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JOURNAL NO. 25  
Tuesday, October 9, 2018

Prepared by the  
**JOURNAL SERVICE**  
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**CALL TO ORDER**

At 3:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Sharon S. Garin called the session to order.

**NATIONAL ANTHEM AND PRAYER**

Pursuant to Section 73, Rule XI of the amended Provisional Rules of the House, the Members sang the National Anthem and thereafter, observed a minute of silent prayer.

**REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

Thereupon, on motion of Rep. Ron P. Salo, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the Reference of Business.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read on First Reading the titles of the following Bills and Resolutions, including the Messages from the Senate and Committee Reports, which were referred to the appropriate Committees as hereunder indicated:

**BILLS ON FIRST READING**

House Bill No. 8356, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING SURVIVORSHIP BENEFITS TO THE SURVIVING LEGITIMATE SPOUSE OF A DECEASED CHAIRPERSON, COMMISSIONER OR LABOR ARBITER OF THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS COMMISSION”

By Representative Sy-Alvarado

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 8357, entitled:

“AN ACT TRANSFERRING THE NEW BILIBID PRISON FROM BARANGAY POBLACION, MUNTINLUPA CITY TO BARANGAY CUYAMBAY, MUNICIPALITY OF TANAY, PROVINCE OF RIZAL”

By Representative Biazon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 8358, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL FLOOD CONTROL ACT, TO PROMOTE AND EXTEND LIFE-SAVING MECHANISMS, TO AUGMENT THE DEMANDS FOR SUPPORT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero

TO THE COMMITTEE ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT

House Bill No. 8359, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL BROADBAND DEVELOPMENT ACT, TO FOSTER THE DEVELOPMENT OF ICT INFRASTRUCTURES AND MECHANISMS, TO AUGMENT THE DEMANDS FOR INTERNET SPEED AND NETWORK CONNECTIVITY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero

TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 8360, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING ALL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY (SERVICE PROVIDER) TO CHARGE AND COLLECT MONTHLY SERVICE FEES (MSF) DURING THE PERIOD OF SUSPENSION OF ANY POSTPAID SUBSCRIPTION (PERIOD OF TEMPORARY DISCONNECTION), TO FOSTER CONSUMER-SUBSCRIBER PROTECTION AND WELFARE, PROVIDING PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero

TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 8361, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DISPOSAL OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES AT SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES”

By Representative Nieto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 8362, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING LOCAL ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY BY PROVIDING THE LOCAL MOVIE AND FILM INDUSTRY CORPORATE TAX BREAKS AND EXEMPTING VENUE OPERATORS FROM THE PAYMENT OF AMUSEMENT TAX WHEN SHOWING LOCALLY PRODUCED FILMS AND MUSIC EVENTS FEATURING FILIPINO ARTISTS”

By Representative Nieto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

House Bill No. 8363, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING BEREAVEMENT LEAVE OF TWELVE (12) DAYS PAY TO ALL EMPLOYEES IN THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Nieto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT AND THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 8364, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING MAY 17 OF EVERY YEAR AS THE NATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA AND TRANSPHOBIA, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Nieto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND GENDER EQUALITY

#### RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 2221, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE IGLESIA NI

CRISTO FOR SUCCESSFULLY HOLDING INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH PROGRAMS IN NEW YORK AND CONNECTICUT LAST SEPTEMBER 14, 2018”

By Representative Castelo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2222, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE PROPER COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY AND/OR INVESTIGATION IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE MALFEASANCE OF BOTH THE GSIS AND DEPED OFFICERS IN RELATION TO THE NON-DEDUCTION OF THE GSIS LOAN PREMIUM FROM THE SALARIES OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS”

By Representative Romero

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2223, entitled:

“RESOLUTION COMMENDING MRS. JENNY MARIE D. BLANCAFLOR FOR WINNING THE BEST ORAL PRESENTER AWARD AT THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ADVANCE PHARMACY AND PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES (ICAPPS) IN INDONESIA”

By Representative Treñas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2224, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING FILIPINO SPORT SHOOTERS WHO COMPETED IN THE FAR EAST ASIA INTERNATIONAL PRACTICAL SHOOTING CONFEDERATION HANDGUN CHAMPIONSHIP 2018”

