  
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD SECURITY

House Bill No. 8588, entitled:

“AN ACT FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8042, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MIGRANT WORKERS AND OVERSEAS FILIPINO ACT OF 1995, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10022, FURTHER STRENGTHENING THE STANDARD OF PROTECTION OF THE WELFARE OF MIGRANT WORKERS BY EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF COMPULSORY INSURANCE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Bertiz  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 2296, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING PROFOUND CONDOLENCES ON THE DEMISE OF HONORABLE ENRICO DE JESUS PUNO”

By Representative Olivarez  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2297, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION POSTHUMOUSLY COMMENDING MR. RAMON MUZONES FOR BEING DECLARED A NATIONAL ARTIST FOR LITERATURE FOR HIS INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO PHILIPPINE LITERATURE AND IN APPRECIATION FOR HIS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AS A HILIGAYNON WRITER IN PROMOTION OF THE HILIGAYNON LITERATURE BRINGING PRIDE, HONOR, AND GLORY TO THE PHILIPPINES AND TO THE WHOLE ILONGGO COMMUNITY”

By Representative Treñas  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION  
AND CULTURE

House Resolution No. 2298, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ILLEGAL PRACTICES OF THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER ON THE PEACE PROCESS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PAYAPA AT MASAGANANG PAMAYANAN (PAMANA) PROGRAM”

By Representative Savellano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2299, entitled:

“RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING CARLOS YULO FOR WINNING A BRONZE MEDAL IN THE FLOOR EXERCISE FINAL OF THE 2018 WORLD ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS CHAMPIONSHIPS HELD ON 25 OCTOBER TO 3 NOVEMBER 2018 IN ASPIRE ACADEMY DOME IN DOHA, QATAR”

By Representative Sambar  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND  
SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 2300, entitled:

“RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING NONITO GONZALES DONAIRE JR. FOR WINNING IN THE WORLD BOXING SUPER SERIES: BANTAMWEIGHT QUARTER FINAL HELD IN THE SSE, HYDRO, GLASGOW, SCOTLAND ON 3 NOVEMBER 2018”

By Representative Sambar  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GAMES AND  
AMUSEMENTS

House Resolution No. 2301, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS TO CONDUCT A REVIEW, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE POSSIBILITY OF CONSTRUCTING A SKYWAY WITHIN METROPOLITAN CEBU AS A MEANS TO ALLEVIATE TRAFFIC CONGESTION”

By Representative Cortes  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2302, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT RODRIGO RODRIGUEZ TO EXTEND MARTIAL LAW IN MINDANAO FOR ANOTHER SIX MONTHS AFTER DECEMBER 2018 OR FROM JANUARY 01 TO JUNE 30, 2019”

By Representative Siao  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2303, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE HOUSE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON CERTAIN VIOLATIONS OF GRAB PHILIPPINES, INC. AS AN ACCREDITED TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANY, IN THE LATTER'S REFUSAL TO SERVICE THE PEOPLE OF NAVOTAS CITY, WHICH IS WITHIN THE TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION OR METRO MANILA”

By Representative Tiangco  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2304, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION REQUESTING TRANSFER OF REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. AURORA ENERIO CERILLES FROM THE COMMITTEE ON RULES TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY”

By Representatives Cerilles and Mending  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2305, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PEACE, UNITY AND RECONCILIATION, TO JOINTLY INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE PATTERN OF REPORTED PLANTING OF EVIDENCE AND FILING OF TRUMPED-UP CHARGES BY POLICE AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES AGAINST ACTIVIST AND CRITICS OF THE GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING CONSULTANTS IN THE GRP-NDFP PEACE NEGOTIATIONS”

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

House Resolution No. 2306, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE EXECUTIVE

DEPARTMENT TO REVIEW THEIR CURRENT POLICY IN EXPORTATION OF MATURE COCONUTS AND TO SUPPORT LIFTING OF THE BAN ON MATURE COCONUT EXPORT”

By Representative Sarmiento (E.M.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Joint Resolution No. 32, entitled:

“JOINT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE AVAILABILITY OF THE 2018 APPROPRIATIONS FOR MAINTENANCE AND OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES AND CAPITAL OUTLAYS TO DECEMBER 31, 2019, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 61 OF THE GENERAL PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10964, THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT OF FISCAL YEAR 2018”

By Representatives Macapagal-Arroyo, Andaya, Suarez and Zamora (M.C.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Message dated November 12, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed Senate Bill No. 1850, entitled:

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

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

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Message dated November 12, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on even date the Senate reconsidered the approval of the Conference Committee Report of the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 1305 and House Bill No. 4113, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE MATERNITY LEAVE PERIOD TO ONE HUNDRED FIVE (105) DAYS FOR FEMALE WORKERS WITH AN OPTION TO EXTEND FOR AN ADDITIONAL THIRTY (30) DAYS WITHOUT PAY, AND GRANTING AN ADDITIONAL FIFTEEN (15) DAYS FOR SOLO MOTHERS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated November 12, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on even date the

Senate approved the Conference Committee Report of the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 1578 and House Bill No. 6775, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, DEFINING ITS MANDATE, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated November 12, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed the following House Bills without amendment:

House Bill No. 5559, entitled:

“AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO ERMITA ELECTRONICS INCORPORATED, PRESENTLY KNOWN AS G. TELECOMS, INC., AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8196, ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING THE ERMITA ELECTRONICS, INCORPORATED, A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE RADIO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS IN THE PHILIPPINES’ ”;

House Bill No. 5665, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING THE MALINDANG BROADCASTING NETWORK CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN MINDANAO”; and

House Bill No. 6165, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING THE DEUS AMOR EST BROADCASTING, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES”.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated November 14, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on November 13, 2018, the Senate designated Senators Risa Hontiveros, Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay, Loren Legarda, Grace Poe and Francis N. Pangilinan as conferees to the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 1477, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING POSITIVE AND NON-

VIOLENT DISCIPLINE OF CHILDREN, PROHIBITING ALL FORMS OF CORPORAL PUNISHMENT, HUMILIATING AND DEGRADING TREATMENT, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

and House Bill No. 8239, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING POSITIVE AND NONVIOLENT DISCIPLINE, PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM PHYSICAL, HUMILIATING OR DEGRADING ACTS AS A FORM OF PUNISHMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated November 14, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on November 13, 2018, the Senate designated Senators Franklin M. Drilon, Sonny Angara and Joel Villanueva as conferees to the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 1280 and House Bill No. 8374, both entitled:

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

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated November 14, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on November 13, 2018, the Senate approved the Conference Committee Report of the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes on House Bill No. 6740, entitled:

“AN ACT UPGRADING THE LABUAN PUBLIC HOSPITAL IN ZAMBOANGA CITY INTO A LEVEL II HOSPITAL TO BE KNOWN AS THE LABUAN GENERAL HOSPITAL, INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY FOR GENERAL CARE SERVICES TO ONE HUNDRED (100), AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

#### COMMUNICATIONS

Letters dated November 9, 2018 of Matthew M. David, Acting Head, LAIG, Office of the General Counsel and Legal Services, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), furnishing the House of Representatives with duly certified and authenticated copies of BSP issuances, to wit:

1. Circular No. 1019 dated 31 October 2018;
2. Circular No. 1020 dated 7 November 2018;
3. Circular Letter No. CL-2018-074 dated 26 October 2018; and

4. Memorandum No. M-2018-032 dated 29 October 2018.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

Email dated November 9, 2018 from the Office of the Undersecretary for Migrant Workers' Affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), submitting to the House of Representatives their Report to Congress on Assistance to Nationals for the period January to June 2018 (in digital format).

