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CALL TO ORDER

At 4:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Mylene J. Garcia-Albano 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.

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

On successive motions of Representative Aurelio “Dong” D. Gonzales Jr., there being no objection, the Body deferred the calling of the Roll and the approval of the Journal of the previous session.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

Likewise, on motion of Rep. Gonzales (A.D.), 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 a Subpoena *Duces Tecum*, which were referred to the appropriate Committees as hereunder indicated:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 4880, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING AND MAINSTREAMING PAYMENT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES (PES) IN POLICY AND INVESTMENT PROGRAMS”

By Representative Panganiban

TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4881, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING EXEMPTION TO ESTATE TAX TO THE ESTATE OF DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE WHO DIE IN SERVICE AND AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE PROVISIONS OF RA 8424”

By Representative Gatchalian

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4882, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE MALICIOUS DISSEMINATION OF FALSE INFORMATION OR THE WILLFUL MAKING OF ANY THREAT CONCERNING BOMBS, EXPLOSIVES OR ANY SIMILAR DEVICE OR MEANS OF DESTRUCTION AND IMPOSING PENALTIES THEREFOR”

By Representative Sy-Alvarado

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

House Bill No. 4883, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROTECTION OF THE PHILIPPINE HANDLOOM WEAVING INDUSTRY”

By Representative Sy-Alvarado

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 4884, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE DEPARTMENT FOR CULTURE AND THE ARTS, STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR CULTURE AND THE ARTS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Sy-Alvarado

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4885, entitled:

“AN ACT PRESERVING THE COUNTRY'S TRADITIONAL FOLK ARTS AS PART OF ITS INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8492, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'NATIONAL MUSEUM ACT OF 1998' AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Sy-Alvarado

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4886, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A UNIFIED HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT FUND AND A CENTRALIZED HOME FINANCING PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7835, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'COMPREHENSIVE AND INTEGRATED SHELTER FINANCING ACT (CISFA) OF 1994' ”

By Representative Macapagal-Arroyo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 4887, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE BULACAN STATE UNIVERSITY – SAN RAFAEL CAMPUS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN RAFAEL, PROVINCE OF BULACAN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Silverio

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4888, entitled:

“AN ACT INTRODUCING ADMINISTRATIVE TAX REFORMS, AMENDING SECTIONS 6, 21, 22, 50, 51, 52, 74, 76, 109, 112, 114, 116, 128 AND 245 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8424 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997', AS AMENDED, AND SECTION 5 OF REPUBLIC ACT 9335 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'ATTRITION ACT OF 2005' ”

By Representative Salceda

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4889, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING PRIVILEGES TO STUDENTS AT ALL LEVELS IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS”

By Representatives Batocabe, Garbin and Co

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

House Bill No. 4890, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR THE YOUTH AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Batocabe, Garbin and Co

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

House Bill No. 4891, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING TRANSPORTATION NETWORK SERVICES, IMPOSING AND AUTHORIZING FEES, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Batocabe, Garbin and Co

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4892, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE VIRTUAL ONE STOP SHOP FOR THE PURPOSE OF STREAMLINING THE PERMITTING PROCESS OF POWER GENERATION PROJECTS”

By Representatives Batocabe, Garbin and Co

TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Bill No. 4893, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE ENERGY RESEARCH AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE, DEFINING ITS OBJECTIVES, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Batocabe, Garbin and Co

TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Bill No. 4894, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Garin (S.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4897, entitled:

“AN ACT PROTECTING LOCAL PUBLIC MARKETS”

By Representative Atienza

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4898, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9006, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FAIR ELECTIONS ACT”

By Representative Fariñas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

House Bill No. 4899, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Castelo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 4900, entitled:

“AN ACT INTERDICTING UNAUTHORIZED DISPOSITION OF HUMAN CORPSES BY INDIVIDUALS, CREMATORIUM OR FUNERAL PARLORS AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Castelo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4901, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160 FOR THE PURPOSE OF INCLUDING MUNICIPAL WATERS IN THE COMPUTATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT'S INTERNAL REVENUE ALLOTMENT”

By Representative Relampagos

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4902, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A FULL TUITION SUBSIDY FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES (SUCs), AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF”