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

TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

#### MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Message dated October 3, 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. 1363 and House Bill No. 7402, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING TELE-COMMUTING AS AN ALTERNATIVE WORK ARRANGEMENT FOR EMPLOYEES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR”

#### TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated October 3, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on October 2, 2018, the Senate designated Senators Risa Hon-tiveros, Loren Legarda, Joseph Victor G. Ejercito, Grace Poe and Francis N. Pangilinan as conferees to the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 2023, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING SPECIAL PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IN SITUATIONS OF ARMED CONFLICT AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREOF”

and House Bill No. 7442, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE SPECIAL PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IN SITUATIONS OF ARMED CONFLICT AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF”

#### TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated October 4, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on October 3, 2018 the Senate approved 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 October 4, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on October 3, 2018 the Senate adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 21, entitled:

“CONCURRENT RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE DISAGREEING VOTES ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6202, ENTITLED 'AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SOUTH COTABATO STATE COLLEGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SURALLAH, PROVINCE OF SOUTH COTABATO, INTEGRATING THEREWITH THE SURALLAH NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SURALLAH, PROVINCE OF SOUTH COTABATO, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR' ”

#### TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report by the Committee on Dangerous Drugs (Committee Report No. 886), re H.B. No. 8378, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4200, ENTITLED, 'AN ACT TO PROHIBIT AND PENALIZE WIRE TAPPING AND OTHER RELATED VIOLATIONS OF THE PRIVACY OF COMMUNICATION' ”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 289, 587, 1868, 3406, 3616, 3627, 3733 and 4151

Sponsors: Representatives Barbers, Acop and Pineda

#### TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Justice (Committee Report No. 887), re H.B. No. 8380, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO HANS GUENTER SCHOOF”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 6679

Sponsors: Representatives Leachon and Umali

#### TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Justice (Committee Report No. 888), re H.B. No. 8381, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO MARGARITA MELIAN ORTIGAS”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 8182

Sponsor: Representative Leachon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Justice (Committee Report No. 889), re H.B. No. 8382, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO KITSON SORIANO KHO”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 8192

Sponsors: Representatives Leachon and Zubiri

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Transportation (Committee Report No. 890), re H.B. No. 8394, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE FULL AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL MARITIME INSTRUMENTS OF WHICH THE PHILIPPINES IS A STATE-PARTY”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 456 and 1286

Sponsors: Representatives Sarmiento (C.) and Manalo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

#### **DEFERMENT OF ROLL CALL AND APPROVAL OF JOURNAL**

On successive motions of Representative Salo, there being no objection, the Body deferred the calling of the Roll and approval of the Journal of the previous session.

#### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

The session was suspended at 3:07 p.m. upon motion of Representative Salo.

#### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 3:35 p.m., the session resumed.

#### **BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 863 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 8244**

On motion of Rep. Victoria Isabel G. Noel, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 8244 contained in Committee Report No. 863 as reported out by the Committee on Women and Gender Equality.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read the title of the Bill, to wit:

“AN ACT EXPANDING THE DEFINITION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT, STRENGTHENING THE MECHANISMS TO MONITOR COMPLIANCE WITH POLICIES AGAINST SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE WORKPLACE AND IN EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING INSTITUTIONS, AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7877, ALSO REFERRED TO AS THE ‘ANTI-SEXUAL HARASSMENT ACT OF 1995.’”

As copies of the Bill had been distributed to the Members, on motion of Representative Noel, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the text of the measure without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House.

On motion of Representative Noel, the Chair recognized Rep. Bernadette “BH” Herrera-Dy, Chairperson of the Sponsoring Committee, to deliver her sponsorship remarks.

#### **SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE HERRERA-DY**

Upon the request of Representative Herrera-Dy, the Explanatory Note of the Bill was considered as her sponsorship remarks on the measure.

#### **SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE DE JESUS**

Recognized by the Chair on Representative Noel’s motion, Rep. Emmi A. De Jesus expressed support to amend the existing Sexual Harassment

Law with the instant Bill's consideration on Second Reading. She relayed how victims of sexual harassment had difficulty of getting justice while experiencing low morale and helplessness in the process, especially when the perpetrator is a person of higher authority than the victim.