TO THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS

Letters dated October 26 and 30, 2018 of Salvador C. Medialdea, Executive Secretary, Office of the President, Malacañang, transmitting two (2) original copies each of the following Republic Acts which were signed by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte:

1. R.A. No. 11100, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING MAY 15 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE, TO BE KNOWN AS ‘ADLAW NAN PROBINSYANAN SURIGAO DEL NORTE’, THEREBY AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7553, ENTITLED ‘AN ACT DECLARING JUNE NINETEEN OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE, TO BE KNOWN AS ‘ADLAW NAN SURIGAO DEL NORTE’”;

2. R.A. No. 11101, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING JUNE 18 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF IFUGAO, IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY, TO BE KNOWN AS THE ‘IFUGAO FOUNDATION DAY’”;

3. R.A. No. 11102, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SOCCSKSARGEN GENERAL HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SURALLAH, PROVINCE OF SOUTH COTABATO, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

4. R.A. No. 11103, entitled:

“AN ACT UPGRADING THE AMAI PAKPAK MEDICAL CENTER IN MARAWI CITY, PROVINCE OF LANA DEL SUR AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

5. R.A. No. 11104, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE LUIS HORA MEMORIAL REGIONAL HOSPITAL FROM ONE HUNDRED (100) TO TWO HUNDRED (200) BEDS,

UPGRADING THE SERVICE FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE THEREIN, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

6. R.A. No. 11105, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) EXTENSION OFFICE LOCATED IN LAPU-LAPU CITY, PROVINCE OF CEBU, INTO A REGULAR LTO DISTRICT OFFICE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

7. R.A. No. 11106, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE FILIPINO SIGN LANGUAGE AS THE NATIONAL SIGN LANGUAGE OF THE FILIPINO DEAF AND THE OFFICIAL SIGN LANGUAGE OF GOVERNMENT IN ALL TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING THE DEAF, AND MANDATING ITS USE IN SCHOOLS, BROADCAST MEDIA, AND WORKPLACES”;

8. R.A. No. 11107, entitled:

“AN ACT UPGRADING THE BATAAN PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL IN THE PROVINCE OF BATAAN INTO A LEVEL III TEACHING AND TRAINING HOSPITAL TO BE NOW KNOWN AS THE BATAAN GENERAL HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CENTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”; and

9. R.A. No. 11108, entitled:

“AN ACT EXPANDING THE MANDATE AND SERVICE CAPABILITY OF THE BICOL SANITARIUM IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CABUSAO, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR, TO BE KNOWN AS THE BICOL REGION GENERAL HOSPITAL AND GERIATRIC MEDICAL CENTER, UPGRADING ITS SERVICE FACILITIES, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”.

TO THE ARCHIVES

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report by the Committee on Transportation and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 927), re H.B. No. 8580, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MAMBURAO, PROVINCE OF OCCIDENTAL MINDORO AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 6428

Sponsors: Representatives Sarmiento (C.), Nograles (K.A.) and Cortuna

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Transportation and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 928), re H.B. No. 8581, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A REGULAR DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF RONDA IN THE 7TH DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF CEBU AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 7182

Sponsors: Representatives Sarmiento (C.), Nograles (K.A.) and Calderon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 929), re H.B. No. 8582, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING BARANGAY BALUTAKAY LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BANSALAN, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL SUR AN ECO-AGRITOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 5231

Sponsors: Representatives Nuñez-Malanyaon, Nograles (K.A.) and Cagas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Public Works and Highways (Committee Report No. 930), re H.B. No. 8587, entitled:

“AN ACT RENAMING THE JUNCTION TALUBIN - BARLIG - NATONIN - PARACELIS - CALACCAD ROAD STRETCHING FROM BARANGAY TALUBIN IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BONTOC, BARANGAYS LINGOY, GAWANA (POBLACION), FIANGTIN, LIAS, CHUPAC AND LUNAS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BARLIG, BARANGAYS BANAOG, TONGLAYAN, UGTONG, ALUNOGAN, STA. ISABEL, POBLACION, BANAWELAND SALIOK IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NATONIN AND BARANGAYS POBLACION, BANTAY, BACARRI UP TO CALACCAD ROAD IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PARACELIS,



ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF MOUNTAIN PROVINCE, AS REP. MAXIMO B. DALOG ROAD”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 7464

Sponsors: Representatives Fernando, Cosalan, Mangaoang, Baguilat, Bulut-Begtang, Go (M.) and Bernos

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Muslim Affairs (Committee Report No. 931), re H.B. No. 8590, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE FIRST DAY OF FEBRUARY OF EVERY YEAR AS NATIONAL HIJAB DAY”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 968

Sponsor: Representative Sema

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Natural Resources (Committee Report No. 932), re H.B. No. 8591, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE FINAL FORESTLANDBOUNDARYOFMOUNTAIN PROVINCE”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 2938

Sponsors: Representatives Abellanosa, Zamora (M.C.) and Dalog

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 933), re H.B. No. 8612, entitled:

“ANACTDECLARINGTHESIAY-KABASALAN WETLANDS IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF SIAY AND KABASALAN, PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGASIBUGAYANECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 5511

Sponsors: Representatives Nuñez-Malanyaon, Zamora (M.C.) and Hofer

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mr. Speaker, may we acknowledge the presence of the guests of Reps. Vini Nola A. Ortega and Sandra Y. Eriguel, MD. They are the barangay captains and treasurers of the Municipality of Aringay, La Union headed by ABC President, Ms. Lorna Sibuma.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Will the guests of Congresswomen Ortega and Eriguel kindly stand up to be recognized. *(Applause)*

Thank you.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ANDAYA. May we ask that Congressman Ty be recognized?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). The honorable Cong. Arnel U. Ty, what is the pleasure of the Gentleman?

REP. TY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Well, I just want to ask about the parliamentary status of the case of Rep. Eugene Michael B. De Vera. As I listened to the roll call, his name was not mentioned. So, may I ask about the parliamentary status of the case of Representative De Vera?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). The Majority Leader, kindly respond.

REP. ANDAYA. Yes, the name of Representative De Vera had been dropped from the roll as of yesterday, Mr. Speaker.

REP. TY. Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, when they—it was not a motion, as I recall, but it was a request. So, is that the rule now, Mr. Speaker, that, in removing a Member from this august Chamber, its basis is a mere letter and a request and anybody—all of our colleagues here are susceptible to be removed by just a mere letter?

REP. ANDAYA. No.

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

REP. ANDAYA. No, Mr. Speaker, everything that we do here has to have the imprimatur of the Plenary. As far as I recall, there was no objection on the matter—whether it be a request...

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. ... or a motion or otherwise, there was no timely motion...

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. ... on this particular matter. It is a ministerial duty of the House to recognize the dropping of a Member from the roll once he had been expelled from the party-list.

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Yes, the Gentleman will please proceed.

REP. TY. Yesterday, this Representation rose on a point of order but was not recognized. At that time, there was no quorum and I cited Section 76 but, Mr. Speaker, nobody recognized me when it is stated in the rules that the point of order is the order that needs to be recognized.

REP. ANDAYA. That is correct that the Honorable...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Mr. Majority Leader, kindly respond.

REP. ANDAYA. Yes, that is correct in that he had raised a point of order but he just raised it. As to what...

REP. TY. I cited Section 76, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. Yes, he cited...

REP. TY. The records will bear me out that when I rose on a point of order, I immediately stated Section 76 on the lack of quorum, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. That motion was really out of order. When you raise a point of order, you are actually calling for the House to adhere to its rules. How can you now tackle a point of order when you now translate it to a quorum call? Then there is nothing to resolve and so, there is nothing to talk about, Mr. Speaker.

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). A point of order is actually raised when there is a question on the rules, but I think that yesterday, you did not state your point of order.

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker, the records will show that when I stated the motion—the point of order, I immediately—it states in the rule on point of order, if I will read it: “Point of Order. – A Point of Order is a privileged question that raises a violation of the Rules in relation to the matter under discussion on the floor. A motion to read any part of the Rules is equivalent to a Point of Order x x x” Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, we did

not have any quorum, and when I cited Section 101 which is on the point of order, I also cited Section 76 which is on the quorum. We had no quorum yesterday, and the issue that I am raising now is that they did not recognize me while I was citing Section 101 which is a point of order.

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ANDAYA. If I were to follow the train of thought, how can you be recognized when there was no quorum? Those two arguments are totally inconsistent with each other. You raised a point of order to have the House adhere to its rules,...

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. ... but at the same time, you raised the lack of quorum and therefore, we cannot conduct business. So, which is which? Are we now citing the rules or are we now going home because there was a lack of quorum? It is totally inconsistent, Mr. Speaker.

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker, I read about what a point of order is and it says that I can cite any rule in the House, and one of the rules is Section 76, which is the lack of quorum. And that is the reason why we are tackling an important matter—removing a Member without any quorum, on a mere request. Is that fair to anybody? That is why it is a very dangerous precedent to all of us, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Instead of citing a point of order, you should have questioned the quorum.

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). So, yesterday, you should have questioned the quorum instead of raising a motion for a point of order.

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. May we now proceed. I think we are done with the topic, Mr. Speaker, so, if there are no other matters relating to it...

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker, I have another matter, which is, I am asking for the reason for the removal of Rep. Eugene De Vera from the roll.

REP. ANDAYA. Yes.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). I think the Majority Leader has already explained the reason why he was removed and I think he has satisfied the majority of the Members of the House.

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). So, if you want him to repeat his explanation ...

REP. TY. But, Mr. Speaker, ...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). ... as far as the reason for his removal, maybe we can ask the Majority Leader to give in to your request.

