Journal
of the
House of Representatives

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2019 - 2020

JOURNAL NO. 1
Monday, July 22, 2019

Prepared by the
JOURNAL SERVICE
Plenary Affairs Bureau
CALL TO ORDER

This being the day fixed in accordance with the Constitution for the beginning of the First Regular Session of the 18th Congress, the Acting Secretary General of the House of Representatives under the 17th Congress, Mr. Dante Roberto P. Maling, called the session to order at ten o’clock in the morning.

INVOCATION AND NATIONAL ANTHEM

Rep. Eduardo “Bro. Eddie” C. Villanueva of CIBAC Party-List delivered the following invocation:

Tayo pong lahat ay dumako sa diwa ng pananalangin.

Our Almighty God, the only God our beloved country worships, today, we come to You in humility and gratitude. We’re humbled because we recognize our nothingness. We are just like any other Filipino seeking to make life better for our countrymen; and yet, by Your grand design, You willed that we are here today, the first day of the 18th Congress, to make a difference for the Filipinos, as lawmakers. You have chosen each and every one of us here. We recognize that our wisdom is bound by human limitations but we rely on Your infinite wisdom because You said, “The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom.”

We come to You, Almighty God, in humility. We shall be effective legislators only through Your help. We are grateful because this is a new day; we have a new beginning for hope; we have a new beginning for unity; we have a new beginning for making right everything that was wrong because You said, “Righteousness exalts a nation but sin is a reproach to any people.”

We come to you in gratitude because You have chosen us to be part of this new season. Help us, Lord, so that history would be kind to us as the future generation remembers this season in our country.

Bless all the Members of the 18th Congress with divine help, divine strength, and divine knowledge and wisdom in serving our country, including all their respective employees and staff.

All for Your glory in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Thereafter, Mr. Arman Ferrer led the singing of the National Anthem.

ROLL CALL

Upon direction of the Presiding Officer, Deputy Secretary General for Operations Atty. David Robert U. Amorin called the Roll of Members elected by legislative districts, apportioned among the provinces, cities, and municipalities; and party-list affiliations, to wit:

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION (NCR)

CALOOCAN CITY

First District

HON. DALE “ALONG” R. MALAPITAN

Second District

HON. EDGAR R. ERICE

LAS PIÑAS CITY

Lone District

HON. CAMILLE A. VILLAR

MAKATI CITY

First District

HON. ROMULO “KID” PEÑA JR.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Member</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Second District</td>
<td>Muntinlupa City</td>
<td>Hon. Rozeno R. B. Biazon</td>
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<td>Lone District</td>
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<td>Mabalon City</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hon. Josephine V. R. Lacson-Noel</td>
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<td>Mandaluyong City</td>
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<td>Hon. Neptali M. Gonzales II</td>
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<td>Lone District</td>
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<td>City of Manila</td>
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<td>Hon. Cesar L. Bagatsing</td>
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<td>Fifth District</td>
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<td>Hon. Cristal L. Bagatsing</td>
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<td>Sixth District</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hon. Bienvenido M. Abante Jr.</td>
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<td>Marikina City</td>
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<td>Hon. Precious H. Castele</td>
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<td>Second District</td>
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<td>Hon. Allan Reyes</td>
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<td>Hon. Jesus &quot;Bong&quot; C. Suntay</td>
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<td>Hon. Anthony P. &quot;Onyx&quot; D. Crisologo</td>
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<td>Hon. Jesus &quot;Bong&quot; C. Suntay</td>
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Fifth District
HON. ALFRED D. VARGAS

Sixth District
HON. JOSE CHRISTOPHER Y. BELMONTE

SAN JUAN CITY
Lone District
HON. RONALDO B. ZAMORA

TAGUIG CITY/PATEROS
First District
HON. ALAN PETER “COMPANERO” S. CAYETANO
Second District
HON. MARIA LAARNI CAYETANO

VALENZUELA CITY
First District
HON. WES GATCHALIAN
Second District
HON. ERIC M. MARTINEZ

REGION I (ILOCOS)
ILOCOS NORTE (with the City of Laoag)
First District
HON. RIA CHRISTINA G. FARIÑAS
Second District
HON. ANGELO MARCOS BARBA

ILOCOS SUR (with the Cities of Vigan and Candon)
First District
HON. DEOGRACIAS VICTOR “DV” B. SAVELLANO

REGION II (CAGAYAN VALLEY)
BATANES
Lone District
HON. CIRIACO B. GATO JR.