Representative De Jesus then pointed out that the Bill covers incidents occurring even outside of the workplace and academic or training institution and provides for the creation of a Committee on Decorum and Investigation (CODI) that will receive and resolve complaints on sexual harassment. She expressed hope that the measure will be part of the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress' legacy of progressive laws on sexual harassment.

#### **TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE**

There being no Member who wished to interpellate the Sponsor, on motion of Representative Noel, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate, and thereafter proceeded to the period of amendments.

#### **TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS**

There being no Committee and individual amendments, on motion of Representative Noel, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of amendments.

#### **APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 8244**

On motion of Representative Noel, there being no objection, the Body approved House Bill No. 8244 on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting.

#### **BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 876 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 8282**

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Noel, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 8282 contained in Committee Report No. 876 as reported out by the Committee on Agriculture and Food.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read the title of the Bill, to wit:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF CATANDUANES AS THE ABACA CAPITAL OF THE PHILIPPINES.”

As copies of the Bill had been distributed to the Members, on motion of Representative Noel, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the text of the measure without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Noel, the Chair recognized Rep. Jose T. Panganiban Jr., CPA, LLB, Chairperson of the sponsoring Committee, for his sponsorship remarks.

#### **SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE PANGANIBAN**

Upon the request of Representative Panganiban, the Explanatory Note of the Bill was considered as his sponsorship remarks on the measure.

#### **TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE**

There being no Member who wished to interpellate, on motion of Representative Noel, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate, and thereafter proceeded to the period of amendments.

#### **TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS**

There being no Committee and individual amendments, on motion of Representative Noel, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of amendments.

#### **APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 8282**

On motion of Representative Noel, there being no objection, the Body approved House Bill No. 8282 on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting.

#### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

The Chair declared a recess at 3:46 p.m. upon Representative Noel's motion.

#### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 3:53 p.m., the session resumed.

#### **BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 786 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 7849**

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 7849 contained in Committee Report No. 786 as reported out

by the Committees on Indigenous Cultural Communities and Indigenous Peoples, and Ways and Means.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read the title of the Bill, to wit:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A FREE AND CULTURE-SENSITIVE CIVIL REGISTRATION SYSTEM FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES.”

As copies of the Bill had been distributed to the Members, on motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the text of the measure without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Noel, the Chair recognized Rep. Arlene D. Brosas, one of the principal authors of the Bill, for her sponsorship speech.

#### **SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS**

Representative Brosas said that the lack of sufficient demographic data about indigenous peoples (IPs) is due to the latter’s natural aversion to registration owing to their culture and way of life. The government must protect the rights of IPs, she however stressed, and should identify them as bonafide citizens of the country who deserve to enjoy basic social services. She explained that House Bill No. 7849 will ensure that the State provides a free and cultural-sensitive civil registration system for IPs without making them lose their identity.

#### **TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE**

There being no Member who wished to interpellate the Sponsor, on motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate, and thereafter proceeded to the period of amendments.

#### **TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS**

There being no Committee and individual amendments, on motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of amendments.

#### **APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 7849**

On further motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body approved House Bill No. 7849 on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting.

#### **BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 765 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 7785**

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 7785 contained in Committee Report No. 765 as reported out by the Committees on Basic Education and Culture, Appropriations, and Ways and Means.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read the title of the Bill, to wit:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK FOR THE SELECTION OF NATIONAL PERFORMING ARTS COMPANIES, DESIGNATING FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN PERFORMING ARTS GENRES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.”

As copies of the Bill had been distributed to the Members, on motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the text of the measure without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, the Chair recognized Deputy Speaker Evelina G. Escudero, one of the principal authors of the Bill, for her sponsorship remarks.

#### **SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF DEPUTY SPEAKER ESCUDERO**

On motion of Deputy Speaker Escudero, duly seconded by Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body adopted the Explanatory Note of the Bill as her sponsorship remarks on the measure.

#### **INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA**

Recognized by the Chair upon motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. agreed with the Bill’s intentions for the country to

develop its own national performing arts companies. He subsequently discussed with Representative Escudero the definition of a national performing arts company and the qualifications, criteria, and track record of companies applying for subsidy from the government through the Bill at hand. He then proposed to include during the period of amendments a provision requiring the applicant to cite its track record in the field of performing arts.