Mr. Majority Leader, can you please explain?

REP. ANDAYA. Yes. Let me present the practical reason before we—I will not even—I will even avoid going to the legalities. The practical reason is the Honorable De Vera filed a COC for his Representation in Marikina, therefore, he has abandoned his being a member of ABS Party-List. It is not simple, Mr. Speaker. You cannot maintain membership in a party-list system in which you are a nominee and at the same time, run for public office, claiming to be an independent or a member of another political party. Those two are mutually exclusive. So, in effect, he has abandoned his being a member of ABS Party-List, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Yes.

REP. TY. Then, Mr. Speaker...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Kindly respond.

REP. TY. Then, Mr. Speaker, much as I do not want to mention this but what will happen to the case of Rep. Julieta R. Cortuna who is now running for a local position? What will be the effect on Rep. Rodel M. Batocabe who is running for mayor in his town? May I also know what will be their status?

REP. ANDAYA. Well, if you want to file a case on the matter, then, so be it. It really depends on your party-list, on what they will say about it, but in this case, even the party-list was abandoned. So, what is there to do? He has already admitted in his COC that he is an independent and not part of the ABS Party-List. What else do we need?

Do we want to go to legalities when he, himself, has been estopped from saying allegiance to his party-list? We all agree that his power emanates from his party-list. How can it be that the spring rises above the source?

REP. TY. No, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Yes, the Gentleman will please proceed.

REP. TY. My question is that—who can say that Representative De Vera abandoned his party-list?

REP. ANDAYA. If you will read his COC, it says therein that his affiliation is “independent.” Independent means you are no longer part of any political party which he now represents. Can there anything be clearer than that?

REP. TY. Then, what is the case of the two colleagues of ours?

REP. ANDAYA. The case of other Congressmen is irrelevant at this point in time, unless you want to talk to your party-list members and tell them to kick that person out.

REP. TY. No...

REP. ANDAYA. I cannot decide for their party-list, or the Plenary ...

REP. TY. ... that my reason, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. ... cannot put on votation the decision of the members of a party-list. That cannot be done because the one that is nominated by the COMELEC is the party-list, not the person. The person is merely an embodiment of that party-list. Let that be clear. The party-list nominee cannot be higher than the party-list because that is where his power comes from. Now, to say that a nominee now has more powers than the party-list itself that nominated him, I think, is illogical.

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Are you not yet satisfied with the argument?

REP. TY. Because I cannot understand the reasoning, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). We can debate the whole day and you will never be satisfied. Anyway, one more, I will allow you one more question.

REP. TY. Then, again, I am citing the Constitution and Article VI of Section 17 thereof states that only the House Electoral Tribunal is the sole judge of this question relating to a sitting Congressman.

REP. ANDAYA. No, no, no.

REP. TY. Again.

REP. ANDAYA. What is the exact phrase—can you read it verbatim?

REP. TY. It reads:

Section 17. The Senate and the House of Representatives shall each have an Electoral Tribunal which shall be the sole judge of all contests relating to the election, returns, and qualifications of their respective Members. Each Electoral Tribunal shall be composed x x x

Well, that is stated in the Constitution, Mr. Speaker. That is why I am saying that Eugene De Vera should be removed and should be—and in fact, there is a case already in HRET. Why do we not wait for the resolution of the HRET? That is my point, Mr. Speaker. It is a dangerous precedent to all of us, to all of our Members. Any one of us can be removed by just a mere letter and that worries me, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). The Majority Leader will kindly respond.

REP. ANDAYA. Yes, Mr. Speaker. Just a gentle reminder. The Member here is the party-list, not the nominee. The nominee is merely an embodiment of that party-list. Again, what is proclaimed, I am not saying “who,” but I am saying “what”—what is proclaimed by the COMELEC is the party-list, not the nominee. Therefore, the source emanates from the party-list, not the nominee. So, in this case, when we talk about the Member, the Member as regards a party-list system refers to the party-list, not the person itself. No wonder that in the Constitution, 20 percent is reserved for party-list Members and that is a right given to the marginalized sectors. You cannot swim in two lakes at the same time. You claim to be a member of a party-list, a marginalized sector, but at the same time, you broke allegiance to that party-list now by saying, “I am running for district representation and my affiliation is an independent, totally separate from my party-list”—so, that cannot be. So, without even digressing to other legalities, I will just stick to the simple facts. Baka mas malaki pa iyong precedent na mangyayari kung lumalim pa iyong usapan natin. Let us take this as a unique situation; let it not happen again.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). I hope that satisfies your question. I see a Gentleman from Ilocos Norte standing up. Would you wish to be recognized?

REP. FARIÑAS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am waiting for them to be finished.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). You are recognized now, the Hon. Rodolfo C. Fariñas.

REP. FARIÑAS. Yes, Mr. Speaker. So, the position of the Majority Leader is that the Gentleman, our colleague, Eugene De Vera, had been removed from the House of Representatives. Is that correct, Mr. Speaker?

REP. ANDAYA. By virtue of his denunciation of his ABS Party-List, yes, he has been removed. That is a natural consequence if you have abandoned your party.

REP. FARIÑAS. As I was listening to the exchange of views, I have here a copy of the Proclamation issued by the COMELEC as the National Board of Canvassers. It says herein:

We, the Chairman and Commissioners of the Commission on Elections sitting as the National Board of Canvassers for Party-List Representatives, do hereby proclaim Arts, Business and Science Professionals (ABS) as winner in the Party-List elections of May 9, 2016 to entitle its nominee, namely: Eugene Michael B. De Vera, to sit as Representative to the House of Representatives of the Congress of the Philippines, and to serve for a term of three years beginning June 30, 2016 in accordance with Section 7, Article VI of the Constitution.

Our jurisprudence is very rich on this matter, Mr. Speaker. When a Member of Congress has been proclaimed by the COMELEC or in this case, the National Board of Canvassers, and has assumed duties, it is only the House of Representatives Electoral Tribunal that can decide on any question of his qualification. We are talking here of the qualification of Representative De Vera.

I know for a fact that when I was the Majority Leader, our good friend here, Rep. Ron P. Salo, came to me and gave me a copy of the Resolution of his Party-List, the KABAYAN Party-List, ousting Harry Roque as the Representative of the KABAYAN Party-List, but I told him and I invoked to him the Lico case. In the case of Lico, Mr. Speaker, the Supreme Court categorically stated therein that a party-list Member, once he is proclaimed, even if his party-list organization had ousted him, they should go to the HRET because he is already

sitting as a Member of the House of Representatives and the Constitution expressly provides that it is only the HRET that can decide on the qualification. Now, we are saying that the House of Representatives, not the Electoral Tribunal, can decide on the qualification of a Member because the Member intends to run for another position as cited by Representative Ty.

Unfortunately, there are other Party-List Members here. Our good friend, Rep. Gary C. Alejano even filed his COC for the Senate but he is still considered a Member of the House correctly because in the case of *Fariñas vs. Executive Secretary*, wherein I questioned Republic Act No. 9006, otherwise known as the Fair Election Act, that law removed Section 49 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 881 or the Omnibus Election Code, stating that when a person holding an office runs for an office other than that to which he was permanently elected, he is automatically resigned from his position. Because of the repeal of that provision of the Omnibus Election Code, any elected official can run for any office without forfeiting his seat. Precisely, barangay captains may run for mayor, and party-list Members may run for Senator or they can run for mayor because they had been proclaimed Members of this House.

The Members of this House owe their seat to the people of the Republic of the Philippines, not the party-list. Once he is elected, 300,000 voters voted for him, they filed a certain Certificate of Nomination and Acceptance, they have their own CONA, Mr. Speaker, and it will be a dangerous precedent, what we are doing here, that by administrative fiat, we can just remove a Member. Section 4 of our rules governing Membership categorically states, Mr. Speaker, and I will read into the records, it says here: "A Member who has"—may I just appeal to use my iPhone, Mr. Speaker, so that I can quote. They gave me an old rule: "A sitting Member cannot be ousted unless the proper judicial or administrative Body decides on his case.

Let me read, Mr. Speaker, with your kind indulgence, Section 4 on Membership, this is Rule II. The first paragraph defines the composition of the House:

In cases where a candidate has been proclaimed winner by the Commission on Elections, and the validity of the proclamation is put in question in any judicial or administrative body, such candidate who has been proclaimed and assumed office on June 30 following the election shall remain a Member of the House absent final and executory judgment on or resolution of the question over the proclamation of the Member by the appropriate judicial or administrative bodies.

So, the Constitution is very protective about the duly elected Representatives of the people. Not anybody

can remove any Member. Not even this House by unanimous decision can remove a Member. Only for disorderly behavior with the concurrence of a two-thirds vote of the Members may a Member be expelled.