By Representative Tupas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 733, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING MS. PIA ALONZO WURTZBACH FOR HER OUTSTANDING REIGN AS MS. UNIVERSE AND BEING A SOURCE OF CONTINUED PRIDE FOR FILIPINOS”

By Representative Tiangco

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 734, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING MARIA MIKA MAXINE MEDINA FOR BEING AMONG THE TOP FINALISTS IN THE 2017 MISS UNIVERSE PAGEANT”

By Representative Tiangco

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 735, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION CALLING ON THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES, PARTICULARLY THE MINES AND GEOSCIENCES BUREAU, TO REPORT ON THE STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY OF THE DAMS, TUNNELS, AND OTHER FACILITIES CONSTRUCTED BY THE MARCOPPER MINING CORPORATION”

By Representative Velasco

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 736, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AND ENDORSING THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF THE PHILIPPINES' (NAP) POSSESSION AND USE OF THE INTENDENCIA BUILDING IN INTRAMUROS TO HOUSE ITS SPANISH RECORDS AND TO SERVE AS NAP'S HEADQUARTERS”

By Representatives Escudero, Defensor, Go (M.), Ferrer J., Salo, Bolilia, Bordado, Ortega (P.), Gonzaga, Ramos, Cortuna, Suansing (E.) and Tan (A.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Resolution No. 737, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM FOR SPEAR-HEADING THE WELL-PLANNED, COORDINATED, AND EXECUTED HOSTING OF THE 2016 MISS UNIVERSE PAGEANT”

By Representative Rocamora

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Resolution No. 738, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING MAXINE MEDINA FOR HER PERFORMANCE DURING THE 65TH MISS UNIVERSE BEAUTY PAGEANT HELD AT THE MALL OF ASIA ARENA IN PASAY CITY LAST JANUARY 30, 2017”

By Representative Bataoil

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 739, entitled:

“RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE OUTSTANDING YOUNG MEN (TOYM) AWARDEES OF 2016”

By Representatives Tiangco and Quimbo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

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

Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr. for House Bills No. 4107, 4689, and 4742, and House Resolution No. 701;

Rep. Lianda B. Bolilia for House Bills No. 4273 and 4742;

Rep. Joseph Sto. Niño B. Bernos for House Bills No. 285, 1554, 1555, 1667, 1668, 1669, 1670, 1671, 1672, 1675, 1677, 1678, 1679, 1680, 1681, 1682, 1683, 1853, 1858, 1859, 2141, 2228, 2234, 2235, 2236, 3113, 3130, 3133, 3134, 3234, 3319, 3457, 3458, 3459, 3543, 3556, 3557, 3632, 3708, 3709, 3819, 3820, 3821, 3822, 3823, 3824, 3826, 3827, 3828, 3829, 3931, 4153, 4154, 4155, 4174, 4273, 4570, 4571, 4689, and 4742;

Rep. Jose Antonio "Kuya Jonathan" R. Sy-Alvarado for House Bills No. 1875, 3017, 3268, 3270, 3553, 4084, 4805, 4806, 4812, and 4821;

Rep. Pedro B. Acharon Jr. for House Bill No. 2635;

Rep. Gil "Kabarangay" P. Acosta for House Bill No. 4742 and House Resolution No. 198;

Reps. Francisco Jose F. Matugas II, Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Winston "Winnie" Castelo, Aniceto "John" D. Bertiz III, and Benjamin C. Agarao Jr. for House Bill No. 4689;

Reps. Roger G. Mercado, Winston "Winnie" Castelo, Francisco Jose F. Matugas II, Teodoro "Ted" G. Montoro, Jose Antonio "Kuya Jonathan" R. Sy-Alvarado, Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Scott Davies S. Lanete, M.D., Cecilia Leonila V. Chavez, Benjamin C. Agarao Jr., Reynaldo V. Umali, Alex "AA" L. Advincula, Elisa "Olga" T. Kho, and Arnel M. Cerafica for House Bill No. 4742;

Rep. Arnulfo P. Fuentesbella for House Bills No. 1859, 4689, and 4742;