CAGAYAN
First District
HON. RAMON C. NOLASCO JR.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
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<td>HON. SAMANTHA LOUISE VARGAS ALFONSO</td>
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<td>HON. JOSEPH “JOJO” L. LARA</td>
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<td>ISABELA</td>
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<tr>
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<td>HON. ANTONIO “TONYPET” T. ALBANO</td>
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<td>HON. ED CHRISTOPHER S. GO</td>
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<td>Third District</td>
<td>HON. IAN PAUL L. DY</td>
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<td>Fourth District</td>
<td>HON. ALYSSA SHEENA P. TAN, CPA, LAWYER</td>
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<td>HON. FAUSTINO MICHAEL CARLOS T. DY III</td>
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<td>Sixth District</td>
<td>HON. FAUSTINO “INNO” A. DY V</td>
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<td>HON. GERALDINE B. ROMAN</td>
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<td>HON. “KUYA” JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO</td>
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<td>HON. LUISA LLOREN CUARESMA</td>
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<td>NUEVA ECIJA</td>
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<tr>
<td>First District</td>
<td>HON. ESTRELLITA B. SUANSING</td>
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PAMPANGA
First District
HON. CARMELO “JON” B. LAZATIN II
Second District
HON. JUAN MIGUEL MACAPAGAL ARROYO
Third District
HON. AURELIO “DONG” D. GONZALES JR.
Fourth District
HON. JUAN PABLO “RIMPY” P. BONDOC

TARLAC
First District
HON. CARLOS O. COJUANGCO
Second District
HON. VICTOR A. YAP
Third District
HON. NOEL L. VILLANUEVA

ZAMBALES
First District
HON. JEFFREY D. KHONGHUN
Second District
HON. CHERYL P. DELOSO-MONTALLA

REGION IV-A (CALABARZON)

BATANGAS (with the City of Tanauan)
First District
HON. ELENITA MILAGROS “EILEEN” ERMITA-BUHAIN
Second District
HON. RANE O “RANIE” E. ABU

Third District
HON. MA. THERESA V. COLLANTES
Fourth District
HON. LIANDA B. BOLILIA
Fifth District
HON. MARIO VITTORIO “MARVEY” A. MARIÑO
Sixth District
HON. VILMA SANTOS-RECTO

CAVITE (with the Cities of Cavite, Trece Martires, and Tagaytay)
First District
HON. FRANCIS GERALD AGUINALDO ABAYA
Second District
HON. STRIKE B. REVILLA
Third District
HON. ALEX “AA” L. ADVINCULA
Fourth District
HON. ELPIDIO F. BARZAGA JR.
Fifth District
HON. DAHLIA A. LOYOLA
Sixth District
HON. LUIS “JON-JON” A. FERRER IV
Seventh District
HON. JESUS CRISPIN C. REMULLA
Eighth District
HON. ABRAHAM “BAMBOL” N. TOLENTINO
LAGUNA (with the Cities of Cabuyao, San Pedro, and Sta. Rosa)

First District
HON. DAN S. FERNANDEZ

Second District
HON. RUTH MARIANO-HERNANDEZ

Third District
HON. SOL ARAGONES

Fourth District
HON. BENJAMIN C. AGARAO JR.

BIÑAN CITY

Lone District
HON. MARLYN “LEN” B. ALONTE

CALAMBA CITY

Lone District
HON. JOAQUIN M. CHIPECO JR.

QUEZON (with the City of Lucena)

First District
HON. WILFRIDO MARK M. ENVERGA

Second District
HON. DAVID C. SUAREZ

Third District
HON. ALETA C. SUAREZ

Fourth District
HON. ANGELINA “HELEN” D.L. TAN, MD

RIZAL

First District
HON. MICHAEL JOHN R. DUAVIT

Second District
HON. JUAN FIDEL FELIPE F. NOGRALES

ANTIPOLLO CITY

First District
HON. ROBERTO V. PUNO

Second District
HON. RESURRECCION M. ACOP

MIMAROPA REGION

MARINDUQUE

Lone District
HON. LORD ALLAN JAY Q. VELASCO

OCCIDENTAL MINDORO

Lone District
HON. JOSEPHINE RAMIREZ-SATO

ORIENTAL MINDORO (with the City of Calapan)

First District
HON. DOY C. LEACHON

Second District
HON. ALFONSO V. UMALI JR.