What is more dangerous here, Mr. Speaker, is that we also violate the cardinal rule of due process. Was Eugene De Vera afforded due process, the right to be heard? He was not even given an opportunity to state his position as a Member and we only hear, here in the House—and what was lamentable was, initially, they were citing the Resolution of the Party-List that removed him and we have copies here of their letter addressed to the Speaker, addressed to the Majority Leader; and yesterday, that was the ground stated by the esteemed Majority Leader. But a day after, apparently during the caucus, somebody came up with the idea of advancing the theory that since he filed for another—I mean, for the same office but as a district Member, he is considered resigned. It is only a judicial body that can say that, Mr. Speaker; it is not the House of Representatives as an administrative matter. We did not even pass it to the proper committee like the Committee on Rules for them to conduct a hearing and afford the person concerned an opportunity to be heard. The Majority Leader, with due respect to him, just stood there and said, "We are in receipt and we are now dropping him from the roll. That is my point, Mr. Speaker, and so, I am appealing to the Body. In the case of Reps. Harry Roque and Ron Salo—Representative Salo is here—their case is pending in the Electoral Tribunal.

Kayo pong mga kasamahan natin sa party-list, huwag po kayong papayag dahil ang ibig pong sabihin nito, kapag iyong mga kasamahan ninyo sa party-list e magiging tuta nila kayo, they will dictate on you on how to vote and everything. You do not owe it to the party-list, you owe your mandate to the 300,000 Filipino voters who gave you the mandate.

Can you imagine, eight Members of the ABS Party-List ousted Eugene De Vera over 300,000 or 260,000 votes of the Filipino people—that is a mockery of our republicanism, Mr. Speaker. If they feel that he no longer deserves to represent them, let them go to the HRET and the HRET will decide, "Yes, you are no longer the Representative and you are removed as such" and then, he can even appeal to the Supreme Court. But here, I was the Chairman of the Rules Committee, and I have been a Member of the Rules Committee in the past except for the last few months—will you please uphold our rules, Mr. Speaker. It is dangerous that a Member will be simply ousted. We will be in fear already of the Speaker or the Majority Leader or our party-list if, as an administrative matter, they can just say, "We are dropping you because your party-list has written to us that they no longer recognize you as their Member." It will make a mockery of one-fifth of all the Members because the Constitution mandates that at least one-fifth of the Members of this Body should be from the party-list system. So, the sovereign Filipino people—kami nga pong mga district Member, district

lang po kami. Iyong party-list po, they are proclaimed by the National Board of Canvassers pero kami po ay iyong Provincial Board of Canvassers lang.

Eugene De Vera was proclaimed by the National Board of Canvassers, the same Board that proclaims the President of the Philippines, the Vice President and the Senators. How can his mere filing of a Certificate of Candidacy for the same office, although as a member of a party-list, I do not even know if he is independent. May I know, may I be clarified, Mr. Speaker—did he file as to what party?

VOICE. Independent.

REP. FARIÑAS. Oh, independent pala, so, he did not join any political party. Precisely, he filed that COC as an independent, meaning, he did not join any political party, so, he is still qualified. And it is very palpable that his ABS Party-List is running after him. They said they ousted him; now, they are barking on the issue that he filed for.

So, may I beg my colleagues, our Majority Leader, and the Speaker, that perhaps, we can lay it on the table and think about it, Mr. Speaker. Isantabi muna natin at pag-aralan po nating mabuti ito dahil this will define future Congresses at ng mga party-lists po, especially, as stated by Representative Ty, as there were few people here when this was taken up yesterday. A matter like this should really be discussed thoroughly because it will impact on future Congresses. So, I appeal to the Speaker and to the Majority Leader to kindly reconsider the position.

Another aspect of the case is that we, in the Minority, we who think that we are the duly constituted Minority, elected him as our Minority Leader and, in fact, we even went to the Supreme Court in pursuit of our constitutional right to seek redress of grievances. But now, even before the respondents, namely, the honorable Speaker and the honorable Majority Leader can answer the petition of Eugene De Vera, they ousted him as a Member. That would make the petition moot and academic but, Your Honor, Mr. Speaker, we will go to the Supreme Court again. On a matter like this, I pray that—let us work on the budget and other pending bills here and not disrupt this. We, who were ousted as the group-in-power or party-in-power in the House, have been doing our jobs silently here. We have been cooperating and everything, but may I appeal to you not to oust one of our 12 members. Masyadong mabigat naman po iyon, and this violates the Constitution.

Let me just cite last phrases, Mr. Speaker, this is from the case of *Lico vs. The Commission on Elections*: The party-list of Lico ousted him as a Member because they had an agreement that Petitioner Lico was to serve as Party-List Representative for first year of the three-year term. So, the Rimas group, iyong kanyang

nakausap, claiming to represent ATING KOOP, filed with the COMELEC a petition against Lico to remove him as their Party-List Representative. The COMELEC said, “We cannot do that because it is now up to the HRET. Lico is a sitting Member and he has been duly proclaimed and as a sitting Member, you have to go to the HRET.” The COMELEC went further by ruling on the dispute of the two-party groups. The Supreme Court, speaking through then Chief Justice Sereno, stated:

Section 17, Article VI of the 1987 Constitution endows the HRET with jurisdiction to resolve questions on the qualifications of members of Congress. In the case of the party-list representatives, the HRET acquires jurisdiction over a disqualification case upon proclamation of the winning party-list group, oath of the nominee, and assumption of office as member of the House of Representatives.

So, it went further that the operation of the rule on intra-party matters is circumscribed by Section 17 of Article VI of the Constitution and jurisprudence under the jurisdiction of the Electoral Tribunals. The jurisdiction of the HRET is exclusive. It is given full authority to hear and decide cases on any matter that touches on the validity of the title of the proclaimed winner.

So, we are questioning the validity of the title of Eugene De Vera. It is only the HRET; it has exclusive jurisdiction. This House, Mr. Speaker, it is beyond this House and precisely, the HRET is composed of six members duly elected by this Body and three Associate Justices of the Supreme Court. Siyam po sila. Iyan lamang po. Naghalo po ng Judiciary by sending three of its members; and the House, by sending six. In the case of the Senate, six members also and three Justices; and those Electoral Tribunals are the only bodies that can decide on the qualifications of members.

So, in effect, by saying that, since Eugene De Vera filed his candidacy as a district Representative, he is no longer qualified here, so, he has been removed. We are already encroaching, Mr. Speaker, on the jurisdiction of the HRET. Iyon lang po ang pakiusap namin. Kami naman po ay susunod kung ano iyong gusto ng marami dito pero kahiya-hiya naman po tayo at, like I said, it will be a dangerous precedent. The Members will now just kowtow to the Board of Directors of their party-list and not to the public.

Sovereignty resides on the people and all government authority emanates from them. The Philippines is a republican state and any authority that Eugene De Vera has emanated from the people and not from the party-list. It is only the people that can remove him through the Electoral Tribunal.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Okay. Majority Leader, kindly respond.

REP. ANDAYA. Yes, just a very short and concise reply, and I hope it will satisfy our Congressman Fariñas. I may have just served as Majority Leader for a short time and I do not plan to stay for a long time, but I hope it will satisfy him. Let me go beyond generalities and just go to specifics at this point in time.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Kindly proceed.

REP. ANDAYA. Let me just cite the same Proclamation which he read into the records in which the COMELEC en banc proclaimed as winner the ABS Party-list. It clearly stated that the nominee was the Honorable De Vera and therefore, the Member of Congress is the ABS Party-list and not the nominee. That is very clear.

The citation of the constitutional provision and the citation of various cases from the Supreme Court are of no instance in this matter. They are not even standing four-square in this matter. What is being talked about here is not the removal. The removal is merely an effect of a prior act which led to his removal and that specific term—let it not be lost in translation—is the forfeiture of his allegiance to his Party-List. Yes, he is independent. Yes, he does not belong to any party. Therefore, he does not have allegiance to any party, even the ABS Party-List, which party, in effect, he has forfeited.

Let us go to specifics. Let me cite the Party-List Law, the very law which we are trying to protect here, to protect the marginalized sector. The 300,000 or 400,000—yes, we owe it to them to protect them. So, here is the law, the specific law, RA No. 7941: “Section 15, Change of Affiliation; Effect. Any elected party-list representative who changes his political party or sectoral affiliation during his term of office shall forfeit his seat: Provided, That if he changes his political party or sectoral affiliation x x x,” and so on and so forth. So, in effect, he has forfeited his party. What are we supposed to do? Pretend that he still has allegiance to his party? He has forfeited it—not even forfeited, but abandoned his political party—therefore, it is not a subject for us to vote. He himself, through his own positive action, abandoned his Party-List and by his forfeiture or abandonment, therefore, he was removed. So, it is not right to say that we removed him. No, he forfeited his allegiance to the party-list which resulted in his removal. They are totally different, Mr. Speaker.