He next clarified with the Sponsor the classification of groups; minimum number of members from each group; whether limited to a group or individual; and whether the qualified applicant has to be a member of the mentioned performing arts companies. During the period of amendments, he urged the Sponsor to consider proposals that would protect the intent of the law.

Representative Atienza vowed to support the measure as he stressed that this would be an opportunity to give all art forms an opportunity to develop, while appreciating folk arts presentations. He then recommended to include a provision in the measure that would help groups which showcase Filipino shows and teach people how to appreciate and enjoy the country's native dance and music.

In conclusion, Representative Atienza moved to temporarily set aside the measure, and manifested his intent to sit with the Sponsors and work out specific amendments on the Bill.

#### **SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 7785**

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 7785.

#### **ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

On motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the Additional Reference of Business.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read on First Reading the title of the following House Concurrent Resolution which was referred to the appropriate Committee as hereunder indicated:

#### **RESOLUTION**

House Concurrent Resolution No. 22, entitled:

“CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RE-  
CALLING FROM THE OFFICE OF THE

PRESIDENT THE ENROLLED COPIES OF SENATE BILL NO. 1233 AND HOUSE BILL NO. 5745 ENTITLED 'AN ACT CREATING THE COCONUT FARMERS AND INDUSTRY TRUST FUND, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND UTILIZATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES'”

By Representative Andaya

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS**

At this point, Representative Herrera-Dy acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Reps. Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alba and Gabriel H. Bordado Jr.

#### **ADOPTION OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 22**

On successive motions of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body considered House Concurrent Resolution No. 22; dispensed with the reading of the text thereof without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House; and unanimously adopted the measure entitled: “CONCURRENT RESOLUTION RECALLING FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT THE ENROLLED COPIES OF SENATE BILL NO. 1233 AND HOUSE BILL NO. 5745 ENTITLED 'AN ACT CREATING THE COCONUT FARMERS AND INDUSTRY TRUST FUND, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND UTILIZATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES'.”

#### **DESIGNATION OF HOUSE CONFEREES ON HOUSE BILL NO. 5745 AND SENATE BILL NO. 1233**

On motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body designated the following Members to the Conference Committee to reconcile the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 5745 and Senate Bill No. 1233, creating the Coconut Farmers and Industry Trust Fund: Reps. Jose T. Panganiban Jr., CPA, LLB, Sharon S. Garin, Celso L. Lobregat, Manuel T. Sagarbarria, Edcel C. Lagsman, Angelina “Helen” D.L. Tan, MD, Cecilia Leonila V. Chavez, Evelina G. Escudero, Arthur C. Yap, Minority Leader Danilo E. Suarez, and Majority Leader Rolando G. Andaya Jr.



**BUSINESS FOR THE DAY:  
COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 824  
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 8110**

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 8110 contained in Committee Report No. 824 as reported out by the Committee on Overseas Workers Affairs.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read the title of the Bill, to wit:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE PHILIPPINE OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT ADMINISTRATION (POEA) TO DEVELOP, PUBLISH, DISSEMINATE AND UPDATE A HANDBOOK ON THE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MIGRANT WORKERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8042, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'MIGRANT WORKERS AND OVERSEAS FILIPINOS ACT OF 1995,' AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10022.”

As copies of the Bill had previously been distributed to the Members, on motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the text of the measure without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House.

On subsequent motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, the Chair recognized Rep. Jesulito A. Manalo, Chairperson of the sponsoring Committee, to sponsor the measure.

**SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF  
REPRESENTATIVE MANALO**

Representative Manalo said the measure requiring a handbook for all overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) shall provide a ready reference material for OFWs about their rights and responsibilities, and the labor and living conditions of their countries of destination.

**APPROVAL ON SECOND READING  
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 8110**

Thereupon, on successive motions of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate; terminated the period of amendments in the

absence of Committee and individual amendments; and approved on Second Reading House Bill No. 8110 through *viva voce* voting.

**BUSINESS FOR THE DAY:  
COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 837  
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 1700**

On further motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 1700 contained in Committee Report No. 837 as reported out by the Committee on Overseas Workers Affairs.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read the title of the Bill, to wit:

“AN ACT GRANTING THE OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS THE RIGHT TO EQUAL PROTECTION ON MONEY CLAIMS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE FIFTH PARAGRAPH OF SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8042, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10022.”