PALAWAN (with the City of Puerto Princesa)

First District
HON. FRANZ “CHICOY” E. ALVAREZ

Second District
HON. CYRILLE “BENG” F. ABUEG-ZALDIVAR

Third District
HON. GIL “KABARANGAY JR.” A. ACOSTA
ROMBLON
Lone District
HON. ELEANDRO JESUS F. MADRONA

REGION V (BICOL)

ALBAY (with the Cities of Legazpi, Ligao, and Tabaco)
First District
HON. EDCEL C. LAGMAN
Second District
HON. JOEY SARTE SALCEDA
Third District
HON. FERNANDO T. CABREDO

CAMARINES NORTE
First District
HON. JOSEFINA B. TALLADO
Second District
HON. MARISOL C. PANOTES

CAMARINES SUR (with the Cities of Naga and Iriga)
First District
HON. MARISSA ANDAYA
Second District
HON. LUIS RAYMUND “LRAY” F. VILLAFUERTE JR.
Third District
HON. GABRIEL H. BORDADO JR.
Fourth District
HON. ARNIE B. FUENTEVELLA
Fifth District
HON. JOCELYN F. FORTUNO

CATANDUANCES
Lone District
HON. HECTOR S. SANCHEZ

MASBATE (with the City of Masbate)
First District
HON. NARCISO R. BRAVO JR.
Second District
HON. ELISA “OLGA” T. KHO
Third District
HON. WILTON TAN KHO

SORSOGON (with the City of Sorsogon)
First District
HON. EVELINA G. ESCUDERO
Second District
HON. DITAS B. RAMOS

REGION VI (WESTERN VISAYAS)

AKLAN
First District
HON. CARLITO S. MARQUEZ
Second District
HON. TEODORICO T. HARESCO JR.

ANTIQUE
Lone District
HON. LOREN LEGARDA

CAPIZ (with the City of Roxas)
First District
HON. EMMANUEL “TAWI” BILLONES
Second District
HON. FREDENIL “FRED” H. CASTRO
GUIMARAS

Lone District

HON. MA. LUCILLE L. NAVA, MD

ILOILO (with the City of Passi)

First District

HON. JANETTE L. GARIN

Second District

HON. MICHAEL B. GORRICETA

Third District

HON. LORENZ R. DEFENSOR

Fourth District

HON. BRAEDEN JOHN Q. BIRON

Fifth District

HON. RAUL “BOBOY” C. TUPAS

ILOILO CITY

Lone District

HON. JULIENNE “JAM” BARONDA

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL (with the Cities of San Carlos, Cadiz, Bago, La Carlota, Silay, Kabankalan, Sagay, Victorias, Escalante, Sipalay, and Himamaylan)

First District

HON. GERARDO P. VALMAYOR JR.

Second District

HON. LEO RAFAEL M. CUEVA

Third District

HON. JOSE FRANCISCO B. BENITEZ

Fourth District

HON. JULIET MARIE DE LEON FERRER

Fifth District

HON. MA. LOURDES T. ARROYO

Sixth District

HON. GENARO M. ALVAREZ JR.

BACOLOD CITY

Lone District

HON. GREG G. GASATAYA

REGION VII (CENTRAL VISAYAS)

BOHOL (with the City of Tagbilaran)

First District

HON. EDGAR M. CHATTO

Second District

HON. ERICO ARISTOTLE C. AUMENTADO

Third District

HON. KRISTINE ALEXIE B. TUTOR

CEBU

First District

HON. EDUARDO “EDDIE” R. GULLAS

Second District

HON. WILFREDO “WILLY” S. CAMINERO

Third District

HON. PABLO JOHN F. GARCIA

Fourth District

HON. JANICE Z. SALIMBANGON

Fifth District

HON. VINCENT FRANCO D. FRASCO
Sixth District
HON. EMMARIE M. OUANO-DIZON

Seventh District
HON. PETER JOHN D. CALDERON

CEBU CITY
First District
HON. RAUL V. DEL MAR
Second District
HON. RODRIGO A. ABELLANOSA

LAPU-LAPU CITY
Lone District
HON. PAZ C. RADAZA

NEGROS ORIENTAL
First District
HON. JOCELYN SY LIMKAICHLONG
Second District
HON. MANUEL T. SAGARBARRIA
Third District
HON. ARNOLFO “ARNIE” A. TEVES JR.