So, after saying my brief explanation, can we now proceed to the budget?

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, may I just have a short rejoinder to that law cited.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Yes, the Gentleman will please proceed. After that, we have to go to the approval of the budget.

REP. FARIÑAS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The law is there but you cannot take the law into your own hands. You cited that law on the HRET and the HRET will remove the member. Even if there is a law against corruption, even if there is a law against murder and you are guilty of murder because you have killed somebody—but until that case is finally resolved by substantive and procedural due process under our Constitution, that Member cannot be removed. Even in other cases, you have to go through the HRET because the HRET is the only one allowed and we are talking of the qualification or the color of title of Eugene De Vera, but what they are saying now is, it is there in the law, so, we can just—that will be taking the law into our hands. We are a government of laws, not of men.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. FARIÑAS. Thank you, Mr. Majority Leader.

REP. ANDAYA. Let us proceed to the voting on the budget but before we do that, on a final matter, the HRET talks about the qualification of a candidate or a Member. This is not about qualification; this is about forfeiture, which totally outside the jurisdiction of the HRET.

So, let us proceed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Yes, Majority Leader, let us proceed with the nominal voting on the budget.

Thank you, the Honorable Fariñas.

#### NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8169 ON THIRD READING

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8169 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. Pichay). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

*Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8169, entitled: AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND NINETEEN, 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. 31, dated November 20, 2018.*

REP. BROSAS. Mr. Speaker, my vote is “No” and I would like to explain my vote later.

REP. CASILAO. Mr. Speaker, ang boto ko po ay “No” at nais ko po magpaliwanag mamaya.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Mr. Speaker, ang boto ko po ay “No” and I reserve my right to explain my vote later.

REP. DE JESUS. Mr. Speaker, I vote “No” and I will explain my vote later.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, my vote is “No” and I reserve my right to explain my vote later.

REP. TINIO. Mr. Speaker, I vote “No” and I will explain my vote later.

REP. ZARATE. Mr. Speaker, my vote is “No” and I will explain my vote later.

#### RESULT OF THE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). The result shows 196 affirmative votes, eight negative votes and no abstention.

The motion to approve, on Third Reading, House Bill No. 8169, entitled: AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND NINETEEN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, is hereby approved.

The Majority Leader is recognized and he is being informed that there are Members who wish to explain their votes. Kindly recognize them accordingly.

#### EXPLANATION OF VOTES

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr. to explain his vote

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). The Honorable Bordado is recognized. Please proceed.

#### REP. BORDADO EXPLAINS HIS VOTE

REP. BORDADO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am voting “Yes,” Mr. Speaker, but in the hope or with the expectation that the huge budget cuts from the Basic Education Facilities Fund of the Department of Education, the MOOE from the State Universities and Colleges, and the Health Facilities Enhancement Program Funds of the Department of Health will be restored during the Bicameral Conference, Mr. Speaker.

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). That is duly noted.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Arlene D. Brosas.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). The Honorable Brosas is recognized. Please proceed.

#### REP. BROSAS EXPLAINS HER VOTE

REP. BROSAS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we reject the submitted 2019 proposed budget. Pinaninindigan ng Gabriela Women’s Party na ang 2019 budget ay pagpapatuloy ng pasista at kontra mamamayang pagpipinansya ng administrasyong ito.

Despite its failure to bring peace and order to Mindanao even with the aid of martial law, the Department of National Defense even received an increase of about P49 billion in its budget. The same agency terrorizing our Moro brothers in Mindanao with massacre and harassment does not deserve an increase in its budget. The same can be said of the Department stained with scandals of raping suspects and their families. There is an increase of around 30 percent in the DILG budget, the bulk of which will go to the PNP. How can this nation finance the rape and killing of its own people?

We demand the cuts in the military war and the police budget, automatic debt servicing and other graft-ridden wasteful appropriation. We should put

\* See ANNEX (printed separately)



the budget in education, health, housing, government employees' pay hikes and regularization of workers, agrarian reform, and national industrialization.

For these reasons, the GWP votes "No" on House Bill No. 8169.

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

The next Member to explain his vote is the Hon. Ariel "Ka Ayik" B. Casilao. He will please proceed.

#### REP. CASILAO EXPLAINS HIS VOTE

REP. CASILAO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

This Representation votes "No" on House Bill No. 8169 because this proposed 2019 budget, the first budget that will benefit from the increased revenue collection under TRAIN 1, foreshadows the thrust of the Duterte administration to de-prioritize social and economic services for our people in favor of the President's pet programs of modernizing the Armed Forces and the Philippine National Police, as well as in favor of his Build, Build, Build Program.

In the midst of an inflation that shocked the country at the start of the year and soared to 6.7 percent in the last two months, this budget says nothing about easing the burden and pain of our people. Our people are going hungry because of skyrocketing prices of basic goods and services, especially the prices of primary food. In the case of our farmers, their farms were destroyed because of the two big typhoons that visited the country in the second half of the year. Instead of addressing the wails of our people, this budget imposes budget cuts on education, health and other social services, more so in agriculture and even in agrarian reform. To think of the millions of urban poor whose homes will be demolished in the infrastructure projects of the Build, Build, Build Program, this budget has nothing provided for socialized housing or for resettlements, but it has more for the PNP and the AFP whose modernization programs are admittedly pet projects of the President, vital to his total war against the poor disguised as "war against drugs" and "war against terrorism." In short, to the hunger of our people due to the high inflation, the response of this proposed budget is budget cuts. Inasmuch as most victims of killing spree under this government are members of the party I represent, as exemplified by the nine farmworkers who were massacred in Sagay, Negros Occidental last October 21, this Representation, Mr. Speaker, cannot support a budget that abets war against the poor and feeds on the appetite of the AFP and the PNP to kill innocent people.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Thank you, the Honorable Casilao.

Next to explain her vote is the Hon. France L. Castro. The Lady will please proceed.

#### REP. CASTRO (F.L.) EXPLAINS HER VOTE

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Maraming salamat, Mr. Speaker.

G. Ispiker, ang Representasyong ito ay bumoto ng "No" sa proposed 2019 budget dahil hindi ito nagbibigay ng sapat na pondo sa social services tulad ng edukasyon, kalusugan, pabahay at iba pa, bagkus ay mas malaki pa ang cuts na ginawa kumpara sa nakaraang budget ng DOH at DepEd. Higit pang mas malaki ang nilaang budget sa DPWH, DILG, DND at iba pa. Sa P3.757 trillion na proposed national budget para sa 2019, malaki ang pondong inilaan sa mga ammunition, bomba, bala, artillery at iba pang mga kagamitan ng militar kumpara sa pondong nilaan para sa libro, classroom, learning materials at iba pang pangangailangan ng ating mga kabataan at ang kanilang mga guro.

Patuloy na popondohan ng budget na ito ang giyera habang tinatalikuran ang pagpapaunlad ng kalidad ng social services. Halos P1.2 billion ang ginawang pagbawas sa budget ng DepEd sa textbooks, na mula sa P2,990,831,000 noong 2018, ito ngayon ay P1,794,499,000 na lang. Binawasan din ng P1.3 billion ang pondo para sa School-Based Feeding Program na P5,302,319,000 sa 2018 GAA na ginawa na lang P3,967,473,000 sa proposal ngayon. Sa dalawang items na ito pa lamang, G. Ispiker, P2.5 billion na ang binawas sa DepEd samantalang ang DND ay may additional budget na pambili ng kanilang mga ammunition, baril, rockets at iba pang mga arsenal na aabot sa P1.6 billion. Halos aabot sa kalahati ng tinapyas na pondo ng DepEd ang additional na pondo sa bala at iba pang kagamitang pang-giyera na kikitil sa buhay ng kapwa Pilipino.

Wala rin sa budget na ito ang matagal nang hinihiling ng rank-and-file government employees, lalung-lalo na ang mga guro sa pampublikong paaralan, para sa makabuluhang dagdag sahod. Nagkukumahog silang pagkasyahin ang kakarampot nilang sahod na wala namang laban sa cost of living ngayon. Patuloy na tumataas ang inflation at ang dinulot nitong walang habas na pagtaas sa presyo ng mga bilingin at serbisyo dulot ng TRAIN.

