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**JOURNAL NO. 54  
Monday, December 12, 2016**

Prepared by the  
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**Monday, December 12, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 4:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Gwendolyn F. Garcia 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, Representative Sarah Jane I. Elago delivered the invocation.

**DEFERMENT OF THE ROLL CALL**

On motion of Rep. Arthur R. Defensor Jr., there being no objection, the Body deferred the calling of the Roll.

**APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL**

Likewise, on motion of Rep. Defensor, there being no objection, the Body approved Journal No. 53, dated December 7, 2016.

**REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

Subsequently, on motion of Rep. Defensor, 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, which were referred to the appropriate Committees as hereunder indicated:

**BILLS ON FIRST READING**

House Bill No. 4574, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10368, ENTITLED 'AN ACT PROVIDING FOR REPARATION AND RECOGNITION OF VICTIMS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS DURING THE MARCOS REGIME, DOCUMENTATION OF SAID VIOLATIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES' ”

By Representative Belmonte (J.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

House Bill No. 4575, entitled:

“AN ACT RESTRUCTURING THE EXCISE TAX ON TOBACCO PRODUCTS AND AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PERTINENT SECTIONS OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Salceda

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4576, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING NOISE POLLUTION BY CREATING THE NOISE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD (NPCB), PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Tupas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION

House Bill No. 4577, entitled:

“AN ACT TO CLASSIFY BAMBOO AS AN UNREGULATED FOREST PRODUCT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Savellano

TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4578, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE PHILIPPINE CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION (PCIC), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1467, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CHARTER OF THE PHILIPPINE CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION”

By Representative De Venecia

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 4579, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A SEPARATE DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS IN THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF ZAMBOANGA CITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Lobregat

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4580, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A BODY CORPORATE TO BE KNOWN AS THE WESTERN PHILIPPINES MEDICAL CENTER AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Acosta, Abueg and Alvarez (F.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4581, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SCIENCE FOR CHANGE PROGRAM (S4CP)”

By Representative Salceda

TO THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 4582, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING BUYING OR SELLING OF EXPORTABLE CAVENDISH BANANAS FROM CONTRACTED FARMS TO A NON-PARTY TO THE CONTRACT AS ECONOMIC SABOTAGE, PRESCRIBING PENALTIES THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Mendoza

TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 4583, entitled:

“AN ACT NAMING THE LINAMON – MATUNGAO – BALOI NATIONAL ROAD

IN THE PROVINCE OF LANA DEL NORTE AS THE METRO ILIGAN REGIONAL AGRO-INDUSTRIAL CENTER (MIRAIC) HIGHWAY”

By Representative Dimaporo (M.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4584, entitled:

“AN ACT NAMING THE POBLACION – CANIOGAN NATIONAL ROAD IN TUBOD, LANA DEL NORTE AS THE ARSENIO ARCELO QUIBRANZA HIGHWAY”

By Representative Dimaporo (M.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4585, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 27 OF CHAPTER VIII OF R.A. NO. 7607 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'MAGNA CARTA OF SMALL FARMERS', INCREASING ITS PENALTIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4586, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL ALLOTMENT FOR THE 'SPECIAL CADASTRAL PROGRAM REVOLVING FUND', TO EXPAND THE SUPPORT FOR SURVEY AND REGISTRATION PROGRAMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Romero and Pineda

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4587, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 32 OF R.A. NO. 8559 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE

'PHILIPPINE AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING ACT OF 1998', INCREASING ITS PENALTIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representatives Romero and Pineda

TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 4588, entitled:

"AN ACT TO INSTITUTIONALIZE THE POWERS OF THE LAND REGISTRATION AUTHORITY (LRA), RATIONALIZING ITS FUNCTIONS TO PROVIDE FASTER AND MORE EFFECTIVE ADJUDICATION ON ALL LAND REGISTRATION CONCERNS, TO PRESERVE AND MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY OF ALL LAND RECORDS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representatives Romero and Pineda

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION

House Bill No. 4589, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE 'AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES MODERNIZATION ACT OF 1997' (RA NO. 8345), RE-ALIGNING ITS ALLOTMENT AND DEFINING ITS DISBURSING GUIDELINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representatives Romero and Pineda

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD AND THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4590, entitled:

"AN ACT MANDATING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA) TO PROVIDE THE PHILIPPINE RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE (PHILRICE) WITH ADDITIONAL FUNDING, ENSURING CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Romero

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4591, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA) WITH ADDITIONAL FUNDING, INCREASING ITS YEARLY ALLOTMENT IN THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT (GAA), AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representatives Romero and Pineda

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4592, entitled:

"AN ACT INCREASING THE CAPITALIZATION OF THE NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY (NHA), EXPANDING AND ACCELERATING ITS URBAN LAND REFORM AND SOCIAL HOUSING PROGRAM, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representatives Romero and Pineda

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 4593, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE 'PHILIPPINE AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING ACT OF 1998' (R.A. NO. 8559), TO GUARANTEE THE DELIVERY OF BASIC AND TECHNICAL SERVICES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representatives Romero and Pineda

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4594, entitled:

"AN ACT PROMOTING RENEWABLE ENERGY, MANDATING TAX REBATES FOR INDIVIDUALS PURCHASING RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVICES OR SYSTEMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

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

REVENUE AND VAT-REGISTERED TAX-PAYERS UTILIZING CASH-REGISTER AND/OR POINT-OF-SALE MACHINES”

House Bill No. 4595, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8762, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE RETAIL TRADE LIBERALIZATION ACT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Cua

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

RESOLUTIONS

By Representative Yap (A.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Resolution No. 598, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON GAMES AND AMUSEMENT TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE PROLIFERATION OF ONLINE 'SABONG' ”

House Bill No. 4596, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (DOTESD), DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7796, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE TESDA ACT OF 1994, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Panganiban

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

By Representative Yap (A.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Resolution No. 599, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON GOOD GOVERNMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY AND/OR THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, SEPARATELY OR JOINTLY, ON THE PERCEIVED SNAIL-PACED IMPLEMENTATION OF HOUSING RELOCATION AND RESETTLEMENT PROJECTS FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY TYPHOON YOLANDA AND FOR THOSE LIVING IN DANGEROUS ZONES, AND TO RECOMMEND APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION”

House Bill No. 4600, entitled:

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

By Representative Evardone

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

By Representative Treñas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Resolution No. 600, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONDEMNING THE LIFTING OF MORATORIUM ON LARGE SCALE MINING ACTIVITIES IN THE PROVINCE OF CAPIZ”

House Bill No. 4601, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTRONIC LINKAGE BETWEEN THE BUREAU OF INTERNAL

By Representative Zarate

TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Resolution No. 601, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION TO CONDUCT PRELIMINARY PROBE TO CHECK IF THERE HAD BEEN GOVERNMENT FAILURE ON THE INABILITY OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING AND REGULATORY BOARD TO CURB THE PROLIFERATION OF MULTIPLE-FRANCHISE GRANTS TO BUS COMPANIES THEREBY BETRAYING THE INTENT AND SPIRIT OF THE FRANCHISE LAW”

By Representative Castelo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 602, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION FOR THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH TO ENJOIN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ISSUE OFFICIAL POLICY STATEMENT OR ADVISORY TO ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HOSPITALS OR MEDICAL CLINICS AGAINST THE RAMPANT VIOLATIONS OF THE INTENT AND SPIRIT OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9439 THAT PROHIBITS DETENTION OF PATIENTS ON GROUNDS OF NONPAYMENT OF HOSPITAL BILLS OR MEDICAL EXPENSES”