SIQUIJOR
Lone District
HON. JAKE VINCENT VILLA

REGION VIII (EASTERN VISAYAS)
BILIRAN
Lone District
HON. GERRYBOY J. ESPINA JR.

EASTERN SAMAR
Lone District
HON. MARIA FE R. ABUNDA

LEYTE
First District
HON. FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ
Second District
HON. LOLITA T. JAVIER
Third District
HON. VICENTE S.E. VELOSO
Fourth District
HON. LUCY TORRES-GOMEZ
Fifth District
HON. CARL NICOLAS C. CARI

NORTHERN SAMAR
First District
HON. PAUL R. DAZA
Second District
HON. JOSE “JUN” L. ONG JR.

SAMAR
First District
HON. EDGAR MARY S. SARMIENTO
Second District
HON. SHAREE ANN TEE TAN

REGION IX (ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA)
ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE
First District
HON. ROMEO M. JALOSJOS JR.
Second District
HON. GLONA G. LABADLABAD
Third District

HON. ISAGANI S. AMATONG

ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY

First District

HON. WILTER “SHARKY” WEE PALMA II

Second District

HON. ANN K. HOFER

ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR

First District

HON. DIVINA GRACE C. YU

Second District

HON. LEONARDO L. BABASA JR.

ZAMBOANGA CITY

First District

HON. CESAR “JAWO” L. JIMENEZ JR.

Second District

HON. MANUEL JOSE “MANNIX” M. DALIPE

REGION X (NORTHERN MINDANAO)

BUKIDNON (with the Cities of Malaybalay and Valencia)

First District

HON. MA. LOURDES ACOSTA-ALBA

Second District

HON. JONATHAN KEITH T. FLORES

CAMIGUIN

Second District

HON. ANN K. HOFER

LANAO DEL NORTE

First District

HON. DIVINA GRACE C. YU

Second District

HON. MANUEL JOSE “MANNIX” M. DALIPE

ILIGAN CITY

First District

HON. CESAR “JAWO” L. JIMENEZ JR.

Second District

HON. MANUEL JOSE “MANNIX” M. DALIPE

MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL

First District

HON. CHRISTIAN S. UNABIA

MISAMIS ORIENTAL

First District

HON. CHRISTIAN S. UNABIA
Second District  
HON. JULIETTE T. UY  

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY  
First District  
HON. ROLANDO “KLAREX” A. UY  
Second District  
HON. RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ  

REGION XI (DAVAO REGION)  
COMPOSTELA VALLEY  
First District  
HON. WAY KURAT ZAMORA  
Second District  
HON. RUWEL PETER S. GONZAGA  

DAVAO DEL NORTE  
First District  
HON. PANTALEON D. ALVAREZ  
Second District  
HON. ALAN “ALDU” R. DUJALI  

DAVAO OCCIDENTAL  
Lone District  
HON. LORNA P. BAUTISTA-BANDIGAN  

DAVAO ORIENTAL  
First District  
HON. CORAZON T. NUÑEZ-MALANYAON  
Second District  
HON. JOEL MAYO Z. ALMARIO  

DAVAO DEL SUR  
Lone District  
HON. MERCEDES “DIDI” C. CAGAS  

DAVAO CITY  
First District  
HON. PAOLO Z. DUTERTE  
Second District  
HON. VINCENT J. GARCIA  
Third District  
HON. ISIDRO T. UNGAB  

REGION XII (SOCCSKSARGEN)  
NORTH COTABATO (with the City of Kidapawan)  
First District  
HON. JOSELITO “JOEL” S. SACDALAN  
Second District  
HON. RUDY S. CAOAGDAN, DPA  
Third District  
HON. JOSE “PINGPING” I. TEJADA  