As copies of the Bill had been distributed to the Members, on motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the text of the measure without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, the Chair recognized Representative Manalo for his sponsorship remarks.

**SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF  
REPRESENTATIVE MANALO**

In line with the Supreme Court ruling in the case of *Serrano vs. Gallant Maritime Services and Marlow Navigation*, Representative Manalo stated that House Bill No. 1700 seeks to give more rights to the OFWs so that they will be paid the full unexpired portion of their salaries in case of unlawful termination. As such, he enjoined his colleagues to favorably consider the measure.

**APPROVAL ON SECOND READING  
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 1700**

Whereupon, on successive motions of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate; terminated the period of amendments in the

absence of Committee and individual amendments; and approved on Second Reading House Bill No. 1700 through *viva voce* voting.

### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

The session was suspended at 4:44 p.m. upon motion of Representative Herrera-Dy.

### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

The session resumed at 4:46 p.m. with Deputy Speaker Mercedes K. Alvarez presiding.

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS**

Representative Herrera-Dy acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Reps. Leopoldo N. Bataoil and Christopher V.P. de Venecia.

### **BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 776 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 7820**

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 7820 contained in Committee Report No. 776 as reported out by the Committees on Government Enterprises and Privatization, and Appropriations.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read the title of the Bill, to wit:

“AN ACT GRANTING SURVIVORSHIP BENEFITS TO THE DEPENDENT CHILDREN OF A DECEASED RETIRED MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION ON AUDIT, CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS, AND THE OMBUDSMAN, WHO IS A SOLO PARENT, OR THE SURVIVING PARENTS OR NOMINATED PERSONS OF SUCH DECEASED RETIREE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10084, ENTITLED, 'AN ACT GRANTING SURVIVORSHIP BENEFITS TO THE SURVIVING LEGITIMATE SPOUSE OF A DECEASED RETIRED MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION ON AUDIT, CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS AND THE OMBUDSMAN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.’”

As copies of the Bill had been distributed to the Members, on motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the text of the measure without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, the Chair recognized Rep. Jesus Nonato Sacdalan, Chairperson of the Committee on Government Enterprises and Privatization, for his sponsorship remarks.

### **SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE SACDALAN**

Representative Sacdalan enjoined his colleagues to support and approve House Bill No. 7820.

### **APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 7820**

Subsequently, on successive motions of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate; terminated the period of amendments in the absence of Committee and individual amendments; and approved on Second Reading House Bill No. 7820 through *viva voce* voting.

### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

The session was suspended at 4:50 p.m. upon motion of Representative Herrera-Dy.

### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

The session resumed at 4:56 p.m.

### **BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 850 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 8204**

On successive motions of Representative Noel, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 8204 contained in Committee Report No. 850 as reported out by the Committee on Youth and Sports Development, re-defining the crime of game-fixing and prescribing stiffer penalties therefor; dispensed with the reading of the text thereof without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House; adopted the Explanatory Note of the Bill as the sponsorship remarks on the measure, on motion of Rep. Enrico A. Pineda, one of the authors of the said measure; terminated

the period of sponsorship and debate; terminated the period of amendments in the absence of Committee and individual amendments; and approved the same on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting.

### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

Thereupon, the session was suspended at 4:59 p.m. upon motion of Representative Noel.

### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

The session resumed at 5:03 p.m.

### **PRIVILEGE HOUR**

With the unanimous consent of the House, on motion of Representative Noel, there being no objection, the Chair declared a Privilege Hour and thereafter recognized Representative Brosas for her privilege speech.

### **PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS**

Representative Brosas took the floor to express Gabriela Party-List's support to Ms. Sheila Eballe's call to the stoppage of Apo Cemex Corporation's quarrying activities in Cebu, and hold Department of Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Roy A. Cimatu accountable for the death of 72 individuals.

She related that a week after Ms. Eballe's fearless stand during President Rodrigo Roa Duterte's visit in Apo Quarrying and Landslide Evacuation Center Chamber, she was forced to seek refuge as she was intimidated by the security personnel of APO Cemex Corporation. This, as she underscored how President Duterte joked at her and tagged her as a member of the New People's Army. She condemned the Administration's policies that put premium on capitalist greed and environment plunder; asked that the DENR and its Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) both be held responsible for the mining and quarrying operations throughout the country; and sought justice for the survivors of the Apo quarrying landslide.