By Representative Castelo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Resolution No. 603, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT RODRIGO R. DUTERTE TO ISSUE A PROCLAMATION TRANSFERRING THE OWNERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION OF A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED AT THE RIZAL PARK IN ERMITA, MANILA TO THE NATIONAL HISTORICAL COMMISSION OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Escudero, Eriguel, Suansing (E.), Ferrer J., Go (M.), Bordado, De Venecia, Cortuna, Herrera-Dy and Tan (A.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Resolution No. 604, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CURRENT STATE OF FORCIBLY EVICTED FAMILIES AND THE CONDITION OF THEIR RELOCATION SITES, PARTICULARLY ON THE FAILURE OF THE GOVERNMENT TO ENSURE THAT EVICTED FAMILIES HAVE SAFE AND SECURE ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL FOOD, POTABLE WATER AND SANITATION, LIVELIHOOD SOURCES, AND EDUCATION AND HEALTHCARE FACILITIES, AND RECOMMEND A MORATORIUM ON AMORTIZATION PAYMENTS WHILE POLICY REVIEW IS BEING UNDERTAKEN BY APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT HOUSING AGENCIES”

By Representatives Brosas, De Jesus, Zarate, Tinio, Castro (F.L.), Casilao and Elago

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 605, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEES ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION, TO LAUD THE INITIATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, NOTING THE JOINT INITIATIVE, 'K TO 12 MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION, DISASTER RISK AND VULNERABILITY REDUCTION: LEARNING MATERIALS FOR PHILIPPINE SCHOOLS', UNDERTAKEN SUCCESSFULLY BY THE DEPED DIVISIONS OF ALBAY WITH THE CLIMATE CHANGE COMMISSION, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE, THE AKO BIKOL PARTY LIST, THE CITY GOVERNMENTS OF LEGAZPI, LIGAO, TABACO, AND THE LOCAL CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION FOR DEVELOPMENT (LCCAD), AND URGING THE NATION-WIDE ADOPTION OF THE K TO 12 LEARNING MATERIALS IN ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS”

By Representative Salceda

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Resolution No. 606, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS TO ALLOCATE A FUND OF PHP 1 BILLION IN SUPPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE BY THE CLIMATE CHANGE COMMISSION, THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A COMMUNITY FOOD GARDENS (CFG) PROGRAM FOR FOOD, WATER AND ENERGY SECURITY IN EVERY BARANGAY IN THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Salceda

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Resolution No. 607, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE SPECIAL COMMITTEES ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION TO INSTRUCT THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG) AND THE HOUSING AND LAND USE REGULATORY BOARD (HLURB) TO ORDER ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUs) IN THE COUNTRY TO ADOPT THE PROBABILISTIC APPROACH FOR RISK ASSESSMENT OF PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF HAZARDS AND MULTI-HAZARD MAPS FOR MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION, DISASTER RISK AND VULNERABILITY REDUCTION (CCA/DRVR), APPROPRIATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE AMOUNT OF PHP 1 BILLION”

By Representative Salceda

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

## ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

With the permission of the Body, the following Members were made coauthors of the Bills and Resolution hereunder indicated:

Reps. Rolando "Klarex" A. Uy and Arnel U. Ty for House Bill No. 1301;

Rep. Ana Cristina Siquian Go for House Bill No. 1563;

Rep. Micaela S. Violago for House Bills No. 1004, 2650, 2651, 2655 and 3771;

Rep. Orestes T. Salon for House Bills No. 192, 193, 194, 995, 996, 998, 1000, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1301, 1302, 1563, 2330, 2650, 2651, 2653, 2654, 2655 and 3771;

Rep. Manuel Monsour T. Del Rosario III for House Bills No. 192, 193, 194, 1301, 1302, 1563, 2330 and 3771;

Rep. Emmanuel F. Madrona for House Bills No. 193, 194, 1302, 1563, 2330 and 3771;

Rep. Deogracias Victor "DV" B. Savellano for House Bills No. 193, 194, 1302, 1563, 2330 and 3771;

Rep. Maximo B. Dalog for House Bills No. 194, 1302, 1563, 2330 and 3771;

Rep. Arlene B. Arcillas for House Bills No. 995, 996, 998, 1000, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1615, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2654, 2655, 2862, 2863, 2864, 3424, 3852, 3853, 4087, 4088, 4089 and 4090;

Rep. Joey Sarte Salceda for House Bills No. 2318, 2319, 2474, 2953 and 3782;

Rep. Jose Antonio "Kuya Jonathan" R. Sy-Alvarado for House Bills No. 3113, 3234, 3543, 3709, 4153, 4154, 4155, 4366 and 4367;

Rep. Rodel M. Batocabe for House Bill No. 4334;

Rep. Manuel Jose "Mannix" M. Dalipe for House Bills No. 983, 2158, 3305, 3623, 4107, 4403 and 4406;

Rep. Nancy A. Catamco for House Bill No. 3705;

Reps. Ma. Lucille L. Nava, M.D., Raneo "Ranie" E. Abu, Doy C. Leachon, Michael John R. Duavit and Mario Vittorio "Marvey" A. Mariño for House Bill No. 4174;

Rep. Lianda B. Bolilia for House Bills No. 1615, 2862, 2863, 2864, 3853, 3943, 4087, 4088, 4089, 4107 and 4337;

Rep. Rodante D. Marcoleta for House Bills No. 2863, 4107 and 4521;

Rep. Len B. Alonte-Naguiat for House Bill No. 4107;

Rep. Maria Valentina G. Plaza for House Bills No. 3113, 3234, 3543, 3708, 3709, 4153 and 4154;

Rep. Ramon V.A. "Rav" Rocamora for House Bills No. 3113, 3234, 3543, 3708, 3709, 4153, 4154 and 4575;

Rep. Gus S. Tambunting for House Bill No. 2650;

Rep. Luis Jose Angel N. Campos Jr. for House Bills No. 2798, 4107 and 4144;

Rep. Carmelo "Jon" B. Lazatin II for House Bills No. 2652 and 4107;

Rep. Strike B. Revilla for House Bill No. 209;

Rep. Harlin Neil J. Abayon III for House Bill No. 4144;

Rep. Lawrence H. Fortun for House Bill No. 3254;

Rep. John Marvin "Yul Servo" C. Nieto for House Bills No. 4411 and 4483;

Rep. Mario Vittorio "Marvey" A. Mariño for House Bills No. 3113, 3234, 3543, 3708, 3709, 4107, 4153, 4154, 4155 and 4521;

Reps. Evelina G. Escudero, Rodel M. Batocabe, Christopher S. Co, Alfredo A. Garbin Jr. and Fernando V. Gonzalez for House Resolution No. 605;

Rep. Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong for House Bill No. 4575; and

Rep. Scott Davies S. Lanete, M.D. for House Bill No. 4144.

#### **WITHDRAWAL OF COAUTHORSHIP**

Rep. Mark O. Go withdrew his coauthorship of House Bill No. 64.

On motion of Rep. Gerald Anthony "Samsam" V. Gullas Jr., the Chair recognized Rep. H. Harry L. Roque Jr. who delivered the following question of privilege:

#### **QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE OF REP. ROQUE (H.)**

I rise for the first time on a matter of personal and collective privilege.

At noon today, the Party-List Representatives had their regular press briefing in our media room. I was expected to talk about the death penalty; as well as possibly, my opposition to Health Secretary Paulyn Jean B. Rosell-Ubial's appointment, in the Commission on Appointments. But the reporter asked me a question referring to a press release apparently emanating from the Kabayan Party-List. For the information of this Body, that web page that published the press release is controlled by no other than the second nominee thereof, Rep. Ron P. Salo. That press release purportedly reported that the Kabayan Party-List is investigating me because of my conduct when the House investigated the drug trade in Muntinlupa City, specifically, when I questioned Ronnie Dayan on whether or not he took advantage of the frailties of former Secretary Leila De Lima as a woman. The press release said that that conduct was supposedly unethical; and even cited an article in the Rappler social news network which featured my picture together with the picture of Majority Floor Leader Rodolfo C. Fariñas, Deputy Speaker Fredenil "Fred" H. Castro, and another Congressman.