Ngunit kapag suweldo ng military at pulis, kagamitan nila sa pang-giyera, agad namang binibigyan ng DBM pero kapag civilian employees at mga taong nagbibigay ng direct services sa mamamayan, ang laging tugon ng DBM ay pag-aaralan nila ito o negatibo ang sagot. Kitang-kita na ang priority ng administrasyong ito ay isang militaristic budget. Kaya, G. Ispiker, ang Representasyong ito ay bumoto po ng "No."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Thank you, the Hon. France Castro.

Next to explain her vote is the Hon. Emmi A. De Jesus. She will please proceed.

#### REP. DE JESUS EXPLAINS HER VOTE

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

Ito po ay dagdag na paliwanag kung bakit “No” ang boto ng Gabriela Women’s Party. Ang panukalang P3.757-trillion budget for 2019 ay wala pa ring kongkretong tugon sa malaganap at papalalang krisis na kinakaharap ngayon ng kababaihan at mamamayan. Pinapatigas pa rin ng pambansang badyet na ito ang pag-asa sa importasyon ng pagkain at ang kawalan ng sapat na suporta sa mga magsasaka, gayundin ang pagsandig sa imprastraktura para umano makalikha ng trabaho kahit pa wala naman talagang disentang trabaho sa imprastraktura.

Tali pa rin ang panukalang budget na ito sa luma at gasgas na barometro ng kaunlaran: kalsada, tulay at kung anu-ano pang proyektong infrastructure. Nasa P909.7 bilyon, halos one-fourth ng total budget, ang nakalaang pondo para sa infrastructure, na tiyak na pagpipiyestahan ng Chinese contractors at iba pang mga dayuhang kumpanya dahil sa loan components nito. Samantala, mumong-mumo lamang ang nakalaan para sa palay procurement ng NFA at iba pang support services na agricultural. Buti sana kung nakakain ang semento at graba at kung nakakabusog ang konstruksyon ng bawat tulay at kalsada sa kumakalam na tiyan ng milyung-milyong pamilyang Pilipino. Sa aktuwal, ang bulsa ng mga tiwaling opisyal at mga kasosyong contractors ang mabubusog sa panukalang budget na ito. Para pagtakpan naman ang kawalan ng kongkretong solusyon sa kagutuman at krisis, dinagdagan nang bahagya ang pondo para sa dole-outs at iba pang pakulo. Dinagdagan ang alokasyon para sa Unconditional Cash Transfer at Pantawid Pasada, subalit tiyak na bale-wala ito sa arangkada ng panibagong taas-presyo sa susunod na taon hatid ng TRAIN Law.

Ang masaklap pa nga, papalaki ang pipigain mula sa bulsa ng ordinaryong mamamayan gamit ang TRAIN Law pero papaliit naman ang pondong nakalaan para sa kalusugan, pabahay at direktang serbisyo sa pamilyang Pilipino. Kung usapin nga ng pabahay, wala pang one percent ng total budget ang alokasyon sa shelter agencies na ang kalakhan pa ay pautang at hindi para sa konstruksyon ng abot-kayang pabahay.

Para po sa mga paliwanag na ito, muli, mariin na inirerehisto ng Kinatawang ito ng Gabriela Women’s Party ang pagtutol sa panukalang pambansang budget for 2019.

Maraming salamat.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Thank you, the Honorable De Jesus.

The next Member to explain her vote is the Hon. Sarah Jane I. Elago. She will proceed.

#### REP. ELAGO EXPLAINS HER VOTE

REP. ELAGO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

This Representation diligently pored over the budget books to duly propose substantial amendments to the national budget, and we have not even seen the final amendments made. Particularly, this Youth Representation proposed amendments, including increases on the allocation of funds for DepEd school buildings, regularization of all job orders and contractals in the government, restoration of budget cuts in the SUCs, restoration of Tulong Dunong and Medical Scholarship Funds, restoration of cuts in the MOOE of public hospitals, continuing training for our Sangguniang Kabataan officers, restoration of cuts for the NYC programs on training and youth development, additional labor inspectors, the conduct of study on youth employment, and the building of permanent evacuation centers, among others.

Ang madaliang pagpasa nito ngayon ay pagpayag sa malalaking kaltas ng pondo para sa SUCs o State Universities and Colleges. Bakit natin papayagan na 63 SUCs ang may MOOE cuts, 92 ng SUCs ang may napakalaking kaltas sa kanilang Capital Outlays at ang 30 dito, Mr. Speaker, ay may zero na pondo para sa Capital Outlays? This is a huge setback in the pursuit of free and quality education for all.

And what about the special concerns of educational institutions with regard to the Cash-Based Budgeting? Bakit ba tayo nagpapasa ng hindi pa natin alam ang lahat ng detalye kung saan gagastusin ang bawat piso? There are so many questions left unanswered, especially since we already raised the alarm in the increase of pork barrel funds in the 2019 budget. This budget is highly vulnerable to abuse and corruption, with almost a P700-billion budget lodged under the Special Purpose Funds which are lump sums and discretionary in nature. For 2019, Mr. Speaker, the SPFs total P689.5 billion or 21.64 percent higher than this year’s P566.8 billion. Further, the lump sum portion of the SPFs is set to increase, by 161.66 percent, to P197.1 billion from the current P75.3 billion. The relative increase in the allocation to the LGUs is prone to be used for increased election spending to grab the LGUs by the throat ahead of the 2019 polls. It is even more glaring that, amid the hefty budget cuts in social services, there are sharp increases in lump sum funds.

Likewise, we strongly urged the Committee on Appropriations to delete the wicked provision on impoundment embedded in the General Principles because this essentially widens the President’s discretion over the national budget, clips the congressional power of the purse, and can be abused to serve patronage politics.

This can result in the spending of billions of pesos on items not appropriated by Congress, Mr. Speaker.

The railroading of the passage of House Bill No. 8169 is a dismissal of all these noteworthy efforts. This will go down in history as another arm-twisting tactic of the administration to consolidate political power and serve the dictatorship of the ruling clique. Thus, KABATAAN Party-List vehemently opposes the passage of House Bill No. 8169.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Thank you, the Honorable Elago.

The next Member to explain his vote is the Hon. Antonio L. Tinio. He will please proceed.

#### REP. TINIO EXPLAINS HIS VOTE

REP. TINIO. Mr. Speaker, bumoto ako ng “No” sa House Bill No. 8169, ang panukalang pambansang badyet para sa 2019 na nagkakahalagang P3.757 trillion sa mga sumusunod na kadahilanan: Sinasalaming ng 2019 budget na ito ang tunay na prayoridad ng administrasyong Duterte—ang panunupil ng mga karapatan ng mamamayan, tokhang, martial law at giyera, sa halip na regular na trabaho, disenteng suweldo at sapat na serbisyong panlipunan. Kinaltasan ng malaki ang budget sa edukasyon, kalusugan, pabahay at agrikultura, samantalang dinagdagan ang budget ng militar at pulis. Ang pera ay para sa baril at bala, hindi para sa edukasyon, hindi para sa eskuwelahan, hindi para sa mga clinic, hindi para sa mga ospital. Kaya kahit ang suweldo para sa mga kawani ng gobyerno, may pera para sa dagdag na suweldo at pensiyon ng mga unipormado, samantalang ipinagkakait ang disenteng suweldo para sa burukrasyang sibilyan.

Sa mga ganitong kadahilanan, Mr. Speaker, bumoto ako ng “No.”

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Thank you, Your Honor.

The next Member to explain his vote is the Hon. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate. He will please proceed.

#### REP. ZARATE EXPLAINS HIS VOTE

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

“No” ang boto ng Kinatawang ito ng BAYAN MUNA Party-List sa House Bill No. 8169 o ang panukalang pambansang badyet para sa susunod na taon dahil hindi ito maka-mamamayan. Bilyun-bilyon ang kakaltasin sa serbisyong panlipunan kagaya ng edukasyon, kalusugan at pabahay. Samantala, pinapanatili ng 2019 budget ang sistemang pork barrel, di-makataong prayoridad sa maluhong mga proyektong kagaya ng Build, Build, Build, magastos at mapanupil

na militarisasyon sa tabing ng “pambansang seguridad at depensa.”

G. Ispiker, sa palusot na “Cash-Based” diumano ang budget sa 2019, pinagtatakapan at binibigyang-matuwid ng gobyernong Duterte ang malakihang kaltas sa budget para sa serbisyong panlipunan at sektor ng ekonomiya. Aabot sa P2.18 billion ang kaltas sa sektor ng economic services, kabilang na ang agrikultura at paggawa; at aabot naman sa P1.2 billion bawas sa mga serbisyong panlipunan. Makatuwiran bang itali sa kakayanang gumastos ng mga ahensiya ang budget para sa mga serbisyong panlipunan? Bakit pagdurusahin ang mga mamamayan sa kainutilan at katiwalian ng mga opisyal ng gobyerno?