Rep. Jose "Pingping" I. Tejada for House Bill No. 4800;

Rep. Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento for House Bill No. 3010;

Rep. Carlito S. Marquez for House Bills No. 4689 and 4800;

Reps. Alejandro Y. Mirasol and Romeo M. Acop for House Bill No. 4174;

Rep. Maria Vida Espinosa Bravo for House Bills No. 2397, 3466, 3677, 3691, 3793, and 3837;

Rep. Eleanor C. Bulut-Begtang for House Bills No. 2318, 2319, 2474, 2953, and 3650;

Rep. Celso L. Lobregat for House Bill No. 4820;

Rep. Harlin Neil J. Abayon III for House Bill No. 4767;

Reps. Salvador B. Belaro Jr., Benjamin C. Agarao Jr., and Roger G. Mercado for House Resolution No. 198;

Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate for House Bill No. 2798; and

Reps. Lorna P. Bautista-Bandigan, Francisco Jose F. Matugas II, and Emmanuel A. Billones for House Bill No. 4526.

SUBPOENA *DUCES TECUM*

Pursuant to Section 151, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, transmitting the Subpoena *Duces Tecum* dated 28 November 2016 issued by Ray Patrick M. Arce, Assistant Special Prosecutor I, re: Crim. Case Nos. SB-16-CRM-0417 to 0420 and Crim. Case Nos. SB-16-CRM-0421 to 0424, directing Ms. Elena B. Ramos, Committee Secretary, Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives, to submit within ten (10) days from receipt of this subpoena the certified true copy from the original of the following documents:

1. Letter of Reno G. Lim to Jose C. De Venecia dated 29 August 2007 re: PDAF; and
2. Letter of Reno G. Lim to Jose C. De Venecia dated 21 November 2007 re: PDAF.

INSERTION OF REP. VILLARICA'S SPEECH

On motion of Rep. Juan Pablo "Rimpy" P. Bondoc, there being no objection, the Body approved to insert into the Records of the House the sponsorship speech of Rep. Linabelle Ruth R. Villarica, Chairperson of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, regarding House Bill No. 4767 on expanding the validity of Philippine passports, which the Body had approved on Second Reading the previous day.

Thereafter, on motion of Rep. Cristina "Chiqui" Roa-Puno, the Chair recognized Rep. Kaka J. Bag-ao on a question of personal and collective privilege.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE OF REP. BAG-AO

Speaking in Filipino, Rep. Bag-ao stressed the need for Filipinos to educate themselves about each other in order to foster understanding and unity and

guard against discrimination. She pointed out that as the principal author of a measure seeking protection against discrimination, there was no better occasion to rise and join Muslims and non-Muslims from all sectors and genders, cultures, faiths, ages, and social status—especially victims of discrimination—than on World Hijab Day which was celebrated on February 1 of every year. Speaking as a community worker, she said that her recent immersion in Basilan taught her about what people had in common and how they could accept and understand their differences. She explained that the hijab or Muslim veil symbolized not only women empowerment but also religious and cultural discrimination. She said that Filipinos had a responsibility to know more about their brother Muslims and indigenous peoples as part of their national identity.

In ending her speech, Rep. Bag-ao asked for her colleagues' support and thanked Rep. Sitti Djalila A. Turabin-Hataman for inspiring her about learning more about other sectors of society.

MANIFESTATION OF REP. TURABIN-HATAMAN

Recognized by the Chair, Rep. Turabin-Hataman likewise expressed her gratitude to Rep. Bag-ao for bringing forth the advocacy of the World Hijab Day and of discrimination; standing up on behalf of Muslims; and teaching Filipinos to learn more about their sisters and brothers from different cultures.

REFERRAL OF REP. BAG-AO'S SPEECH

Thereupon, on motion of Rep. Roa-Puno, there being no objection, the Body referred the speech of Rep. Bag-ao to the Committee on Rules.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Thereafter, Rep. Roa-Puno acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of guests of Rep. Bag-ao.

MOTION OF REP. ROA-PUNO

Rep. Roa-Puno then moved for the resumption of consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4727; but before the Body could act on the motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr.