Madam Speaker, why did that press release come about? Over the weekend, I attempted to contact the leadership of Kabayan Party-List because of a news report that our second nominee, Rep. Salo, who is seated over there, has been charged in court for estafa through falsification of public documents. The falsification had to do with the ₱3 billion-plus license plates procurement program, the very scandalous procurement that is responsible for why we do not have license plates until today. This is the reason why no one among us has a courtesy license plate bearing the number "8" - the supplier did not deliver them.

The *Philippine Star* reported that charges in court had been filed against Rep. Salo because he was responsible for falsifying the financial statements of the winning bidder in that contract. That is what the *Philippine Star* reported. I wanted the leadership to discuss the issue because I thought that a party that stood for noble ideas such as *kalusugan*, *pabahay*, and *kabuhayan* should be shielded from scandals such as this. Of course, Rep. Salo will claim presumption of innocence, but that does not detract from the fact that a panel



of prosecutors have found probable cause against him. Under the law, that means it has determined that a crime was probably committed and that Rep. Salo, our distinguished colleague, is responsible for that crime.

Records would indicate that in the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress, these anomalous license plates had already been investigated by this House. News stories indicate that Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte was particularly irked by the *palusot* of then Atty. Ron Salo. Why am I revealing this? It is not for purposes of washing dirty laundry in public. He did not when he issued that press release. That web page, I reiterate, has always been under his full control. He obviously wanted a counter-offensive in case the board of Kabayan Party-List should side with me that he should be replaced. Because unlike ordinary district congressmen, we have a fourth and a fifth nominee in our Party-List.

There is no reason why we should insist that one person who has been indicted in court for estafa through falsification, should continue to serve. Well, I might as well tell you the history.

Many of you will know that I do not even speak a word to our second nominee. And yet, those of you who campaigned in the last elections will know that single-handedly, I campaigned for Kabayan Party-List and I can pinpoint the names of Members of Congress who saw me in the campaign trail. He did not campaign on the pretext that his wife apparently had a critical pregnancy. Pagdating nga po sa pondo, nakakalap pa siya ng pondo. Alam ninyo ang ginawa noong filing ng Statement of Contributions and Expenditures (SOCE)? Hindi niya ginastos ang pera, humingi pa ng resibo sa akin para hindi niya kinailangang ibalik iyong dalawang milyong nakalap niya na hindi naman ginastos para sa eleksyon.

Am I not in the right position to question his continuance in Congress despite the fact that we have a fourth and fifth nominee? Oo nga pala po, saan nga ba nagsimula itong away namin? Alam po ninyo itong si Rep. Salo, estudyante ko naman po iyan sa UP College of Law. Hindi masyadong matalino pero natutuwa naman ako kasi mahilig sumipsip. Kaya nga po hindi masyadong mataas ang grade na binigay ko, pero hindi naman ho masyadong mababa. Humingi siya ng recommendation para sa isang scholarship; binigyan ko naman dahil nais ko na lahat ng estudyante ko ay makuha ang lahat ng puwede nilang makuha to further their academic careers.

Saan nagsimula ang hindi namin pagkasundo? Nadiskubre ko po kasi na iyong third nominee ng Kabayan Party-List na siya ang nag-sulat at siya ang nagpasok allegedly in exchange for valuable considerations, ay nadisiplina na ng Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP). Ang

apelyido po noong mama ay “Calanglang.” So, ang sabi ko, “How dare you make me run with a person who has a dubious background? Dapat iyan, noong nalaman mo na may kaso sa IBP, hindi mo na inilagay as third nominee.” Iyon pala po, only to find out ngayon dito sa report ng *Philippine Star*, iyong third nominee po niya ay co-defendant niya doon sa estafa through falsification of documents. Kaya naman pala hindi niya matanggal iyon as third nominee.

Iyon na po ang simula ng aming hidwaan. Matapos po manalo ang Kabayan Party-List nang hindi siya nagkampanya at hindi gumastos bagkus kumita pa, sinubukan pa niya ho akong sibakin. Paano po niya ginawa iyan? Siya po ay bumuo ng dubious board sa Kabayan Party-List. Iyon pong corporate secretary na pumirma ng aming certificate of nomination, tinanggal po niya iyon. Aba’y nagpatawag sya -- mantakin ninyo ha, propesor niya ako at ninong pa niya – ng board meeting sa bahay niya at sinabihan ako na pumunta ako doon. Tama ba iyon? At doon po pinalitan ang corporate secretary. At mabuti na lang po ay hindi niya masyadong binasa ang jurisprudence na kung saan may desisyon ang Korte Suprema na kapag nahalal na po ang isang party-list congressman ay hindi na po matatanggal.

At this point, Rep. Ron P. Salo sought recognition on a point of order.

#### **QUERY OF REP. ROQUE (H.)**

Rep. Roque inquired what House Rule had been violated.

#### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

On motion of Rep. Defensor, the session was suspended at 4:19 p.m.

#### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

The session resumed at 4:46 p.m.

#### **REP. ROQUE’S (H.) REMARKS STRICKEN FROM THE RECORDS**

Rep. Defensor then moved, in order to address the point of order raised by Rep. Salo and upon consultation with both Members concerned, to remove from the records the name of Rep. Salo and all references made to him in the question of privilege of Rep. Roque. There being no objection, the motion was carried.

Thereafter, on motion of Rep. Defensor, the Chair recognized Rep. Roque to continue with his question of privilege.

**QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE  
OF REP. ROQUE (H.)**  
(Continuation)

Madam Speaker, upon the request of our esteemed Majority Leader and upon the request of many of our colleagues, I will no longer proceed with the rest of my speech. I wish to highlight, though, the need to continue the investigation on the anomalous procurement by the Land Transportation Office of license plates and to make sure that all those responsible, high and mighty as they may be, will be meted the corresponding penalty because you and I are paying for the corrupt acts of the supplier of this botched license plates deal.

Thank you, Madam Speaker, and good evening.

**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

On motion of Rep. Defensor, the Chair suspended the session at 4:48 p.m.

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

The session resumed at 4:49 p.m.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS**

At this point, Rep. Defensor acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of guests of Reps. Conrado M. Estrella III and Virgilio S. Lacson as well as of Deputy Speaker Raneo "Ranie" E. Abu.

**THE PRIVILEGE HOUR**

The day being a Monday, on motion of Rep. Defensor, there being no objection, the Chair declared a Privilege Hour.

Thereafter, on motion of Rep. Defensor, the Chair recognized Rep. Salvador B. Belaro Jr. who delivered the following privilege speech:

**PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. BELARO**

The title of my speech is: "*Lawyers are Indispensable in the War Against Drugs.*"

Shakespeare's Henry VI was the origin of the now famous joke, "But first, let's kill all the lawyers." Apparently, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte has read it as he was quoted saying last week that he will set as next target in the drug war, the lawyers of drug lords.

Honorable colleagues, lawyers in this august Body as well as in the gallery, ladies and gentlemen:

The Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP), our national organization of lawyers, released a statement citing the President's pronouncement as very dangerous. Accordingly, if the President's statement will be taken as true, it will undermine the rule of law upon which our democracy is founded. According to the IBP, it also denigrates the constitutional right to counsel of every accused and the attendant right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty, as well as the right to a fair trial.