Subalit, Mr. Speaker, “Cash-Based” man o “Obligation-Based” ang budget, matagal nang pinababayaan ng pamahalaan ang mga serbisyong panlipunan, na pinatutunayan ng kulang na badyet at kaltas para sa serbisyong panlipunan. Palalalain ng budget na ito ang budget cuts sa mga serbisyong panlipunan ang dati nang kakulangan sa edukasyon, serbisyong pangkalusugan at pabahay. Ibayong pagdurusang daranasin ng mga mamamayan sa P55 bilyong kaltas sa DepEd, P36 bilyong kaltas sa Department of Health, at P543 milyong bawas sa State Colleges and Universities. Mas malala pa, G. Ispiker, ay walang budget na nakalaan sa pangmasang pabahay para sa ating mahihirap. Hindi prayoridad at hindi pinaglalaanan ng pondo ang pagpapataas ng suweldo at regularisasyon ng mga kawani ng pamahalaan, repormang agraryo at pambansang industriyalisasyon.

Samantala, halos sangkapat ng buong budget 2019 o P909.7 bilyon ay inilaan sa Build, Build, Build. Bahagi nito ang budget para sa pag-demolish ng mga kabahayang dadaanan ng mga proyektong pangunahing pakikinaabangan ng mga malalaking lokal at dayuhang negosyo. Sa kabila ng madugong rekord ng pulisya at militar sa paglabag sa karapatang pantao, tataas sa 2019 budget para sa “defense” at “public order and safety” ng 17 percent and 20 percent, ayon sa pagkakasunod.

Nagdurusang na nga, G. Ispiker ang ating mga mamamayan sa mataas ng presyo dahil sa TRAIN Law at maka-negosyong mga patakarang pang-ekonomiya ng gobyerno, lalo pa nating pipigain ang mga mamamayan sa pagpapataas ng buwis para tustusan ang malalaking gastusin na dala ng Build, Build, Build at ang pagtaas sa defense and public order and safety budgets.

Kaya, G. Ispiker, hungkag ang mantrang “bright future and comfortable life for the Filipino people” ng administrasyong Duterte dahil hindi nagsisilbi ang panukalang budget 2019 sa kapakanan, kagalingan at karapatan ng mayoryang mamamayang naghihirap. Kaya muli, G. Ispiker, nirerehistro ng Kinatawang ito ng BAYAN MUNA Party-List ang kanyang boto na “No.”  
Maraming salamat, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Thank you, the Honorable Zarate.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8169, AS AMENDED,  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). With 196 affirmative votes, eight negative votes and no abstention, House Bill No. 8169, as amended, is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, the Majority Leader wishes to reiterate for the record that he earlier moved that the copy of the General Appropriations Bill earlier distributed, shall be considered as the Third Reading copy that should have been utilized as we did awhile ago. Considering, Mr. Speaker, that during the Second Reading, when we constituted ourselves into a Committee of the Whole, there were major amendments done thereto, including the amendments taken by the small group constituted by the Plenary. They also generated certain amendments. It goes without saying, Mr. Speaker, that in approving House Bill No. 8169, all the amendments taken are deemed integrated thereto, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Yes, that is duly noted.

REP. TINIO. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Yes, Cong. Antonio L. Tinio, what is his pleasure?

REP. TINIO. Parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. TINIO. Is the Majority Leader saying that the written copies that we have, which were earlier distributed and which served as the basis for the Third Reading vote, are to be further amended based on his manifestation, Mr. Speaker?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). The Majority Leader is recognized. The question is, were the amendments already incorporated in the copies?

REP. MARCOLETA. Yes, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Does the answer that the amendments were already incorporated in the copies satisfy the Gentleman?

REP. TINIO. Mr. Speaker, I do not see how the amendments could have been incorporated therein because these copies that we have, were distributed during the session, Mr. Speaker, before the break.

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

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, that is why we are explaining that earlier, the Majority Leader already moved that the copies earlier distributed for purposes of the Second Reading will be utilized again as the copies for purposes of Third Reading, which motion was approved by the Plenary, Your Honor, and nobody objected to this.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). That is right.

REP. MARCOLETA. That is in the records.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). That is right.

The Majority Leader will please proceed.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve Journal No. 30 dated November 19, 2018.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mr. Speaker, at this point, may we acknowledge the presence of the guests of the honorable Reps. Cristina “Chiqui” Roa-Puno and Francisco G. Datol Jr. They are senior citizens from Antipolo City, District I, led by their President, Mr. Henry Reyes Salgado.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Will the guests please rise. (*Applause*) Thank you.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mr. Speaker, may we also acknowledge the presence of the guests of the honorable Reps. Edwin C. Ong and Victoria Isabel G. Noel. They are the Municipal and Barangay Officials of Catubig, Northern Samar headed by Mayor Galahad Vicencio and Board Member Dionisio “Dexter” Galit. (*Applause*)

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). The guests will kindly rise. (*Applause*) Thank you.

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mr. Speaker, lastly, may we also acknowledge the presence of the guests of the honorable Rep. Bernadette “BH” Herrera-Dy. They are from Canada, namely: Connor Argueta, Viana Arguete and Ryan Emilio Venturina.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). The guest will kindly rise. *(Applause)* Thank you very much.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8552  
ON THIRD READING

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8552, and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). 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 November 15, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8552, entitled: AN ACT FURTHER STRENGTHENING THE PHILIPPINE COCONUT AUTHORITY (PCA), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 4 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1468, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “REVISED COCONUT INDUSTRY CODE”, 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. 31, dated November 20, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8552  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). With 213 affirmative votes, seven negative votes and no abstention, House Bill No. 8552 is approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8554  
ON THIRD READING

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we vote on

Third Reading on House Bill No. 8554 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. Pichay). 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 November 15, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8554, entitled: AN ACT ENHANCING REVENUE ADMINISTRATION AND COLLECTION BY GRANTING AMNESTY ON ALL UNPAID INTERNAL REVENUE TAXES IMPOSED BY THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT FOR TAXABLE YEAR 2017 AND PRIOR YEARS.

*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. 31, dated November 20, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8554  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). With 213 affirmative votes, seven negative votes and no abstention, House Bill No. 8554 is approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8249  
ON THIRD READING

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8249 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. Pichay). 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 November 15, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

\* See ANNEX (printed separately)

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8249, entitled: AN ACT RECOGNIZING THE BRITISH SCHOOL MANILA AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER GRANTING THE SCHOOL CERTAIN PREROGATIVES CONDUCTIVE TO ITS DEVELOPMENT.

*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. 31, dated November 20, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8249  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). With 219 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8249 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8419  
ON THIRD READING

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8419, 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. Pichay). 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 November 15, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8419, entitled: AN ACT PREVENTING THE USE OF MOTORCYCLES IN THE COMMISSION OF CRIMES THROUGH BIGGER NUMBER PLATES AND IDENTIFICATION MARKS.

*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. 31, dated November 20, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8419  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). With 219 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8419 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8281  
ON THIRD READING

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mr. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8281, 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. Pichay). 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 November 15, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8281, entitled: AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE REGULATION AND ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC BANKS.

*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. 31, dated November 20, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8281  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). With 221 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8281 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Yes, what is the pleasure of the Hon. Jose "Lito" L. Atienza Jr.?

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker, this Representation admires the commitment of the Speaker and the

\* See ANNEX (printed separately)

Majority Leader, and my admiration also goes to the Members on the floor, but I cannot agree that we should be voting on measures on Third Reading that affect the lives of many people because at this point, we do not have a quorum anymore.

I am questioning the quorum, Mr. Speaker. Let us establish whether we should proceed or adjourn until tomorrow's session.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mr. Speaker, may we request for a minute suspension of the session.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). The session is suspended for one minute.

*It was 5:22 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 5:25 p.m., the session was resumed*

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### RATIFICATION OF CONF. CTTEE. RPT. ON H.B. NO. 7652 AND S.B. NO. 1636

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, we are in receipt of the Conference Committee Report reconciling the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 7652 and Senate Bill No. 1636.

May I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the titles of the measures.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read only the titles of the measures.

*With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the Conference Committee Report have been previously distributed, the Secretary General read only the titles of the measures without prejudice to inserting the text of the report in the Congressional Record.*

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

No. 1636, entitled: AN ACT REQUIRING PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENTITIES TO PROVIDE NATIONWIDE MOBILE NUMBER PORTABILITY TO SUBSCRIBERS.

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we ratify the said Conference Committee Report.

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

The Conference Committee Report on House Bill No. 7652 and Senate Bill No. 1636 is ratified.