REMARKS OF REP. ATIENZA

Rep. Atienza reiterated a request he made on the floor two weeks earlier for the House leadership to name the three Members identified as drug coddlers or

drug lords by Speaker Pantaleon D. Alvarez, before the consideration of House Bill No. 4727. He invoked the principles of clarity, transparency, and fairness for the sake of the Chamber as well as the public; stressed that a cloud of suspicion hovered all of the Members as long as the matter was kept secret; and pointed out that the Body was going to discuss a very important measure.

With the permission of the Chair, Majority Leader Rodolfo C. Fariñas clarified that (1) it was President Rodrigo Roa Duterte who gave Speaker Alvarez a list containing the names of Members of Congress as well as other elected officials, foreign nationals, civilians, and government employees allegedly linked to the drug menace; (2) the Speaker passed on the list to him; (3) the list did not identify any drug lord but merely mentioned drug protectors; and a Member who was mistakenly included in the list was already removed therefrom. He stressed that it was more proper and prudent to first conduct a discreet inquiry thereon as it was not a matter of public accusation but of intelligence reports and because it was unfair to name the Members without giving them the opportunity for rebuttal.

Rep. Fariñas then informed the Body that the following day, he will go over the list together with Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) Director General Isidro Lapeña and Philippine National Police (PNP) Director General Roland "Bato" Dela Rosa; and then file the necessary charges in the Committee on Ethics if there was basis to do so. He however clarified that the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ethics only applied to acts committed in the present Congress; and that there was no formal complaint as of yet but only an alleged list of drug protectors that had to be further verified. He also assured Rep. Atienza that before the voting on House Bill No. 4727, he will reveal the names of the Members involved if there was basis to do so.

Rep. Atienza requested for an assurance that the names of the three Members shall be revealed even during the discussion of House Bill No. 4727. He stated that the leadership of the House should clean the name of the institution as Congress should be respected and their law-making functions should be appreciated; and if their names are tainted, they will not be able to accomplish anything.

Rep. Fariñas gave the assurance that he would reveal the names of the involved Members when the right time comes.

QUERY OF REP. DAZA

Upon recognition by the chair, Rep. Raul A. Daza first sought clarification on the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ethics. Majority Leader Fariñas explained that under the amended House Rules, Committee-issued rules were presumed to be of the House if they were not in contradiction to the former; and that under the rules of the Committee on Ethics, its jurisdiction was limited to acts committed in the current Congress.

Rep. Daza then asked whether the alleged acts committed by the aforementioned three Members occurred before they became Members of Congress. Replying that he had no knowledge thereon, Rep. Fariñas said that he was going to meet with the PDEA and PNP leadership to learn about the same and to determine if the allegations had any basis at all.

MOTION OF REP. BONDOC

Subsequently, Rep. Bondoc moved for the resumption of consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4727; but before the Body could act on the motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Atienza anew.

MOTION OF REP. ATIENZA

Rep. Atienza moved for the calling of the Roll as he stated that a quorum must be established before the Body could discuss any matter. He pointed out that only 102 Members were present while 147 Members were needed to establish a quorum.

With the permission of the Chair, Majority Leader Fariñas stated that the debate on House Bill No. 4727 was going to start early because 50 Members had enlisted as interpellators thereon. He pointed out that the Body could suspend consideration of the Bill if Rep. Atienza wanted to discuss it only when there was a quorum; however, it will not have enough time to accommodate said Members. He explained that the House leadership wanted everybody to express their views even if the House Rules provide that the period of debate on a measure could already be closed after three Members each have already spoken for and against it.

Insisting on a Roll Call, Rep. Atienza said that the Rules of the House provide that the Body could not discuss any measure without the presence of a quorum.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair suspended the session at 4:40 p.m., upon motion of Majority Leader Fariñas.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 4:55 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

Abaya
Abayon
Abellanosa
Abu
Acharon
Acop
Acosta
Acosta-Alba
Adiong
Advincula
Aggabao
Aglipay-Villar
Albano
Almario
Almonte
Alvarez (F.)
Alvarez (P.)
Amatong
Angara-Castillo
Antonio
Aragones
Arbison
Arcillas
Arenas
Atienza
Bag-ao
Bagatsing
Banal
Bataoil
Batocabe
Bautista-Bandigan
Belaro
Belmonte (F.)
Belmonte (J.C.)
Benitez
Bertiz
Biazon