SARANGANI  
Lone District  
HON. ROGELIO “RUEL” D. PACQUIAO  

SOUTH COTABATO (with Koronadal City)  
Second District  
HON. FERDINAND L. HERNANDEZ
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<tr>
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<th>Member Name</th>
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<td>SULTAN KUDARAT</td>
<td>First</td>
<td>HON. BAI RIHAN M. SAKALURAN*</td>
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<td>HON. HORACIO P. SUANSING JR.</td>
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<td>Second</td>
<td>HON. HORACIO P. SUANSING JR.</td>
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<td>BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION</td>
<td>Second</td>
<td>CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION (CAR)</td>
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<td>ABRA</td>
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<td>BASILAN</td>
<td>Lone</td>
<td>HON. MUJIV S. HATAMAN</td>
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<td>LANAO DEL SUR</td>
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<td>BENGUET</td>
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<td>HON. ANSARUDDIN ABDUL MALIK A. ADIONG</td>
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<td>Second</td>
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<td>HON. YASSER ALONTO BALINDONG</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAGUINDANAO (with Cotabato City)</td>
<td>First</td>
<td>IFUGAO</td>
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<td>HON. DATU ROONIE Q. SINSUAT SR.</td>
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<td>Second</td>
<td>KALINGA</td>
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<td>1PACMAN (One Patriotic Coalition of Marginalized Nationals)</td>
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<td>A TEACHER (Advocacy for Teacher Empowerment Through Action, Cooperation and Harmony Towards Educational Reform)</td>
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<td>HON. PROSPERO A. PICHAY JR.</td>
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AKO BICOL (Ako Bicol Political Party)
HON. ELIZALDY S. CO
HON. ALFREDO A. GARBIN JR.

AKO BISAYA (Ako Bisaya, Inc.)
HON. SONNY “SL” L. LAGON

AKO PADAYON (Ako Padayon Pilipino)
HON. ADRIANO A. EBCAS

ALONA (Alliance of Organizations, Networks and Associations of the Philippines, Inc.)
HON. ANNA MARIE VILLARAIZA-SUAREZ

AMIN (Anak Mindanao)
HON. AMIHILDA J. SANGCOPAN

AN WARAY
HON. FLORENCIO G. NOEL

ANAKALUSUGAN (Alagaan natin ating Kalusugan)
HON. MICHAEL T. DEFENSOR

ANG PROBINSYANO (Alyansa ng mga Mamamayang Probinsyano)
HON. ALFREDO C. DELOS SANTOS
HON. RONNIE L. ONG

APEC (Association of Philippine Electric Cooperatives)
HON. SERGIO C. DAGOOC

BAHAY (Bahay Para sa Pamilyang Pilipino, Inc.)
HON. NAEALLA ROSE BAINTO-AGUINALDO

BAYAN MUNA
HON. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE
HON. FERDINAND R. GAITE

BH (Bagong Henerasyon)
HON. BERNADETTE “BH” HERRERA-DY

BHW (Barangay Health Wellness)
HON. ANGELICA NATASHA CO

BUHAY (BUHAY HAYAAN YUMABONG)
HON. JOSE L. ATIENZA JR.

CIBAC (Citizens’ Battle Against Corruption)
HON. EDUARDO “BRO. EDDIE” C. VILLANUEVA

COOP-NATCCO (Cooperative NATCCO Network Party)
HON. SABINIANO S. CANAMA

CWS (Construction Workers’ Solidarity)
HON. ROMEO S. MOMO SR.

DIWA (Democratic Independent Workers’ Association)
HON. MICHAEL EDGAR Y. AGLIPAY*

DUMPER PTDA (Dumper Philippines Taxi Drivers Association, Inc.)
HON. CLAUDINE DIANA D. BAUTISTA

GABRIELA (Gabriela Women’s Party)
HON. ARLENE D. BROSAS

GP (Galing sa Puso Party)
HON. JOSE GAY G. PADIERNOS
With 297 Members responding to the Call, the Presiding Officer declared the presence of a quorum.

DESIGNATION OF ACTING FLOOR LEADER

To ensure orderly proceedings, the Presiding Officer designated Rep. Raneo “Ranie” E. Abu as Acting Floor Leader.

PERIOD OF NOMINATIONS FOR THE POSITION OF THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Abu, there being no objection, the Body proceeded...
to the period of nominations for the position of Speaker of the House; and the Presiding Officer then recognized Rep. Paolo Z. Duterte for his nomination speech.

**NOMINATION SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE DUTERTE**

Representative Duterte initially manifested that the term-sharing agreement was between Reps. Alan Peter “Compañero” S. Cayetano, Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, and Lord Allan Jay Q. Velasco, and President Rodrigo Roa Duterte. Even as he was against any term-sharing agreement, he however said it was imperative for the Body to elect a new Speaker should the elected Speaker resign after 15 months.