Ladies and gentlemen, this Representation understands exactly where that statement of the IBP is coming from. In fact, in this regard, our Party-List, 1-Ang Edukasyon, is with the legal community on this as we believe that lawyers are needed in ferreting out the truth in any event and in the espousal of critical thinking, which lawyers are supposed to input in any democratic process.

Honorable colleagues, I rise here before you as a member of the legal profession who has been practicing law for the past 20 years as a former College of Law Dean and a former Commissioner of Bar Discipline. I rise on this occasion to echo the alarm and grave concern the statement of the President has sent to the legal community. However, let us remember, as a basic premise, that lawyers are also officers of the court as it is their duty to help dispense the administration of justice.

It is in this regard that, with all due respect, this Representation appeals to the President to clarify his pronouncements if not reconsider them if such is indeed the intent.

In any case, this Representation would also like to appeal to the legal community not to take the statements of the President literally but to consider that they are only directed at errant lawyers who get waylaid from the pursuit of justice by allowing themselves to become their clients' accomplices in the obstruction of justice.

Likewise, ladies and gentlemen, I also would like to appeal to the general public to adopt the same attitude inasmuch as allowing ourselves to be engrossed by such pronouncements might be used by the enemies of the war on drugs to deflect the public from the gains that it has made so far. After all, nitpicking on it might lead us not to appreciate the gravity of the war on drugs. Recent statistics show that around five percent of the Philippine population or around four million Filipinos are already steeped into drugs. This is very worrisome,

ladies and gentlemen. The drug problem has already reached epidemic proportions and zeroing in on such statements waters down the urgency of acting on it.

I also would like to appeal to the members of the media, it being the fourth estate or the fourth branch of government as they call it. More than the aim of getting accurate reporting, I implore you, members of the media, to take the war on drugs on its entirety and not just on a piecemeal consideration of news relating to it, in order to suit slants which you think are newsworthy at the moment.

I also would like to take this opportunity to appeal to my colleagues in this august Body, that such an event should make us realize that now, more than ever, we need to rally as a people to solidify the war against drugs. This we can do by passing appropriate legislative measures that will not only strengthen the legal profession but will also further professionalize it so that all its members will be able to perform their solemn duty as officers of the court and as worthy representatives of the pursuit of justice. It is high time, ladies and gentlemen, that we review and amend the present law creating the Legal Education Board, to strengthen the IBP and even the Philippine Association of Law Schools so that we could count on our lawyers to become faithful to their oath.

Over time, lawyers have become the butt of jokes. We have been labeled as crocodiles, as vultures, or as leeches. But as a practitioner, we have been accustomed to it. The labeling or mislabeling is, after all, part of the job; or if you might want to call it, a hazard of the trade. But despite the jokes, the legal profession continues to thrive over the years, over time. In fact, if longevity is an indication of the stability of a profession, we have here one of the most stable as it also answers one of the indispensable needs in any society -- that of legal representation.

Let me tell you an anecdote, ladies and gentlemen. In the gates of heaven, three dead men were being screened by St. Peter before entering heaven or hell as the case may be. All the three men died because of a heated duel where the first two were combatants and the third one -- the lawyer -- died in the crossfire. St. Peter, being a man of wisdom, wanted to base his decision based on the evidence at hand. So he first asked the first man who was the culprit and this man pointed the second man, who, in turn, pointed to the first. When it was the lawyer's turn, he admitted -- to which the first two agreed -- that he was just caught in the crossfire. So what was St. Peter's verdict? St. Peter asked him who of the two is liable and the lawyer answered that he needs to talk to the other witnesses. That being the case, St. Pe-

ter detained the first and the second man in purgatory -- the place where a soul's final destination is yet to be determined -- and sent the lawyer back to earth to gather more evidence.

By way of closing, let me go back to my opening quotation of Shakespeare's "to kill all the lawyers." While it may sound as if it means what it states, experts in literature, in fact, are all agreed in interpreting it in a broader context. The context of that Shakespearean character is a revolution and the statement was meant to refer to all opponents of such revolution, and not just the lawyers. By analogy, ladies and gentlemen, let us not take the President's statements outside of the context of the war against drugs, the curbing of which is the revolution of our time. Begging your kind indulgence, ladies and gentlemen, so be it in the case of the President's comment to kill all the lawyers. In view of the national interest involved, it should be better interpreted as referring to all the enemies of the drug war who are not necessarily lawyers.

Thank you and good afternoon.

#### **REFERRAL OF REP. BELARO'S PRIVILEGE SPEECH**

On motion of Rep. Defensor, there being no objection, the Body referred Rep. Belaro's privilege speech to the Committee on Rules.

Subsequently, on motion of Rep. Defensor, the Chair recognized Rep. Emmi A. De Jesus who delivered the following privilege speech:

#### **PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. DE JESUS**

Madam Speaker, mga kasamang Kinatawan, ngayong Lunes, ika-12 ng Disyembre ay International Day Against Trafficking. Ginugunita sa araw na ito ang pagpirma ng Pilipinas at iba pang mga bansa na bulnerable sa human trafficking, sa Palermo Protocol o Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children ng United Nations sa Palermo, Italy noong 2000.

Ang human trafficking ay isa sa mga isyung malapit sa puso ng Gabriela Alliance at ng Gabriela Women's Party. Ang mga kaso ng sex trafficking ang ilan sa mga pinakaunang tinutukan ng Gabriela Alliance noong Dekada 80. Isa na rito ang kampanya laban sa PHILNOR, isa sa tatlong pinakamalalaking marriage bureaus sa Norway. Sa pamamagitan ng mga malawakang protesta sa Pilipinas at maging sa Norway, naipagbawal sa nasabing bansa ang paglalako ng mail-order brides.

Ang kaso naman ni Lisa Mamac na tumam-pok noong 1987 ay isa sa matagumpay na kampanya ng pagpapanagot sa mga sangkot sa sex trafficking. Pinangakuan na magiging receptionist si Lisa, sa halip ay naging sex worker sa iba't ibang club sa Netherlands. Sa suporta ng Gabriela Alliance at iba pang tagapagtaguyod ng hustisya para sa mga biktima ng human trafficking dito sa Pilipinas at sa Netherlands, nakasuhan at nakulong ang isang city fiscal at isang Dutch national. Mula noon, napakarami pang mga kaso ng human trafficking ang pinangunahan at sinuportahan ng Gabriela Alliance at ng Gabriela Women's Party.

Sa lumabas noong Hunyo na Trafficking in Persons Report ng United States (US) State Department para sa 2016, tumaas ang ranggo ng Pilipinas mula sa Tier 2 patungong Tier 1. Dahil ito umano sa pagpapaigting ng mga programa, pagdadagdag ng pondo para sa mga ahensya, at pagtrain sa mga empleyado ng gobyerno na may kinalaman sa paglaban sa human trafficking. Subalit, Madam Speaker, mga kasama sa Kongreso, hindi ito dapat ipakahulugan na bumaba na ang mga kaso ng sex at labor trafficking sa ating bansa.

Sa pagbubukas ng ika-17 Kongreso, ipinahayag ng Kinatawan ito ang pagkabahala sa posibleng pagsulpot ng bagong henerasyon ng Asian comfort women dahil sa pananatili ng military facilities at personnel ng Amerika sa South Korea. Ayon sa mga report, may mga Pilipinang desperadong makahanap ng trabaho sa Maynila ang na-engganyong mangibang-bansa at nabibigyan ng E6 visa para maging entertainers sa ating kapitbahay na bansa sa Asya. Pero sa halip na entertainer, sila ay ginagawang sex slaves sa mga "juicy bars" na nagseserbisyo sa mga sundalong Amerikano. Mismong ang US State Department sa report nito noong 2015 ang kumilala sa lumalaking problemang ito. Ayon sa report, to quote, "Foreign women on E6-2 entertainment visas—mostly from the Philippines, China and Kyrgyzstan— are subjected to forced prostitution in entertainment establishments near ports and US military bases."