Billones
Biron
Bolilia
Bondoc
Bordado
Bravo (A.)
Bravo (M.V.)
Calderon
Calixto-Rubiano
Caminero
Campos
Canama
Cari
Castelo
Castro (F.L.)
Castro (F.H.)
Catamco
Cayetano
Cerilles
Chavez
Chipeco
Co
Cojuangco
Collantes
Cortes
Cortuna
Cosalan
Crisologo
Cua
Cuaresma
Dalipe
Daza
De Jesus
De Venecia
De Vera
Defensor
Del Mar
Del Rosario
Deloso-Montalla
Dimaporo (A.)
Dimaporo (M.K.)
Durano
Enverga
Eriguel
Escudero
Espina
Estrella
Eusebio
Evardone
Fariñas
Ferrer (J.)
Ferrer (L.)
Ferriol-Pascual
Floirendo
Flores
Fortun
Fortuno
Fuentebella
Garbin
Garcia (J.E.)
Garcia-Albano
Garin (R.)
Garin (S.)
Gasataya
Geron
Go (M.)
Gonzaga
Gonzales (A.P.)
Gonzales (A.D.)
Gonzalez
Gorriceta
Gullas
Hernandez
Herrera-Dy
Hofer
Kho
Khonghun
Labadlabad
Lacson
Lagman
Lanete
Laogan
Lee
Lobregat
Lopez (B.)
Lopez (C.)
Lopez (M.L.)
Macapagal-Arroyo
Madrona
Malapitan
Mangaoang
Marcoleta
Marcos
Mariño
Marquez
Martinez
Mercado
Mirasol
Montoro
Nava
Nieto
Noel
Nolasco
Nuñez-Malanyaon
Oaminal
Olivarez
Ong (E.)
Ortega (P.)
Ortega (V.N.)
Pacquiao
Paduano
Palma

Panotes
 Papandayan
 Pichay
 Pimentel
 Pineda
 Primicias-Agabas
 Quimbo
 Ramos
 Relampagos
 Revilla
 Roa-Puno
 Rodriguez (I.)
 Rodriguez (M.)
 Roman
 Romualdez
 Romualdo
 Roque (H.)
 Roque (R.)
 Sacdalan
 Sagarbarria
 Sahali
 Salimbangon
 Salo
 Salon
 Sambar
 Sandoval
 Santos-Recto
 Sarmiento (C.)
 Sarmiento (E.M.)
 Savellano
 Sema
 Siao
 Singson
 Suansing (E.)
 Suansing (H.)
 Suarez
 Tambunting
 Tan (A.)
 Tan (M.)
 Tejada
 Teves
 Tiangco
 Ting
 Tinio
 Treñas
 Tugna
 Tupas
 Turabin-Hataman
 Ty
 Umali
 Unabia
 Ungab
 Unico
 Uybarreta
 Vargas
 Velarde

Velasco-Catera
 Veloso
 Vergara
 Villanueva
 Villaraza-Suarez
 Villarica
 Villarin
 Violago
 Yap (M.)
 Yu
 Zamora (M.C.)
 Zubiri

With 217 Members responding to the Call, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum. (See also Appendix 1)

MANIFESTATION OF REP. ATIENZA

Recognized by the Chair, Rep. Atienza stated that according to his counters in the gallery, 196 Members were present in the Session Hall. He stressed that although the Body had a quorum despite the erroneous count made by the Secretariat, he wanted to ensure honesty in the count on the floor.

The Chair took note of the same.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 47 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 4727

On motion of Rep. Bondoc, there being no objection, the Body then resumed consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4727, as embodied in Committee Report No. 47 and reported out by the Committee on Justice.

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

“AN ACT IMPOSING THE DEATH PENALTY ON CERTAIN HEINOUS CRIMES, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9346, ENTITLED 'AN ACT PROHIBITING THE IMPOSITION OF DEATH PENALTY IN THE PHILIPPINES,' AND AMENDING ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'REVISED PENALTY CODE,' AND OTHER SPECIAL PENAL LAWS.”