### **REFERRAL OF THE PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS**

On motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body referred Representative Brosas' privilege speech to the Committee on Rules.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Noel, the Chair recognized Representative Herrera-Dy to deliver her privilege speech.

### **PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE HERRERA-DY**

In line with the October 11 celebration of the International Day of the Girl, Representative Herrera-Dy emphasized the unique needs and challenges of girls, promotion of their empowerment, and fulfillment of their human rights.

In particular, she spoke about child marriage and its negative impact on the girls' health and development, with the Philippines ranking number 12 among the countries with the highest number of child marriages. She however emphasized that child marriage can be prevented, and cited the recommendations of the World Health Organization (WHO) to address this concern. With all legal systems harmonized, she stressed the need for a national law explicitly prohibiting child marriage and providing programs and services for its prevention and response, and enjoined her colleagues to create spaces for girls to grow as empowered women.

On motion of Representative Noel, the Chair recognized Representative Atienza.

### **MOTION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA**

Representative Atienza stressed that Representative Herrera-Dy had delivered a meaningful speech, but that there were not enough Members on the floor, and moved for the adjournment of session.

### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

The Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session at 5:18 p.m.

### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

The session resumed at 5:25 p.m.

### **REFERRAL OF THE PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE HERRERA-DY**

On motion of Representative Noel, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Representative Herrera-Dy to the Committee on Rules.

## **SUSPENSION OF THE PRIVILEGE HOUR**

On motion of Representative Noel, there being no objection, the Body suspended the Privilege Hour.

## **BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 891 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 8400**

On motion of Representative Noel, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 8400 contained in Committee Report No. 891 as reported out by the Committee on Ways and Means.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read the title of the Bill, to wit:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE FISCAL REGIME FOR THE MINING INDUSTRY.”

As copies of the Bill had been distributed to the Members, on motion of Representative Noel, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the text of the measure without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House.

On motion of Representative Noel, the Chair recognized Rep. Estrellita B. Suansing, Chairperson of the sponsoring Committee, to sponsor the measure.

## **SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE SUANSING (E.)**

Initially citing data on the contribution of the mining industry to the government's coffers in terms of collected taxes, fees and royalties, Representative Suansing then stressed that the proposed measure would 1) provide equitable fiscal responsibility to both large and small scale mining by imposing additional taxes, royalties, and margin-based tax on windfall profit; 2) ensure additional revenue and safety net for the government as owner of mineral wealth; and 3) exempt mining companies from the application of the confidentiality clauses of the amended National Internal Revenue Code of 1997.

Representative Suansing subsequently urged her colleagues to support the instant Bill's immediate passage into law.

## **SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 8400**

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Noel, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 8400.

## **ADOPTION OF HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2214**

On motion of Representative Noel, there being no objection, the Body considered House Resolution No. 2214, entitled: “RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF CIRIACO “ACROY” S. CALALANG, KABAYAN PARTY-LIST REPRESENTATIVE DURING THE SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS”; dispensed with the reading of the text thereof without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House; and unanimously adopted the same in consolidation with House Resolutions No. 2195, 2916, and 2203.

## **RESUMPTION OF THE PRIVILEGE HOUR**

On successive motions of Representative Noel, there being no objection, the Body resumed the Privilege Hour; and the Chair thereafter recognized Rep. Gary C. Alejano for his privilege speech.

## **PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ALEJANO**

Representative Alejano's speech focused on the enactment of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 8423, also called the Traditional and Alternative Medicine Act (TAMA), and government efforts and policies to strengthen, promote, develop and integrate into the national health care delivery system the country's traditional and alternative medicine.

Speaking on the recent Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) activity to shut down the Dr. Farrah Agustin-Bunch Natural Medical Center in Victoria, Tarlac, Representative Alejano subsequently mentioned Dr. Agustin-Bunch's academic and professional background and founding of her medical facility.

After informing the Body of the popularity and professional achievements of Dr. Agustin-Bunch's center in and outside of the Philippines, Representa-

tive Alejano related the events surrounding the filing of cases for alleged misconduct against Dr. Agustin-Bunch in the DOH and the FDA. He then related the events surrounding the closure of Dr. Agustin-Bunch's facility and confiscation of her products despite her having complied with the FDA's requirement.