Ang higit na nakakabahalang trend ng human trafficking sa kasalukuyan ay ang paggamit ng teknolohiya para sa tinatawag na cybersex trafficking kung saan malaking porsyento ng nagiging biktima ay mga bata. Kung maaalala natin ang eksperimentong isinagawa ng Dutch NGO na Terre des Hommes noong Abril hanggang Hunyo 2013 upang makatulong sa pagbibigay solusyon sa tinatawag nitong "webcam child sex tourism," may 20,000 na tao mula sa mahigit 70 na bansa partikular sa US, United Kingdom, at India, ang boluntaryong nagbayad ng malaking halaga upang makita

ang 10 taong gulang na si Sweetie -- isang computer-generated image lamang na iwinangis sa image ng isang batang Pilipino -- na magsasagawa ng iba't-ibang uri ng sex acts.

Sa tala pa rin ng US State Department, 80 porsyento ng mga biktima ng human trafficking sa Pilipinas ay mga batang babae na may edad 18 pababa. Tinatayang 60,000-100,000 na mga bata ang nasa sex industry, partikular sa cybersex. Sa report naman ng International Justice Mission sa UK Parliament noong April 2016, sinabi nito na bago ang panahon ng internet, isa lamang sa bawat 307 na biktima ng sex trafficking ang bata. Sa kasalukuyan, mahigit kalahati ng mga biktima ay 12 taon pababa.

Bakit nga ba hindi masugpu-sugpo ang human trafficking sa bansa? Bakit isa ito sa itinuturing na ikatlo sa "most profitable organized crimes in the world" na kumikita ng mahigit na USD30 bilyon yearly? Ayon sa Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking (IACAT) September 2016 report, mayroon pa lamang 265 convictions at 288 na indibidwal na naparusahan ng ahensya mula noong 2005. Ang mababang bilang na ito ang tila nang-e-engganyo sa mga masasamang loob na magpatuloy sa kanilang gawain. Umaasa ang Gabriela Women's Party na makatutulong ang pagdaragdag ng pondo at pagpapaigting ng mga programa ng gobyerno sa pagtaas sa bilang ng mga napapanagot na sangkot sa human trafficking.

Ngunit higit sa lahat, Madam Speaker, mga kasamang Kinatawan, upang masolusyunan ang human trafficking ay kailangan talaga nating tunin ano ang ugat nito.

Sa pinakahuling survey ng Social Weather Station na isinagawa nito lamang September, may 9.4 milyong Pilipino ang nagsasabing sila ay mahirap. May 5.4 porsyento pa rin ng populasyon ang unemployed at 17.3 percent naman ang underemployed. Patuloy pa rin at higit na lumalala ang kontraktwalisasyon at kawalan ng seguridad sa trabaho ng mga manggagawang Pilipino. Sa kasalukuyan, anim sa sampung manggagawa ang hindi regular, agency-hired, o di kaya ay nasa informal sectors. Halimbawa, sa service sector na siyang pinakamalaking sektor ng ekonomiya ng bansa, 80-90 percent ang kontraktwal. Talamak din ang kontraktwalisasyon sa Special Export Zones at Export Processing Zones na masugid na binebenta ng ating economic planners bilang daan tungo sa economic growth.

Ang minimum wage na tinatanggap ng may 16.5 milyong manggagawa o 24.6 porsyento ng total workforce para sa Metro Manila ay ₱491.00, sa Region 1 ay ₱243.00, sa Region 4A ay ₱378.00. Maliit kung tutuusin ang sahod na ito kumpara sa sinasabi ng Ibon Foundation na pangangailangan

ng family living wage habang limpak-limpak na tubo na ang naipasok ng mga manggagawa sa mga negosyante at kapitalista. Ang kawalang ito ng oportunidad na umasenso sa sariling bansa ang nagtutulak sa ating mga kababayan na mangibang-bayan at naglalagay sa kanila sa higit na panganib upang mabiktima ng human trafficking.

Madam Speaker, mga kapwa kong mga kasamahan dito sa Kongreso, ngayong Anti-Human Trafficking Day ay muling nananawagan ang Gabriela Women's Party na higit nating pag-ibayuhin ang pagwawakas sa human trafficking na bumibiktima sa ating mga kababaihan at bata. Maliban sa pagpapatupad ng batas at sa pagpapanagot sa mga sangkot dito, kailangang solusyonan ang mga ugat nito: eradication of poverty, wakasan ang kahirapan, itaas ang sahod at benepisyong mga manggagawa, itigil ang kontraktwalisasyon at bigyan ng kasiguraduhan sa trabaho ang bawat Pilipino, at wakasan na ang labor export policy at gumawa ng trabaho sa loob ng bansa.

Bilang pagwawakas, Madam Speaker, kinikilala ko ang presensya ng kinatawan ng Migrante Internationale na nasa plenary ngayon at nagtutulak ng mga patakaran para sa kagalingan ng ating mga kababayan para hindi na mangibang-bayan.

Maraming salamat sa inyong pakikinig at magandang gabi po sa ating lahat.

#### **REFERRAL OF REP. DE JESUS' PRIVILEGE SPEECH**

On motion of Rep. Defensor, there being no objection, the Body referred Rep. De Jesus' privilege speech to the Committee on Rules.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS**

At this point, Rep. Defensor acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Reps. Tom S. Villarin and Edcel C. Lagman.

Likewise, Rep. Defensor acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the American Council of Young Political Leaders, Washington D.C., who were guests of Speaker Pantaleon D. Alvarez, Deputy Speaker Romero "Miro" S. Quimbo and Rep. Joey Sarte Salceda.

#### **SUSPENSION OF THE PRIVILEGE HOUR**

Subsequently, on motion of Rep. Defensor, the Body suspended the Privilege Hour.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Thereafter, on motion of Rep. Defensor, there being no objection, the Chair directed the Secretary General to call the Roll and the following Members were present:

Abaya  
Abayon  
Abellanosa  
Abu  
Abueg  
Acop  
Acosta  
Acosta-Alba  
Advincula  
Agarao  
Aggabao  
Aglipay-Villar  
Albano  
Alejano  
Almario  
Almonte  
Alonte-Naguiat  
Alvarez (F.)  
Alvarez (P.)  
Amatong  
Angara-Castillo  
Antonino  
Antonio  
Aragones  
Arcillas  
Arenas  
Atienza  
Aumentado  
Bagatsing  
Baguilat  
Banal  
Barzaga  
Bataoil  
Batocabe  
Bautista-Bandigan  
Belaro  
Belmonte (F.)  
Belmonte (J.C.)  
Bernos  
Bertiz  
Billones  
Biron  
Bolilia  
Bondoc  
Bordado  
Bravo (A.)  
Bravo (M.V.)  
Brosas  
Bulut-Begtang