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Secretary General be directed to immediately transmit copies of the Bills approved on Third Reading to the Senate.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). The Secretary General is directed to transmit copies of the Bills that had been approved on Third Reading to the Senate.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, we are in receipt of a message from the Senate informing the House that the Senate passed with amendments House Bill No. 1955, increasing the bed capacity of Rizal Medical Center in Pasig from three hundred (300) to five hundred (500) beds. We have been advised that the Committee on Health, the sponsor of the said Bill, and the author thereof have no objections to the amendments introduced thereto by the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, in accordance with our rules, I move that we concur with the Senate amendments to House Bill No. 1955.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Is there any objection to the motion to concur with the Senate amendments on House Bill No. 1955? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, we are in receipt of a message from the Senate informing the House that the Senate passed with amendments House Bill No. 639, establishing a district hospital in the Municipality of Santa Elena, Camarines Norte. We have been advised that the Committee on Health, the sponsor of the said House Bill, and the author thereof have no objections to the amendments introduced thereto by the Senate.

\* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

Mr. Speaker, in accordance with our rules, I move that we concur with the Senate amendments to House Bill No. 639.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). There is a motion to concur with the Senate amendments to House Bill No. 639. Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

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

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we designate the following Members to the Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes on House Bill No. 6621, entitled: AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE ADELA SERRA TY MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER IN TANDAG CITY, SURIGAO DEL SUR FROM TWO HUNDRED (200) TO FIVE HUNDRED (500) BEDS: Rep. Angelina “Helen” D.L. Tan MD, Rep. Jose Enrique “Joet” S. Garcia III, Rep. Strike B. Revilla, Rep. Prospero A. Pichay Jr. and Rep. Arlene B. Arcillas.

I so move.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we designate the following Members to the Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 8139 and Senate Bill No. 1431 on instituting a Philippine Labor Force Competency Competitiveness Program, namely: Rep. Paolo Everardo S. Javier, Rep. Randolph S. Ting, Rep. Sherwin N. Tugna, Rep. Luis Raymund F. Villafuerte Jr., Rep. Ann K. Hofer and Rep. Julieta R. Cortuna.

I so move.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we designate the following Members to the Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes on House Bill No. 6618, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A ONE HUNDRED (100) BED HOSPITAL IN BARANGAY HABAY 2 IN THE CITY OF BACOR: Rep. Angelina “Helen” D.L. Tan MD, Rep. Jose Enrique “Joet” S. Garcia III, Rep. Strike

B. Revilla, Rep. Prospero A. Pichay Jr. and Rep. Arlene B. Arcillas.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### CHANGE OF REFERRAL OF CERTAIN MEASURES

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move for the change of referral of the following measures:

House Bill No. 5004, from the Committee on Welfare of Children, to the Committee on Revision of Laws; House Bill No. 8181, from the Committees on Government Enterprises and Privatization and Cooperatives Development, to the Committee on Cooperatives Development; and

Senate Bill No. 1306, from the Committee on Games and Amusements, to the Committees on Government Reorganization and Games and Amusements.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we include as additional coauthors of House Bills No. 8394, 8506, 8507, 8608, 8509, 8510, 8511, 8541 and 8553, and House Joint Resolutions No. 30 and 32, the names of Members as contained in the list to be submitted by the Committee on Rules.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). There is a motion that we include additional coauthors to House Bills No. 8394, 8506, 8507, 8608, 8509, 8510, 8511, 8541 and 8553, and House Joint Resolutions No. 30 and 32, the names of Members as contained in the list to be submitted by the Committee on Rules. Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8078 ON THIRD READING

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mr. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8078 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. Pichay). 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 November 14, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8078, entitled: AN ACT REMOVING THE RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED ON THE REGISTRATION, ACQUISITION, ENCUMBRANCE, ALIENATION, TRANSFER AND CONVEYANCE OF LAND COVERED BY FREE PATENTS UNDER SECTIONS 118, 119, AND 121 OF COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 141, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS “THE PUBLIC LAND ACT”, 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. 31, dated November 20, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8078  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). With 215 affirmative votes, seven negative votes and no abstention, House Bill No. 8078 is hereby approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8417  
ON THIRD READING

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mr. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8417 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. Pichay). 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 November 15, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8417, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE ENERGY VIRTUAL ONE-STOP SHOP FOR THE PURPOSE OF STREAMLINING THE PERMITTING PROCESS OF ENERGY PROJECTS.

*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. 31, dated November 20, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8417  
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). With 215 affirmative votes, seven negative votes and no abstention, House Bill No. 8417 is hereby approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). What is the pleasure of the Gentleman?

REP. TY. This Representation believes that we do not have enough warm bodies, so, I move for the adjournment of the session.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

*It was 5:44 p.m.*

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 5:50 p.m., the session was resumed.*

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, I move to adjourn today's session until tomorrow, November 20 ...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). There has been a previous motion to adjourn.

REP. MARCOLETA. May I withdraw my motion, Mr. Speaker.

\* See ANNEX (printed separately)

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). There has been a previous motion to adjourn. The movant was Cong. Arnel Ty. Is he now withdrawing his motion?

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker, may I reiterate my motion to adjourn.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). There is a motion to adjourn.

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, just one item.

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker.

REP. NOEL. Just to transmit. I will just move to transmit copies...

REP. TY. I have a pending motion, Mr. Speaker.

REP. NOEL. I will just move to transmit copies of those bills approved on Third Reading to the Senate.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). There has already been a motion.

REP. TY. There is a motion, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). There has been a motion to transmit.

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Ah, there are three more. With the indulgence of the Honorable Ty, if you can just suspend your motion.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. TY. Can I have a minute suspension of the session, Mr. Speaker?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). The session is suspended for one minute.

*It was 5:52 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 5:54 p.m., the session was resumed.*

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

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Cong. Arnel U. Ty is recognized.

REP. TY. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my previous motion.

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

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we transmit copies of the Bills approved on Third Reading to the Senate and that the Secretary General be directed to do so.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Yes, the Secretary General is directed to transmit the Bills that have been approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### CONSIDERATION OF H. JT. RES. NO. 32 ON SECOND READING

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Joint Resolution No. 32, contained in Committee Report No. 935, as reported out by the Committee on Rules.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). 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 said 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 Joint Resolution No. 32, entitled:  
JOINT RESOLUTION EXTENDING  
THE AVAILABILITY OF THE 2018  
APPROPRIATIONS FOR MAINTENANCE  
AND OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES AND  
CAPITAL OUTLAYS TO DECEMBER 31, 2019,  
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION  
61 OF THE GENERAL PROVISIONS OF

\* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10964, THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT OF FISCAL YEAR 2018.

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

#### PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we proceed to the period of sponsorship and debate and recognize the Sponsor, the Hon. Maria Carmen S. Zamora of the First District of Compostela Valley, to deliver her sponsorship speech on the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Congresswoman Zamora (M.), you are recognized. Please proceed.

#### SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REP. ZAMORA (M.)

REP. ZAMORA (M.). Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the country has been affected by several devastating calamities such as typhoons in the past months, flash floods and flooding incidents as effects of the southwest monsoon that severely hit Regions 1, 2, 3, 4-A, 4-B, CAR, NCR, 10, 12 and ARMM. The onslaught of the said calamities destroyed vital infrastructure and affected the delivery of basic services to the communities therein. Mr. Speaker, there are appropriations that have not been released and allotments issued that have not been obligated. These automatically resulted in the reversion of the said unexpended appropriations to the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund of the much-needed MOOE and Capital Outlays to fund priority projects, aid and relief activities as well as for the maintenance, construction, repair and rehabilitation of schools, hospitals, roads, bridges and other essential facilities of the national government.

Considering that Republic Act No. 10964 or the General Appropriations Act of Fiscal Year 2018 limits the validity of the MOOE and Capital Outlays until December 31 of this year, it is imperative that Section 61 of the General Provisions of Republic Act No. 10964 should be amended such that the validity of the MOOE and the Capital Outlays appropriations shall be extended for another fiscal year for the benefit of the people and for the welfare of the nation.

I move for its approval, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). There is a motion to terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments to consider Committee and individual amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). There is a motion to open the period of amendments. Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). There is a motion to close the period of amendments. Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we vote on Second Reading on House Joint Resolution No. 32 under Committee Report No. 935.

I so move.

#### VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). There is a motion to approve on Second Reading, House Joint Resolution No. 32. As many as are in favor, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

#### APPROVAL OF H. JT. RES. NO. 32 ON SECOND READING

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

House Joint Resolution No. 32 is hereby approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adjourn the session until three o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday, November 21, 2018.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pichay). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the session is adjourned until Wednesday, November 21, 2018, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

*It was 6:00 p.m.*