In nominating Representative Cayetano as Speaker of the House of Representatives, Representative Duterte expressed belief that the former is a leader who understands local and national governance, can bridge the different branches of the government, can ably and fearlessly represent the House of Representatives and the Philippines in the international arena, and can best implement the agenda of the Duterte Administration.

**SECONGING NOMINATION SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE VELASCO**

On motion of Representative Abu, the Presiding Officer recognized Representative Velasco who seconded the motion for nomination of Representative Cayetano (A.P.) as Speaker of the House. He stated further that by being united and by electing a Speaker known for his integrity, the Body can push for real change and achieve national progress.

**SECONGING NOMINATION SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ROMUALDEZ (F.M.)**

Next recognized by the Presiding Officer on Representative Abu’s motion, Representative Romualdez seconded the motion to nominate Representative Cayetano (A.P.) as Speaker of the House.

**NOMINATION SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE GARIN (J.)**

Upon motion of Representative Abu, the Presiding Officer recognized Rep. Janette L. Garin who nominated Rep. Bienvenido M. Abante Jr. as Speaker of the House, whom she believed can best represent the 18th Congress.

**SECONGING NOMINATION SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE GARBIN**

On motion of Representative Abu, the Presiding Officer recognized Rep. Alfredo A. Garbin Jr. who seconded the motion to nominate Representative Abante as Speaker of the House. He stated that Representative Abante is a veteran legislator, a principled advocate, a fiscalizer, a bishop, and a pastor who will not only be a voice of an independent House of Representatives but also a voice of conscience and moral integrity.

**TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD FOR NOMINATIONS**

There being no other nominations for the position of Speaker of the House, upon motion of Representative Abu, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of nominations.

**NOMINAL VOTING ON THE NOMINEES FOR SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE**

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Abu, there being no objection, the Members proceeded to the election of the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Presiding Officer then directed Deputy Secretary General Amorin to call the Roll for nominal voting for the Speaker of the House and requested each Member to state the name of the candidate he or she will vote for.

**MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE TAN (A.S.)**

During the voting, Rep. Alyssa Sheena P. Tan, CPA, Lawyer requested that her explanation of vote in favor of Representative Cayetano (A.P.) be inserted into the records.

**RESULT OF THE VOTING**

The result of the voting was as follows:

*For Rep. Alan Peter “Compañero” S. Cayetano:*

- Abante
- Abaya
- Abellanosa
- Abu
- Abueg-Zaldivar
- Abunda
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Suntay Uy (R.)
Sy-Alvarado Valeriano
Taduran Valmayor
Tallado Vargas
Tambunting Vargas Alfonso
Tan (A.S.) Velasco
Tan (A.) Veloso
Tan (S.) Vergara
Tan-Tambut Villa
Tejada Villafuerte
Teves (J.) Villanueva (E.)
Tiangco Villanueva (N.)
Tolentino Villar
Torres-Gomez Villaraza-Suarez
Tulfo Villarica
Tupas Violago
Tutor Yap (E.)
Ty Yap (V.)
Umali (A.) Yu
Unabia Zamora (R.)
Ungab Zamora (W.K.)
Uy (J.) Zubiri

For Rep. Bienvenido M. Abante Jr.: Advincula Fortun
Amatong Gaite
Belmonte Garbin
Bordado Garin (J.)
Brosas Guya
Cabatbat Limkaichong
Castro (F.L.) Paduano
Cayetano (A.P.) Quimbo
Co (A.N.) Saulog
Co (E.) Singson
Cullamat Tan (S.A.)
Dagoo Teves (A.)
Elago Umali (M.V.)
Fernando Zarate

Abstained:

Atienza
Cabochan

No vote:

Lagman

With 266 Members voting for Representative Cayetano (A.P.), 28 voting for Representative Abante, two abstaining, and one registering a no vote, the Presiding Officer declared Representative Cayetano as the duly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives for the 18th Congress.

COMMITTEE ON NOTIFICATION

On subsequent motion of Representative Abu, there being no objection, the Body constituted a committee composed of the following Members to notify Representative Cayetano (A.P.) of his election as Speaker of the House and to escort the Speaker-elect to the rostrum for his oath-taking: Reps. Duterte, Velasco, Romualdez (F.M.), Roberto V. Puno, Luis Raymund “Lray” F. Villafuerte Jr., Aurelio “Dong” D. Gonzales Jr., Michael John R. Duavit, and Michael L. Romero, PhD.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Presiding Officer motu proprio suspended the session at 12:24 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 12:27 p.m.