Cagas	Fortuno
Calderon	Fuentebella
Calixto-Rubiano	Garbin
Campos	Garcia (G.)
Canama	Garcia (J.E.)
Casilao	Garcia-Albano
Castelo	Garin (R.)
Castro (F.L.)	Garin (S.)
Castro (F.H.)	Gasataya
Catamco	Geron
Cayetano	Go (M.)
Celeste	Gomez
Ceramica	Gonzaga
Cerilles	Gonzales (A.P.)
Chipeco	Gonzales (A.D.)
Co	Gonzalez
Cojuangco	Gorriceta
Collantes	Hernandez
Cortes	Herrera-Dy
Cortuna	Hofer
Cosalan	Javier
Crisologo	Kho
Cua	Labadlabad
Cuaresma	Lacson
Cueva	Lagman
Dalipe	Lanete
Dalog	Laogan
Daza	Lazatin
De Jesus	Leachon
De Venecia	Lee
De Vera	Limkaichong
Defensor	Lobregat
Del Mar	Lopez (B.)
Del Rosario	Lopez (C.)
Deloso-Montalla	Lopez (M.L.)
Dimaporo (M.K)	Macapagal-Arroyo
Durano	Maceda
Dy	Madrona
Elago	Malapitan
Enverga	Manalo
Erice	Mangaoang
Eriguel	Mangudadatu (S.)
Ermita-Buhain	Marcoleta
Escudero	Marcos
Espina	Mariño
Espino	Marquez
Estrella	Martinez
Eusebio	Matugas
Evardone	Mellana
Fariñas	Mendoza
Fernando	Mercado
Ferrer (J.)	Mirasol
Ferrer (L.)	Montoro
Ferriol-Pascual	Nava
Floirendo	Nieto
Fortun	Noel

Nograles (J.J.)  
 Nograles (K.A.)  
 Nolasco  
 Nuñez-Malanyaon  
 Ong (E.)  
 Ortega (P.)  
 Ortega (V.N.)  
 Pacquiao  
 Paduano  
 Palma  
 Pancho  
 Panganiban  
 Panotes  
 Pichay  
 Pimentel  
 Pineda  
 Plaza  
 Primicias-Agabas  
 Quimbo  
 Radaza  
 Ramos  
 Relampagos  
 Roa-Puno  
 Rocamora  
 Rodriguez (I.)  
 Rodriguez (M.)  
 Roman  
 Romero  
 Romualdez  
 Romualdo  
 Roque (H.)  
 Roque (R.)  
 Sacdalan  
 Sagarbarria  
 Salo  
 Salon  
 Sambar  
 Sandoval  
 Santos-Recto  
 Sarmiento (E.M.)  
 Savellano  
 Siao  
 Singson  
 Suansing (E.)  
 Suarez  
 Sy-Alvarado  
 Tambunting  
 Tan (A.)  
 Tan (M.)  
 Tejada  
 Teves  
 Tiangco  
 Tinio  
 Tolentino  
 Tugna  
 Turabin-Hataman

Ty  
 Umali  
 Unabia  
 Ungab  
 Uy (J.)  
 Uy (R.)  
 Vargas  
 Velarde  
 Velasco  
 Velasco-Catera  
 Veloso  
 Vergara  
 Villafuerte  
 Villanueva  
 Villaraza-Suarez  
 Villarica  
 Villarin  
 Violago  
 Yap (A.)  
 Yap (M.)  
 Yap (V.)  
 Yu  
 Zarate  
 Zubiri

With 241 Members responding to the Call, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum. (See also Appendix 1)

#### **ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS**

Thereupon, Rep. Defensor acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of guests of Reps. Sabiniano S. Canama and Anthony M. Bravo, Ph.D.

#### **CHANGE OF REFERRAL OF CERTAIN MEASURES**

On motion of Rep. Defensor, there being no objection, the Body changed the referral of the following measures:

1. House Bill No. 1534 – from the Committee on Higher and Technical Education to the Committee on Civil Service and Professional Regulation;
2. House Bill No. 1830 – from the Committee on Higher and Technical Education to the Committee on Basic Education and Culture;
3. House Bill No. 1885 – from the Committee on Higher and Technical Education to the Committee on Local Government;

4. House Bills No. 1710 and 2768 – from the Committee on Higher and Technical Education to the Committee on Government Enterprises and Privatization;
5. House Bill No. 1181 – from the Committee on Basic Education and Culture to the Committee on Appropriations;
6. House Bill No. 3586 – from the Committee on Health to the Committee on Higher and Technical Education;
7. House Bill No. 3658 – from the Committee on Health to the Committees on Civil Service and Professional Regulation, and Health;
8. House Bill No. 3810 – from the Committee on Health to the Committee on Trade and Industry; and
9. House Resolutions No. 444 and 480 – from the Committee on Health to the Committees on Good Government and Public Accountability, and Health.

#### **RESUMPTION OF THE PRIVILEGE HOUR**

On motion of Rep. Defensor, there being no objection, the Body resumed the Privilege Hour and thereafter, the Chair recognized Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr. who delivered the following speech:

#### **PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. BORDADO**

Madam Speaker. Magandang hapon po sa lahat.

Madam Speaker, it is now December 12, just 13 days before Christmas. Some keen observers, though, assert that for most Filipinos, Christmas unofficially starts in September, the first of the so-called “ber” months.

Underscoring our fondness for and emotional attachment to the season celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, that is not at all surprising because Christmas is supposed to be the season of love, peace, and unity, I therefore find the pronouncement made by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte during the traditional lighting ceremonies of the Christmas tree in Malacañang as immensely inspiring in the context of the current season. Madam Speaker, let me quote what the President said, “I plead for unity of the country that we shall be freed from menial work. I plead for peace so

that citizens can move around any time of the day, and I ask everybody in the government that together we stop corruption.”

Madam Speaker, let me assure the President of the Republic of the Philippines that I and -- I am certain -- all of us here in the House of Representatives will support his quest for peace, unity, and a corruption-free government. I dare say however, that such a quest should be underpinned by justice and especially love. For with love, Madam Speaker, everything falls into place. In fact, Christmas -- the season we Filipinos have been looking forward to -- is the very embodiment of divine love.

So, Madam Speaker, let every day be Christmas day in the Philippines.

God bless the President. God bless the Vice President who is also calling for peace and unity. God bless us all. Merry Christmas.

Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

#### **REFERRAL OF REP. BORDADO’S PRIVILEGE SPEECH**

Thereupon, on motion of Rep. Defensor, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Rep. Bordado to the Committee on Rules.

Thereafter, on further motion of Rep. Defensor, the Chair recognized Rep. Ariel “Ka Ayik” B. Casilao who delivered the following privilege speech:

#### **PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. CASILAO**

My speech will be about this early morning’s incidence of a violent dispersal of a legitimate protest of landowners and agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) in Tagum, Davao del Norte; and I would also like to denounce the violence committed against agricultural workers of Tagum, Davao del Norte by the armed guards of the Lorenzo Lapanday Corporation.

Honorable Speaker, mga kapwa Mambabatas, today is an enraging day for farmers and agricultural workers who are fighting for their rights to land and aspiring for genuine agrarian reform in this country. Earlier this morning, the armed security guards of the Lapanday Food Corporation under the ACD Investigation Security Agency (ACDISA) opened fired at protesting agricultural workers under the Madaum Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Association, Incorporated (MARBAI), who are demanding the return of their 145-hectare lands that were covered by an agri-business venture agreement with Lapanday Inc.



We all know that Lapanday Inc. is owned by the Lorenzo family, fronted by former Agriculture Secretary Luis "Cito" Lorenzo. Its armed-to-the-teeth private army wounded seven agricultural workers and farmers, namely: Messrs. Jose Balucos, Emmanuel Buladaco, Belardo Francisco, Jojo Gomez, Talban Miparanun, and a certain Rico. They were all brought to the regional hospital in Tagum City, Davao del Norte. We, from Party-List Anakpawis, totally denounce this feudal arrogance of the Lorenzos, who think that with their money, influence, and armed goons, they could do everything to protect their interests on the land at the cost of outright abuses against agricultural farmers and workers.