Rep. Bondoc stated that the parliamentary status was that the Bill was in the period of sponsorship and debate.

Thereafter, on motion of Rep. Bondoc, the Chair recognized Rep. Reynaldo V. Umali, Chairperson of the Committee on Justice, who yielded the floor to Rep. Vicente “Ching” S.E. Veloso to deliver his sponsorship speech.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REP. VELOSO

Rep. Veloso initially explained the procedures that the Committee on Justice went through in deliberating on various measures on the restoration of the death penalty, namely, House Bills No. 1, 16, 513, 3237, 3239, 3240, and 3418; as well as the substitute bill, House Bill No. 4727. He cited the dates of the Committee and Sub-Committee meetings and hearings thereon; the agenda that was taken up; the resource persons, stakeholders, agencies, and organizations that were invited and the position papers they submitted; the provisions in the aforementioned bills that were modified or adopted; and the voting on Committee Report No. 47.

Rep. Veloso then cited various cases, decisions, actual crimes, and arguments in support of House Bill No. 4727. He first said that Section 19(1), Article III in support of Section 4, Article II of the Constitution, was at the core of the instant measure. He next pointed out that legislation on the death penalty was the sole concern of Congress and the Philippines was not bound by the State Party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the Second Optional Protocol on the ICCPR. He subsequently said that the measure only intended to give back to the courts the option of penalizing “heinous crimes” with the penalty of *reclusion perpetua* to death. He added that the Bill was not anti-God, as he cited the separation of the Church and State under Section 6, Article II of the Constitution. He concluded that the measure upheld the Constitution and the matter at hand was a legal question and not a religious issue.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REP. UMALI

Recognized by the Chair, Rep. Umali discussed how House Bill No. 4727 will respond to the increasing rate of criminality and killing, restore respect for law, help achieve justice, and reform the Philippine criminal justice system. He relayed the fear of the citizenry for their lives as well as their lack of confidence

about protection from law enforcers who sometimes were the perpetrators of crimes. He said that killings were brought about by criminals, by the war against drugs, and by guns-for-hire; and concluded that these proved that the criminal justice system had failed. He added that it was imperative to bring back fear to criminals, as he recalled the Committee on Justice’s hearings on the drug trade inside the New Bilibid Prison (NBP). He concluded that the criminal justice system could not be improved through piecemeal legislation but through comprehensive and holistic re-engineering.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Garcia-Albano relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Ferdinand L. Hernandez.

After assuring the Body that the death penalty was not anti-poor and that due process will be observed, Rep. Umali urged his colleagues to make a stand and be fearless advocates of the death penalty as it was their duty to safeguard and protect the people and it was a challenge to them to reform and re-engineer the criminal justice system.

Thereafter, on motion of Rep. Roa-Puno, the Chair recognized Rep. Edcel C. Lagman.

QUESTION OF QUORUM OF REP. LAGMAN

Stating that he was ready to interpellate the Sponsor of the measure and that he already submitted a partial list of 25 Members who had manifested their intent to interpellate, Rep. Lagman inquired however whether there was a quorum.

With the permission of the Chair, Rep. Bondoc stated that previously, the Roll Call was called and a quorum was present.

Rep. Lagman observed that an hour had already passed since said Roll Call and that after the sponsorship speech of Rep. Umali, the number of Members had considerably diminished. He opined that there was no more quorum.

MOTION OF REP. LAGMAN

Rep. Lagman thereafter moved for the adjournment of session due to lack of quorum.

With the permission of the Chair, Rep. Bondoc appealed to Rep. Lagman to give a chance to the Members who had manifested their intent to interpellate on the measure. He said that dilatory tactics only cut down the time of those who wanted to be heard on the measure.

Rep. Lagman stressed that his motion was not a dilatory tactic and the Members can debate on House Bill No. 4727 only if there is a quorum.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

Rep. Bondoc then joined the motion of Rep. Lagman, and there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until four o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday, February 8, 2017.

It was 6:20 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

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

Approved on February 8, 2017.

Congress of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Philippines

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE**Date: February 07, 2017**

**** 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)