Thereupon, Representative Alejano emphasized that Dr. Agustin-Bunch had been deprived of her right to due process and right to practice her profession and to earn a living; while the public had been denied the right to patronize medical doctors such as Dr. Agustin-Bunch and avail of alternative medicines and treatments. In this regard, he urged the appropriate committee to review the implementation of the TAMA or R.A. No. 8423.

#### **INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BRAVO (A.)**

On motion of Rep. Wilter "Sharky" Wee Palma II, the Chair recognized Rep. Anthony M. Bravo, PhD, who first stressed the vital support that the government had been giving alternative medicine in China, after which he and Representative Alejano discussed why Dr. Agustin-Bunch's facility was closed down despite its not being a hospital and its not having a drug pharmacy. Representative Alejano surmised that the closure was due to a technical issue of not submitting a document within the prescribed time to the FDA.

Representative Bravo then expressed his support to the conduct of a congressional investigation on the matter.

#### **REFERRAL OF THE PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ALEJANO**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Representative Alejano and the interpellation thereon to the Committee on Rules.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Rep. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo for his privilege speech.

#### **PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ROMUALDO**

At the outset, Representative Romualdo stated that Presidential Decree 603 was issued to give due importance to the children and created a policy-making body called the Council for the Welfare of

Children (CWC) tasked to ensure that every child enjoys his or her rights. He cited the composition of the CWC Board and mentioned stories on the struggles faced by children who are victims of sexual abuse, without parents to care for them, affected by drugs, and victims of natural and man-made disasters.

In answer to the call for support and action, he said that the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress had included the rights of children in its Priority Executive-Legislative Agenda and that several laws had been enacted to respond to their plight in accordance with the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child; and cited the various inter-agency bodies that deal with the implementation of laws thereon.

Representative Romualdo thereafter proposed to create an agency that would focus on policy formulation and implementation of programs and services for the children and appealed to the President to certify as urgent the enactment of the Bill creating the Philippine Commission on Children.

#### **REFERRAL OF THE PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ROMUALDO**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Representative Romualdo to the Committee on Rules; and on his further motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago for her privilege speech.

#### **MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO**

Thereupon, Representative Elago requested that the privilege speech which she was supposed to deliver the previous day in the presence of student leaders from various schools and officials of Sangguniang Kabataan, be inserted into the records of the House.

#### **PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO**

Whereupon, Representative Elago read an excerpt from the unity statement of Southern Tagalog Youth and Faculty condemning the "Red October" conspiracy attacks on universities, which was signed by over a hundred organizations and institutions of youth leaders, parliamentarians, journalists, cultural workers, faculty, and academic employees across Southern Luzon.

She thereafter read the manifesto which, among others: (1) deemed as absurd and outrageous the allegation of the military about universities that allow their students to exercise their right to academic freedom, as recruitment grounds for any political armed group; (2) likened the conspiracy attack of the government as reminiscent of the grim days of martial law, where educational discussions were suppressed and youths were tagged as subversives or communists for the sake of political persecution; (3) called on the military to uphold its role to serve and protect, and urged other students, professors, and academicians to stand with them in their fight against political persecution; (4) pledged to uphold and protect academic freedom and various forms of expression; and (5) stressed that no fear-mongering will stop the ranks of the students from standing for what is right, just, and democratic.

Thereafter, Representative Elago thanked her colleagues who had provided support for student campaigns to defend their universities and colleges and promote academic freedom.

#### **REFERRAL OF THE PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body referred Representative Elago's privilege speech to the Committee on Rules.

#### **TERMINATION OF THE PRIVILEGE HOUR**

There being no other Member who wished to avail of the Privilege Hour, on further motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body terminated the Privilege Hour.

#### **ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION**

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until three o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday, October 10, 2018.

It was 6:23 p.m.

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I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

(Sgd.) **MR. DANTE ROBERTO P. MALING**  
Acting Secretary General

Approved on October 10, 2018.

#### **DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTED**

Printed copies of House Bill No. 8217, entitled: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CONSOLIDATED POVERTY DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR," were distributed to the Members during the session.