The atrocity was the repression of some 2,000 agricultural workers and farmers who assembled since the day before the commemoration of the 66th International Human Rights Day last December 10, 2016, and who cried for their rights to their land. Their 145-hectare lands were formerly part of the Hijo plantation and were covered by the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP), and the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) promoted its coverage with an agri-business agreement with Lapanday Inc. in 1998. After more than a decade, the ARBs realized the inequity of the agreement and pushed for the individual distribution of the lands, which the DAR ordered on June 21, 2010 thru DAR Region XI Director Dayu Yusoph Mama in Case No. A-1100-0303-09. Naturally, Lapanday Inc. opposed this order, which led to a Davao City Regional Trial Court (RTC) case with a decision favoring the agricultural workers in April 2011.

Ngayong 2016, mula nang iutos ng DAR na ipamahagi ang lupa sa mga agricultural workers at magsasaka, mahigpit pa rin ang kontrol ng Lapanday Inc. sa lupa. Noong Oktubre, nag-commit din si Secretary Rafael "Ka Paeng" V. Mariano na ipamahagi ito. Sa kabila ng mga legal basis na pumapabor sa mga agricultural workers, ang mga Lorenzo ay umaaktong feudal lord, gamit mismo ang armadong goons nila upang supilin ang mga agricultural workers at magsasaka sa pagbawi ng kanilang lupa.

We blame this injustice on the preservation of a feudal set up in the countryside and on the bankruptcy of the CARP.

Bago at pagkatapos ng putukan sa mga magsasaka at ang mga agricultural workers kaninang umaga, pilit at sadyang inis-spray-an sila ng mga kemikal para buwagin ang kanilang assemblya.

I, as Representative of Party-List Anakpawis— an advocate against victims of rights violations and an advocate for land and livelihood—urge the

House of Representatives to investigate this phenomenon, seek justice for the victims, and hold the Lorenzo family accountable. I urge the Members of the House to join my call.

I am also demanding the immediate disbanding of the private armed group of Lapanday Inc. which is the main perpetrator of this violation.

Since the start, we are appealing to President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, to realize land and justice primarily for the benefit of the marginalized, oppressed, and exploited peasant class in the country. We appeal to the leadership of the House to work around these ideals for the attainment of fundamental reforms in our country.

Nagpapatuloy pa rin po ang tensyon sa kasalukuyan. Nandoon na ang mga kapulisan; ngunit dahil sa patuloy na pangha-harass ng mga private armed goons sa ngalan ng ACDISA, hina-hunting ang mga lider at maging ang mga aktibong kalahok sa assemblyang iyan at patuloy silang tina-target ng mga armed goons na ito.

Justice for the agricultural worker-victims of Lapanday Incorporated! Land and justice now!

Maraming salamat, Madam Speaker. Magandang hapon, maayong hapon kaninyong tanan.

### **REFERRAL OF REP. CASILAO'S PRIVILEGE SPEECH**

Thereupon, on motion of Rep. Defensor, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Rep. Casilao to the Committee on Rules.

On motion of Rep. Defensor, there being no objection, the Chair next recognized Rep. Virgilio S. Lacson who delivered the following privilege speech:

### **PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. LACSON**

Madam Speaker, distinguished colleagues, fellow public servants, ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon.

I rise to express this Representation's regret and disappointment over the refusal of the Commission on Higher Education's (CHED) Chairperson to submit her courtesy resignation despite the numerous calls demanding her to leave office, from various student organizations and even from President Rodrigo Roa Duterte.

Madam Speaker, public officers, elective or appointive, along with all civil servants in the government bureaucracy, serve under the maxim of public office is a public trust, as enshrined in our Constitution. With President Duterte receiving the

mandate from the people who have forwarded their utmost trust and confidence in his leadership, it is then imperative for the President, as he is accountable, to effectively delivering his promised change to the lives of the Filipino people.

For these reasons, Madam Speaker, it is the humble opinion of this Representation that for the President to be successful in his endeavor to translate his promises into reality, members of the Executive must have the fullest trust and confidence of the President in helping him to achieve national objectives and effectively run the government.

Madam Speaker, Chairperson Patricia Licuanan failed to tender her courtesy resignation despite the issuance of President Duterte through Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea, of Memorandum Circular No. 4, asking for the courtesy resignation of all appointees of the previous administration to get rid of corruption in the bureaucracy and to enable the President to choose officials that he deemed fit in helping him achieve his policies. Recently, Chairperson Licuanan has also been given orders to desist in joining Cabinet meetings. Chairperson Licuanan, in response to these developments, still remains adamant to keep her position in the CHED.

Madam Speaker, without prejudice to the law that gives Chairperson Licuanan her security of tenure in office as a cabinet official and one of the most vital agencies in government, she serves at the pleasure of the President. As I have mentioned earlier in my premise, members of the Executive must have the fullest trust and confidence of the President in helping him achieve national objectives and effectively run the government. It is my opinion that the President has lost his confidence in the capabilities of Chairperson Licuanan; therefore, out of delicadeza, CHED Chairperson should and must resign.

Madam Speaker, the President is not alone in pressing Chairperson Licuanan to resign. Student organizations such as the National Union of Students of the Philippines join the call for the resignation of Chairperson Licuanan as she has been accused of being anti-student and pro-capitalist for supporting increases in tuition and other school fees.

The CHED under her chairmanship approved for academic year 2016-2017, the application for tuition and other school fees increases of 304 schools.

She was also quoted as telling students not to pursue college and instead just finish technical-vocational courses to satisfy the global demands for cheap labor, thus effectively discouraging students from pursuing higher education. In fact, the CHED released a memorandum that dictates that undergraduate students who stopped schooling are only

given until academic year 2017-2018 to finish their bachelor's degrees; otherwise, the Outcomes-Based Education Curriculum and the Revised General Education Curriculum to be completed will entail them to go to senior high school first.

Furthermore, to this Representation's utter dismay, Madam Speaker, the CHED was allotted in 2014, ₱5.2 billion in appropriations to help 391,817 poor college students -- nearly 10 times more than the usual number of beneficiaries -- through scholarships, grants and loans. However, the Commission on Audit (COA) reported that ₱1.23 billion of the amount was unspent because CHED was not able to absorb its allocation due to its faulty implementation of student assistance programs and several internal control weaknesses. The deficiencies of the CHED based on the COA report, are as follows: (1) excess, double or multiple payments made to 703 students, totaling ₱3.44 million; (2) cash advances of ₱108 million which cannot be verified to have been received by the beneficiaries; (3) delayed releases of allowances by up to 14 months to at least 25,442 students; and (4) checks worth ₱9.3 million that were not claimed because the beneficiaries were not notified.

Madam Speaker, with the inefficiencies as well as the inconsistencies of the CHED under the chairmanship of Dr. Licuanan to the new order of governance under President Duterte, I sincerely believe that CHED Chairperson Licuanan must resign from her post as the head of an agency that is created by law for the attainment of the higher education of the citizenry.

She has lost the confidence not only of the President but of the public she serves. This standstill between her and the President may only do more harm than good if it lingers. To prolong the rift between her and the President will definitely compromise her office's delivery of services to various stakeholders which will imperil the whole higher education system in the Philippines.

Madam Speaker, my colleagues in the Legislature, I am filing a resolution for the resignation of CHED Chairperson Licuanan. I enjoin everyone to support the call for Chairperson Licuanan to step down from office. Let us support the President's advocacies to deliver quality and responsive higher education systems to the people by giving him the opportunity and avenues to appoint officials whom he trusts fully and is confident to work with. Let us support him to get rid of the status quo in the bureaucracy for the realization of national progress and for the greater good of the country and the Filipino people.

Thank you Madam Speaker, and my dear colleagues.

**REFERRAL OF REP. LACSON'S  
PRIVILEGE SPEECH**

On motion of Rep. Defensor, there being no objection, the Body referred Rep. Lacson's privilege speech to the Committee on Rules.

**TERMINATION OF THE PRIVILEGE HOUR**

On motion of Rep. Defensor, there being no objection, the Body terminated the Privilege Hour.

