



Journal of the House of Representatives

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2019 - 2020**

**JOURNAL NO. 18
Tuesday to Friday, September 10-13, 2019
& Monday to Friday, September 16-20, 2019**

Prepared by the
JOURNAL SERVICE
Plenary Affairs Bureau

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CALL TO ORDER

Deputy Speaker Rose Marie “Baby” J. Arenas called the session to order at 2:00 p.m. of Tuesday, September 10, 2019.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Thereafter, the session was suspended at 2:00 p.m. upon motion of Rep. Cristal L. Bagatsing.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 2:25 p.m.

INVOCATION AND NATIONAL ANTHEM

Upon resumption of session, Rep. Rosanna “Ria” Vergara delivered the invocation and the Members thereafter sang the National Anthem.

CONSOLIDATION OF HOUSE RESOLUTIONS

On motion of Representative Bagatsing, there being no objection, the Body approved the consolidation of House Resolutions No. 289 and 293 with House Resolution No. 308 which the Body adopted in the previous session in consolidation with House Resolutions No. 264 and 281.

ROLL CALL

On motion of Representative Bagatsing, there being no objection, the Chair directed the Secretary General to call the Roll and the following Members were present:

Abante
Abaya
Abu
Abueg-Zaldivar
Acop
Acosta
Acosta-Alba
Advincula
Agabas
Agarao
Aglipay
Albano (A.)

Almario
Alonte
Alvarez (F.)
Alvarez (G.)
Amante-Matba
Amatong
Angara
Aragones
Arenas
Arroyo
Atienza
Aumentado

Babasa
Bagatsing
Balindong
Barba
Baronda
Barzaga
Bascug
Bautista
Belmonte
Benitez
Biazon
Biron
Bolilia
Bondoc
Bordado
Bravo
Brosas
Bulut
Bustos
Cabatbat
Cabochan
Cabredo
Cagas
Calderon
Calixto
Campos
Canama
Caoagdan
Cari
Castelo
Castro (F.L.)
Castro (F.H.)
Cayetano (A.P.)
Cayetano (M.L.)
Celeste
Chatto
Chipeco
Chungalao
Co (A.N.)
Co (E.)
Collantes
Crisologo
Cua
Cuaresma
Cueva
Cullamat
Dagooc

Dalipe
Dalog
Daza
De Jesus
de Venecia
Defensor (M.)
Del Mar
Delos Santos
Deloso-Montalla
Dimaporo (A.)
Dimaporo (M.K.)
Duavit
Dujali
Duterte
Dy (F.)
Dy (F.M.C.)
Dy (I.P.)
Ebcas
Ecleo
Erice
Eriguel
Ermita-Buhain
Escudero
Espina
Espino
Estrella
Fariñas (R.C.)
Fariñas I (R.C.)
Fernandez
Fernando
Ferrer (J.M.)
Ferrer (L.)
Flores
Fongwan
Fortun
Fortuno
Frasco
Fuentebella
Gaite
Garbin
Garcia (P.J.)
Garin (J.)
Garin (S.)
Gasataya
Gato
Geron
Go (M.)

Gonzaga	Pacquiao (R.)
Gonzales (A.)	Padiernos
Gonzales (N.)	Paduano
Gorriceta	Palma
Guico	Pancho
Gullas	Panotes
Guya	Peña
Haresco	Pichay
Hataman	Pimentel
Herrera-Dy	Pineda
Hofer	Plaza
Jalosjos	Puno
Javier	Quimbo
Jimenez	Radaza
Kho (E.)	Ramirez-Sato
Kho (W.)	Ramos
Khonghun	Remulla
Labadlabad	Revilla
Lacson	Reyes
Lacson-Noel	Rivera
Lagon	Robes
Lara	Rodriguez
Lazatin	Romero
Leachon	Romualdez (F.M.)
Legarda	Romualdo
Lim	Romulo
Limkaichong	Roque
Lopez	Sacdalan
Loyola	Salceda
Macapagal Arroyo	Salimbangan
Malapitan	Salo
Mangaoang	Sanchez
Mangudadatu	Santos-Recto
Marcoleta	Sarmiento
Mariano-Hernandez	Saulog
Mariño	Savellano
Marquez	Siao
Martinez	Silverio
Matba	Singson
Matugas	Singson-Meehan
Momo	Sinsuat
Natividad-Nagaño	Suansing (E.)
Nieto	Suansing (H.)
Noel	Suarez (D.)
Nogralas (J.J.)	Suntay
Nogralas (J.F.F.)	Taduran
Nolasco	Tallado
Núñez-Malanyaon	Tambunting
Oaminal	Tan (A.S.)
Ong (J.)	Tan (A.)
Ong (R.)	Tan (S.A.)
Ortega	Tejada
Ouano-Dizon	Teves (A.)
Pacquiao (A.)	Tiangco