At this juncture, the Members led by Rep. Eduardo “Bro. Eddie” C. Villanueva laid their hands on Speaker-elect Cayetano (A.P.) and prayed over him.

Whereupon, the Presiding Officer requested Rep. Braeden John Q. Biron to ascend the rostrum to administer the oath of office to the Speaker-elect.

OATH-TAKING OF SPEAKER CAYETANO (A.P.)

Thereafter, Representative Biron administered the oath of office to Representative Cayetano as Speaker of the House of Representatives in the presence of the members of his family and the House Members.

At this juncture, the Presiding Officer relinquished the Chair to Speaker Cayetano who delivered the following acceptance speech.

ACCEPTANCE SPEECH OF SPEAKER CAYETANO (A.P.)

“Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and everything shall be added unto you.”
As we seek to win the campaign against drugs, crime, and corruption, we also seek to destroy and win the battle against poverty and other things that are ailing the Filipino people and our nation.

President Rodrigo Roa Duterte or Mayor Rody, as he is fondly called, wants a safe and comfortable life for all.

The House of Representatives, the House of the People, are partners with the Duterte Administration. We are partners in pursuing a better life for all Filipinos whether we talk about teachers, about senior citizens, about young people, OFWs, professionals, government workers, workers in the private sector, our out-of-school youth, rich or poor, young or old, of whatever persuasion, of whatever religion, we are all connected and united.

Regardless of our religious beliefs, of our personal circumstances, the verse I started with is actually a guide and a fundamental truth. In layman's terms, it is very simple, when we say seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, we are saying, gawin natin kung ano iyong tama, let us do what is right.

People love their Congressmen but they love to hate Congress. This is something I ask all of you, in unison, let us change that because this is the House of the People. We should respect and love our Congressman but we should also feel that the House of Representatives is the House of the People. Tayo po ang takbuhan ng sambayanan. We will do what is right so that we will have a Congress that is relevant, responsive and reliable. United, we commit to God and our people the work of the 18th Congress.

Sa lahat po sa inyo, sa mga Miyembro ng 18th Congress, sa lahat po ng nagdadasal sa ating Kongreso, maraming, maraming salamat po sa inyong tivala. Sana po ako ay maging worthy at sana po ay tulungan ninyo ako para sa loob po ng 15 buwan ay mapagsilbihan po natin ang ating mga kababayan nang mabuti at lahat po ng nasa legislative agenda, ubusin na natin at ipasa na natin dahil mas magandang magawa na natin ito kaagad.

Again, maraming, maraming salamat sa inyo.

ADOPTION OF THE PROVISIONAL RULES OF THE HOUSE

Whereupon, on motion of Representative Abu, there being no objection, the Body adopted the Rules of the 17th Congress as the Provisional Rules of the House to govern its proceedings until the adoption of the House Rules for the 18th Congress.

OATH-TAKING OF MEMBERS

On motion of Representative Abu, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the oath-taking of the Members of the House.

Thereafter, Speaker Cayetano (A.P.) administered the oath of office to all the Members of the House of the 18th Congress.

NOMINATION SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ABU

At this point, Representative Abu said that the man he was about to nominate has a reputation of being a conscientious builder, tough, hardworking, fair, and most importantly generous of mind, heart, and spirit, whom the House of Representatives needs in these crucial and critical three years. He then cited his nominee’s academic achievements, experiences in the private sector, as well as achievements in the public service as a three-term Representative of the First District of Leyte.

Representative Abu expressed belief that as a doting father to four children and as a loving husband to his wife, Rep. Yedda Marie K. Romualdez, his nominee, by virtue of being a family man, will serve the Chamber and the country to the greatest of his ability and with utmost dedication and sincerity because the latter believes in helping shape a better future for his children.

With the firmest of conviction and with great honor and pride, Representative Abu said that the majority Members of the House of Representatives nominate Rep. Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez as Majority Leader of the House for the 18th Congress.
ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVE ROMUALDEZ (F.M.) AS MAJORITY LEADER

Upon motion of Representative Abu, there being no objection, the Body elected Representative Romualdez as Majority Leader of the House.

REMARKS OF MAJORITY LEADER ROMUALDEZ (F.M.)