**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

On further motion of Rep. Defensor, the session was suspended at 5:50 p.m.

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

The session resumed at 6:32 p.m.

**ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

Upon resumption of session, on motion of Rep. Defensor, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the Additional Reference of Business.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read the following Committee Reports which were referred to the Committee on Rules:

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Report by the Committee on Public Works and Highways (Committee Report No. 44), re H.B. No. 2785, entitled:

“AN ACT RENAMING THE WAWA ROAD AT BARANGAY SAN RAFAEL, MUNICIPALITY OF RODRIGUEZ, PROVINCE OF RIZAL, AS GENERAL LICERIO I. GERONIMO HIGHWAY”

recommending its approval without amendment

Sponsors: Representatives Lobregat and Rodriguez (I.)

Report by the Committee on Public Works and Highways (Committee Report No. 45), re H.B. No. 4660, entitled:

“AN ACT NAMING THE BY-PASS ROAD STRETCHING FROM BARANGAY 47 TO BARANGAY BUYON BACARRA, CITY OF LAOAG, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE AS THE RODOLFO G. FARIÑAS JR. BY-PASS ROAD”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 7

Sponsors: Representatives Lobregat and Quimbo

**ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION**

Thereupon, on motion of Rep. Defensor, there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until four o'clock in the afternoon of Tuesday, December 13, 2016.

It was 6:33 p.m.

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I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. CESAR S. PAREJA**  
Secretary General

Approved on December 13, 2016

Congress of the Philippines  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City, Philippines

**MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE****Date: December 12, 2016**

**** ABAD	* BELMONTE (R.)	DEFENSOR
ABAYA	* BENITEZ	DEL MAR
ABAYON	BERNOS	DEL ROSARIO
ABELLANOSA	BERTIZ	DELOSO-MONTALLA
ABU	**** BIAZON	**** DIMAPORO (A.)
ABUEG	BILLONES	**** DIMAPORO (M.K.)
**** ACHARON	BIRON	**** DUAVIT
ACOP	BOLILIA	DURANO
ACOSTA	BONDOC	DY
ACOSTA-ALBA	BORDADO	ELAGO
* ADIONG	BRAVO (A.)	ENVERGA
ADVINCULA	BRAVO (M.V.)	ERICE
AGARAO	BROSAS	ERIGUEL
AGGABAO	BULUT-BEGTANG	ERMITA-BUHAIN
AGLIPAY-VILLAR	CAGAS	ESCUDERO
ALBANO	CALDERON	ESPINA
* ALCALA	CALIXTO-RUBIANO	ESPINO
ALEJANO	**** CAMINERO	ESTRELLA
ALMARIO	CAMPOS	EUSEBIO
ALMONTE	CANAMA	EVARDONE
ALONTE	**** CARI	FARIÑAS
ALVAREZ (F.)	CASILAO	FERNANDO
**** ALVAREZ (M.)	CASTELO	FERRER (J.)
ALVAREZ (P.)	CASTRO (F.L.)	FERRER (L.)
* AMANTE	CASTRO (F.H.)	FERRIOL-PASCUAL
AMATONG	CATAMCO	FLOIRENDO
**** ANDAYA	CAYETANO	**** FLORES
ANGARA-CASTILLO	CELESTE	FORTUN
ANTONINO	CERAFICA	FORTUNO
ANTONIO	CERILLES	FUENTEBELLA
ARAGONES	* CHAVEZ	GARBIN
* ARBISON	CHIPECO	GARCIA (G.)
ARCILLAS	CO	GARCIA (J.E.)
ARENAS	COJUANGCO	GARCIA-ALBANO
ATIENZA	COLLANTES	GARIN (R.)
AUMENTADO	CORTES	GARIN (S.)
**** BAG-AO	CORTUNA	GASATAYA
BAGATSING	COSALAN	*** GATCHALIAN
BAGUILAT	CRISOLOGO	GERON
BANAL	CUA	* GO (A.C.)
***** BARBERS	CUARESMA	GO (M.)
BARZAGA	CUEVA	GOMEZ
BATAOIL	DALIPE	GONZAGA
BATOCABE	DALOG	GONZALES (A.P.)
BAUTISTA-BANDIGAN	DAZA	GONZALES (A.D.)
BELARO	DE JESUS	GONZALEZ
BELMONTE (F.)	DE VENECIA	GORRICETA
BELMONTE (J.C.)	DE VERA	* GULLAS

HERNANDEZ	* OLIVAREZ	SINGSON
HERRERA-DY	ONG (E.)	SUANSING (E.)
HOFER	**** ONG (H.)	* SUANSING (H.)
* JALOSJOS	ORTEGA (P.)	SUAREZ
JAVIER	ORTEGA (V.N.)	SY-ALVARADO
KHO	PACQUIAO	TAMBUNTING
**** KHONGHUN	PADUANO	TAN (A.)
LABADLABAD	PALMA	TAN (M.)
LACSON	PANCHO	* TAN (S.)
LAGMAN	PANGANIBAN	TEJADA
LANETE	PANOTES	TEVES
LAOGAN	* PAPANDAYAN	TIANGCO
LAZATIN	PICHAY	* TING
LEACHON	PIMENTEL	TINIO
LEE	PINEDA	TOLENTINO
LIMKAICHONG	PLAZA	*** TREÑAS
LOBREGAT	PRIMICIAS-AGABAS	TUGNA
LOPEZ (B.)	QUIMBO	* TUPAS
LOPEZ (C.)	RADAZA	TURABIN-HATAMAN
LOPEZ (M.L.)	*** RAMIREZ-SATO	TY
** LOYOLA	RAMOS	UMALI
MACAPAGAL-ARROYO	RELAMPAGOS	UNABIA
MACEDA	* REVILLA	UNGAB
MADRONA	ROA-PUNO	* UNICO
MALAPITAN	* ROBES	UY (J.)
MANALO	ROCAMORA	UY (R.)
MANGAOANG	RODRIGUEZ (I.)	* UYBARRETA
MANGUDADATU (S.)	RODRIGUEZ (M.)	VARGAS
* MANGUDADATU (Z.)	ROMAN	**** VARGAS-ALFONSO
MARCOLETA	ROMERO	VELARDE
MARCOS	ROMUALDEZ	VELASCO
MARIÑO	ROMUALDO	VELASCO-CATERA
MARQUEZ	ROQUE (H.)	VELOSO
MARTINEZ	ROQUE (R.)	VERGARA
MATUGAS	SACDALAN	VILLAFUERTE
MELLANA	SAGARBARRIA	VILLANUEVA
**** MENDING	* SAHALI	VILLARAZA-SUAREZ
MENDOZA	* SALCEDA	VILLARICA
MERCADO	*** SALIMBANGON	VILLARIN
MIRASOL	SALO	VIOLAGO
MONTORO	SALON	YAP (A.)
NAVA	SAMBAR	YAP (M.)
NIETO	SANDOVAL	YAP (V.)
NOEL	SANTOS-RECTO	YU
NOGRALES (J.J.)	** SARMIENTO (C.)	**** ZAMORA (M.C.)
NOGRALES (K.A.)	SARMIENTO (E.M.)	*** ZAMORA (R.)
NOLASCO	SAVELLANO	ZARATE
NUÑEZ-MALANYAON	* SEMA	ZUBIRI
* OAMINAL	SIAO	
* OCAMPO	***** SILVERIO	

\* Appeared before/after Roll Call

\*\* On official mission

\*\*\* Attended meetings of CA/HRET/Conference Committee/Committee meetings authorized by Committee on Rules

\*\*\*\* Officially notified the House, through the Secretariat, of their absence

\*\*\*\*\* Absent without notice

(Subject to correction/s that may appear in the Annual Journal)