Majority Leader Romualdez thanked all his colleagues and vowed to serve them all and the Republic of the Philippines.

OATH-TAKING OF MAJORITY LEADER ROMUALDEZ (F.M.)

Representative Romualdez ascended the rostrum with his family and took his oath of office before Speaker Cayetano (A.P.) as Majority Leader of the House.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKERS


ELECTION OF SECRETARY GENERAL

On further motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), there being no objection, the Body elected Atty. Jose Luis G. Montales as the Secretary General of the House.

OATH-TAKING OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Upon request of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), Atty. Jose Luis G. Montales, together with his family, ascended the rostrum and took his oath as the Secretary General of the House, before Speaker Cayetano (A.P.).

ELECTION OF SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

On motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), there being no objection, the Body elected retired Police Deputy Director General Ramon C. Apolinario as the Sergeant-at-Arms of the House.

OATH-TAKING OF THE SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Upon further request of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), retired Police Deputy Director General Apolinario ascended the rostrum with the members of his family, and took his oath as Sergeant-at-Arms of the House before the Speaker.

CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF HOUSE RESOLUTIONS NO. 73 AND 74 AND HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 2

On successive motions of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), there being no objection, the Body considered the following House Resolutions and Concurrent Resolution; dispensed with the reading of the texts thereof without prejudice to their insertion into the records of the House; and unanimously adopted said measures, entitled:

1. House Resolution No. 73, entitled: “RESOLUTION INFORMING THE SENATE THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HAS BEEN ORGANIZED AND HAS ENTERED UPON THE EXERCISE OF ITS FUNCTIONS”;

2. House Resolution No. 74, entitled: “RESOLUTION INFORMING PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HAS BEEN ORGANIZED AND HAS ENTERED UPON THE EXERCISE OF ITS FUNCTIONS”; and

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Whereupon, on motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), the session was suspended at 1:01 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:01 p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

On motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), there being no objection, the Secretary General read the following Message from the Senate which the Chair referred to the Archives:

Message dated July 22, 2019 informing the House that the Senate on even date adopted Senate Resolution No. 1.

ADOPTION OF SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1

On successive motions of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), there being no objection, the Body considered Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1, dispensed with the reading of the text thereof without prejudice to its insertion into the records of the House, and adopted the measure, entitled: “CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CREATING A JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO NOTIFY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES THAT CONGRESS, NOW CONVENED FOR ITS FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES, IS READY TO HEAR HIS STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS IN A JOINT SESSION OF BOTH HOUSES.”

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Whereupon, on motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), the session was suspended at 1:04 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:04 p.m.

DESIGNATION OF MEMBERS TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON NOTIFICATION

With the adoption of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1, on motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), there being no objection, the Body designated Deputy Speakers Duterte, Hernandez, Escudero, and Legarda to notify the President that Congress was already convened and ready to receive his message in a joint session.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Whereupon, on motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), the session was suspended at 1:06 p.m. to allow the Joint Committee on Notification to perform its assigned task and report back its accomplishment to the House.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:08 p.m.

ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVE REMULLA AS SENIOR DEPUTY MAJORITY LEADER

Upon resumption of session, on motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), there being no objection, the Body elected Rep. Jesus Crispin C. Remulla as Senior Deputy Majority Leader.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

On successive motions of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), there being no objection, the Body elected Rep. Isidro T. Ungab as Chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations; and Rep. Abraham “Bambol” N. Tolentino as Chairperson of the Committee on Accounts.

REMARKS OF MAJORITY LEADER ROMUALDEZ (F.M.)

Whereupon, Majority Leader Romualdez informed the Body that the House had received a report from the Joint Committee on Notification that President Duterte had been informed that Congress will convene in Joint Session at four o’clock that afternoon to hear his State of the Nation Address. He also reminded the Members to be in the Session
Hall before the four o’clock joint session, preferably before three o’clock as there will be a lockdown.

The Chair duly noted Majority Leader Romualdez’s remarks.

REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

Thereafter, the Chair reminded the Deputy Speakers who were elected earlier to take their oath right after the adjournment of the session.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

Thereupon, on motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until three o’clock in the afternoon of Tuesday, July 23, 2019.

It was 1:11 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

ATTY. JOSE LUIS G. MONTALES
Secretary General

Approved on July 23, 2019.