Tolentino	Velasco
Tulfo	Veloso
Tupas	Vergara
Tutor	Villafuerte
Umali (A.)	Villanueva (E.)
Umali (M.V.)	Villanueva (N.)
Unabia	Villaraza-Suarez
Ungab	Villarica
Uy (J.)	Violago
Uy (R.)	Yap (E.)
Valeriano	Zamora (R.)
Valmayor	Zamora (W.K.)
Vargas	Zarate
Vargas Alfonso	Zubiri

With 254 Members responding to the Call, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum. (See Appendix 1)

DEFERMENT OF APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

On motion of Rep. Anthony Peter “Onyx” D. Crisologo, there being no objection, the Body deferred the approval of the Journal of the previous session.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

Subsequently, on motion of Representative Crisologo, 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, including the Communications and Committee Report, which were referred to the appropriate committees indicated hereunder:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 4324, entitled:
“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MAGNA CARTA FOR BARANGAYS”
By Representative Dy (Faustino Inno)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4325, entitled:
“AN ACT UPGRADING THE MINIMUM SALARY GRADE LEVEL OF TEACHERS FROM SALARY GRADE 11 TO 19”
By Representative Dy (Faustino Inno)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 4326, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE MOUNTAIN PROVINCE – IFUGAO ROAD VIA NATONIN–AGUINALDO SECTION INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Dalog

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4327, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DepED) TO INCORPORATE FIRST AID IN THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION (P.E.) SUBJECT IN ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL CURRICULUM IN BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS”

By Representative Panotes

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4328, entitled:

“AN ACT RATIONALIZING THE ECONOMIC REGULATION OF WATER UTILITIES, CREATING THE WATER REGULATORY COMMISSION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Olivarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4329, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Olivarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4330, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE DR. SERAPIO B. MONTAÑER, JR. MEMORIAL HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MALABANG, SECOND DISTRICT OF LANA DEL SUR, FROM A 25-BED CAPACITY INTO A 100-BED CAPACITY, UPGRADING OF ITS PROFESSIONAL HEALTH

CARE SERVICES AND FACILITIES, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Balindong

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4331, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE CONCHU PROVINCIAL ROAD IN THE CITY OF TRECE MARTIRES AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF AMADEO, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF CAVITE, INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Remulla

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4332, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE NATIONAL FILM ARCHIVE TO BE MANAGED BY THE FILM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Nieto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

House Bill No. 4333, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A JOB TRAINING PROGRAM FOR MATURE OR OLDER WORKERS”

By Representative Nieto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 4334, entitled:

“AN ACT ADJUSTING THE SALARY SCHEDULE OF CIVILIAN PERSONNEL IN THE GOVERNMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Nieto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 4335, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE IMPOSITION OF FEES FOR THE USE OF PARKING SPACES AND FACILITIES IN SHOPPING MALLS, HOSPITALS, SCHOOLS, HOTELS, AND SIMILAR ESTABLISHMENTS, INCLUDING VACANT LOTS USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR PARKING AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF”

By Representative Nieto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 4336, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING DISCOUNTS ON BASIC AND EDUCATION SERVICES TO UNDERPRIVILEGED STUDENTS IN ALL LEVELS, INCLUDING THOSE ENROLLED IN TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL (TECH-VOC) INSTITUTIONS”

By Representative Nieto

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

House Bill No. 4337, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE ANNUAL PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF ALL CONTINGENT LIABILITIES INCURRED BY ALL NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR -CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS, GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, AND OTHER GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES”

By Representative Santos-Recto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

House Bill No. 4338, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE FILIPINO GIFTED CHILDREN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Guico

TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 4339, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE PRODUCTION, IMPORTATION, SALE, AND USE OF SINGLE-USE PLASTICS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Barba

TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 4340, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A REGULAR DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ALCOY, IN THE 2ND DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF CEBU AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Caminero

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4341, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING PUBLIC SOLICITATIONS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE ACT NO. 4075, AS AMENDED BY PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1564, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SOLICITATION PERMIT LAW”

By Representative Ramirez-Sato

TO THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES

House Bill No. 4342, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE ARCHITECTURE CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Ramirez-Sato

TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 4343, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LABO, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (F) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980', AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Tallado

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4344, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING AND ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SPORTS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Tambunting

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 4345, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION, DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING, ORGANIZATION AND

ADMINISTRATION OF BASIC RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS (ROTC) IN GRADES 11 AND 12 IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7077, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'CITIZEN ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES RESERVIST ACT', AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Tambunting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4346, entitled:

"AN ACT DECLARING THE COCONUT LEVY ASSETS AS A TRUST FUND, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND UTILIZATION, AUTHORIZING THE PRIVATIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE TO DISPOSE THE COCONUT LEVY ASSETS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Tambunting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4347, entitled:

"AN ACT INSTITUTING A NATIONAL LAND USE AND MANAGEMENT POLICY, PROVIDING THE IMPLEMENTING MECHANISMS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Tambunting
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LAND USE

House Bill No. 4348, entitled:

"AN ACT RECOGNIZING X-LINKED DYSTONIA PARKINSONISM (XDP) AS A RARE FILIPINO DISEASE, CREATING THE XDP CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES TO SPEARHEAD RESEARCH AND PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO PATIENTS OF SAID DISEASE, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representatives Castro (Fredenil), Gorriceta, Defensor (Lorenz), Tupas, Haresco, Marquez, Billones, Nava, Baronda, Gasataya, Valmayor, Cueva, Benitez, Ferrer (Juliet), Arroyo, Lagon and Paduano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4349, entitled:

"AN ACT MODERNIZING AGRICULTURE, PROVIDING FUNDS FROM THE ANNUAL VALUE-ADDED TAX

COLLECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED"

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4350, entitled:

"AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES, PROVIDING FOR ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4351, entitled:

"AN ACT INSTITUTING REFORMS TO FURTHER PROTECT AND DEVELOP MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 81, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'THE 1986 REVISED CHARTER OF THE DEVELOPMENT BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES,' AS AMENDED"

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 4352, entitled:

"AN ACT EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF MICRO ENTERPRISES AS BENEFICIARIES OF THE MAGNA CARTA FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6977, AS AMENDED"

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 4353, entitled:

"AN ACT INCREASING TO THREE THOUSAND PESOS (P3,000) THE MONTHLY PERSONNEL ECONOMIC RELIEF ALLOWANCE (PERA) GRANTED TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 4354, entitled:

“AN ACT REMOVING THE CONDITIONS FOR THE CONDONATION OF ALL UNPAID INCOME TAXES DUE FROM LOCAL WATER DISTRICTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 289-A OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4355, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE FAIR AND EQUITABLE ALLOCATION OF FARM-TO-MARKET ROADS PROJECTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4356, entitled:

“AN ACT EXEMPTING THE MANUFACTURE, ASSEMBLY, CONVERSION AND IMPORTATION OF PLUG-IN HYBRID ELECTRIC VEHICLES FROM THE PAYMENT OF EXCISE TAXES AND DUTIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 4357, entitled:

“AN ACT MODERNIZING HEALTHCARE AND HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE, PROVIDING FUNDS FROM THE ANNUAL VALUE-ADDED TAX COLLECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4358, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE SECRETARIES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, AND DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT, AND THE GOVERNOR OF THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS, TO APPEAR SEMI-ANNUALLY BEFORE CONGRESS

TO REPORT ON THE STATUS AND DIRECTIONS OF THE FISCAL AND MONETARY POLICIES OF THE STATE”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND
THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4359, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING TAX RELIEF TO THE LABOR SECTOR BY EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF EXCLUSIONS FROM GROSS INCOME AND INCREASING THE AMOUNTS OF *DE MINIMIS* BENEFITS EXEMPT FROM TAX AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 32(B) AND 33 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4360, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE CONVERSION OF IRRIGATED AND IRRIGABLE AGRICULTURAL LANDS FOR NON-AGRICULTURAL USES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 20 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRARIAN REFORM

House Bill No. 4361, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING TELECOMMUNICATION COMPANIES FROM IMPOSING AN EXPIRATION PERIOD ON THE VALIDITY OF PREPAID CALL AND TEXT CARDS AND THE FORFEITURE OF LOAD CREDITS THEREOF”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 4362, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING EMPLOYEES THREE DAYS PAID LEAVE TO ATTEND SCHOOL-RELATED ACTIVITIES OF THEIR CHILDREN”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT
AND THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 4363, entitled:

“AN ACT ADVANCING THE RIGHTS OF STREET CHILDREN BY STRENGTHENING THE BARANGAY COUNCIL FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN (BCPC) AND ESTABLISHING AN INCENTIVES SYSTEM FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGED IN THE PROMOTION OF THE WELFARE OF STREET CHILDREN AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

House Bill No. 4364, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE MEDICAL ACADEMY, ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4365, entitled:

“AN ACT EXCLUDING OVERTIME PAY FROM THE COMPUTATION OF TAXABLE INCOME AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 32 (B) (7) OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4366, entitled:

“ A N A C T P R O M O T I N G ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT BY PROVIDING INCENTIVES FOR THE MANUFACTURE, ASSEMBLY, CONVERSION AND IMPORTATION OF ELECTRIC, HYBRID AND OTHER GREEN VEHICLES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 4367, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS TO DELIVER A MINIMUM STANDARD FOR INTERNET CONNECTION SPEED”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 4368, entitled:

“AN ACT PROTECTING CONSUMERS FROM UNREASONABLE FEE INCREASES BY PROVIDING FOR A CONSUMER GROUP REPRESENTATION IN THE GOVERNING BOARDS OF GOVERNMENT REGULATORY BODIES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THEIR RESPECTIVE CHARTERS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 4369, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER, INTERSEXUAL, ASEXUAL, AND INDIVIDUALS OF VARIOUS SEXUAL AND GENDER ORIENTATIONS (LGBTQIA+) HELP AND PROTECTION DESKS IN ALL PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE STATIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE TITLE VII OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER 8551, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE REFORM AND REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1998,' AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND GENDER EQUALITY

House Bill No. 4370, entitled:

“AN ACT EXCLUDING THE PERFORMANCE-BASED BONUS FROM THE COMPUTATION OF TAXABLE INCOME AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 32 (B) (7) OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4371, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTING REFORMS TO FURTHER PROTECT AND DEVELOP THE NURSING PROFESSION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER 9173, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'PHILIPPINE NURSING ACT OF 2002' ”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 4372, entitled:

“AN ACT ENSURING ACCESS TO SECONDARY EDUCATION BY CONVERTING ALL PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS INTO INTEGRATED SCHOOLS OFFERING COMPLETE BASIC EDUCATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4373, entitled:

“AN ACT MODIFYING THE AWARD OF THE CENTENARIAN GIFT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 2, 3, AND 4 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10868, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CENTENARIAN ACT OF 2016”

By Representative Baronda
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS

House Bill No. 4374, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE HONORARIUM OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF”

By Representative Baronda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4375, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONVERSION OF THE JCT. BCIR–BAAN KM 3–AMAMAYLAN–NEW ERA ROAD–JCT. MAYOR DEMOCRITO D. PLAZA II AVENUE IN BUTUAN CITY INTO A NATIONAL SECONDARY ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Fortun
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4376, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONVERSION OF THE JCT. BCIR–DOONGAN ROAD–JCT. BUTUAN CITY–MASAO PORT ROAD IN BUTUAN CITY INTO A NATIONAL SECONDARY ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Fortun
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4377, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONVERSION OF THE JCT. BCIR–NORTH MONTILLA BOULEVARD–SALVADOR CALO ROAD–JCT. BUTUAN CITY–MASAO PORT ROAD IN BUTUAN CITY INTO A NATIONAL SECONDARY ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Fortun
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4378, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONVERSION OF THE JCT. BCIR–LIBERTAD–BONBON ROAD–JCT. MAYOR DEMOCRITO D. PLAZA II AVENUE IN BUTUAN CITY INTO A NATIONAL SECONDARY ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Fortun
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4379, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONVERSION OF THE JCT. BCIR–R. CALO–PAGATPATAN ROAD IN BUTUAN CITY INTO A NATIONAL SECONDARY ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Fortun
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4380, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONVERSION OF THE JCT. BCIR–LIBERTAD–AMBAGO ROAD–JCT. BUTUAN CITY–MASAO PORT ROAD IN BUTUAN CITY INTO A NATIONAL SECONDARY ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Fortun
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4381, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONVERSION OF THE JCT. BUTUAN CITY–MALAYBALAY ROAD–VILLA KANANGA–CAPITOL ROAD–JCT. BCIR BUTUAN CITY INTO A

NATIONAL SECONDARY ROAD AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Fortun
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND
HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4382, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE
CONVERSION OF THE JCT. BCIR–
CAPITOL DRIVE–LIBERTAD ROAD–
JCT. BCIR IN BUTUAN CITY INTO A
NATIONAL SECONDARY ROAD AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Fortun
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND
HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4383, entitled:

“AN ACT FURTHER AMENDING ARTICLE
97 OF ACT NO. 3815, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL
CODE, IN ORDER TO CLARIFY
THE LEGISLATIVE INTENTION
OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10592
EXCLUDING RECIDIVISTS, HABITUAL
DELINQUENTS, ESCAPEES AND
PERSONS CONVICTED OF HEINOUS
CRIMES FROM ENJOYING THE
BENEFITS OF GOOD CONDUCT TIME
ALLOWANCE (GCTA) UNDER ARTICLE
97 OF SAID ACT”

By Representative Garcia (Pablo John)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4384, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING SEPARATE
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICES IN THE
FIRST AND SECOND DISTRICT OF
THE PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL
SUR”

By Representative Yu
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND
CULTURE

House Bill No. 4385, entitled:

“AN ACT TO CONVERT INTO A
NATIONAL ROAD THE ARELLANO
TO CALANGUIGAN ROAD PORTION
ALONG THE MALALAO NATIONAL
ROAD (TABUK–QUEZON ROAD)
STRETCHING FROM BARANGAY
ARELLANO TO BARANGAY
CALANGUIGA, ALL IN THE

MUNICIPALITY OF QUEZON,
PROVINCE OF ISABELA, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Dy (Faustino Michael)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND
HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4386, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING SEPTEMBER 17
OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL
NONWORKING PUBLIC HOLIDAY IN
THE PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL
SUR”

By Representative Yu
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4387, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR PROTECTION,
SECURITY AND BENEFITS OF
WHISTLEBLOWERS, APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representatives Zarate, Gaite, Cullamat,
Castro (France), Brosas and Elago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4388, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE WITNESS
PROTECTION, SECURITY AND
BENEFIT PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR
THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO.
6981, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
'WITNESS PROTECTION, SECURITY
AND BENEFIT ACT', AND PROVIDING
ADDITIONAL FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Zarate, Gaite, Cullamat,
Castro (France), Brosas and Elago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4389, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PHILIPPINE
SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL (PSHS)
CAMPUS IN THE MUNICIPALITY
OF REINA MERCEDES, PROVINCE
OF ISABELA AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Go (Ed)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 4390, entitled:

“AN ACT CRIMINALIZING THE MALICIOUS
AUTHORING, PUBLICATION AND
DISSEMINATION OF FAKE NEWS ON

SOCIAL MEDIA AND OTHER MEDIA
PLATFORMS AND PRESCRIBING
PENALTIES THEREFOR”

By Representative Go (Ed)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4391, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING THE NATIONAL
ENERGY POLICY AND REGULATORY
FRAMEWORK FOR THE USE OF
ELECTRIC VEHICLES, AND THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTRIC
CHARGING STATIONS”

By Representative Go (Ed)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 4392, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE
ALTERNATIVE LEARNING SYSTEM
IN THE BASIC EDUCATION FOR
OUT-OF-SCHOOL CHILDREN, YOUTH
AND ADULTS, PERSONS WITH
DISABILITIES, INDIGENOUS PEOPLES,
AND OTHER MARGINALIZED SECTORS
OF SOCIETY, AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Robes
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND
CULTURE

House Bill No. 4393, entitled:

“AN ACT DESIGNATING MATI AIRPORT IN
DAVAO ORIENTAL AS THE OFFICIAL
ALTERNATE AIRPORT TO THE DAVAO
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Almario
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4394, entitled:

“AN ACT UPGRADING THE MARIA L.
ELEAZAR DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF TAGKAWAYAN,
PROVINCE OF QUEZON INTO A
LEVEL III GENERAL HOSPITAL, TO BE
KNOWN AS THE MARIA L. ELEAZAR
GENERAL HOSPITAL, UNDER THE
DIRECT SUPERVISION AND CONTROL
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,
INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY
FROM TWENTY-FIVE (25) TO ONE
HUNDRED (100), AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Tan (Angelina)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4395, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING A FIXED MONTHLY
HONORARIA AND ADDITIONAL
BENEFITS TO ACCREDITED
BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS,
AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE
SECTION 6 OF REPUBLIC ACT
7883 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS’
BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT OF
1995”

By Representative Calixto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4396, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING RETIREMENT
BENEFITS TO ALL BARANGAY
OFFICIALS WHO HAVE RENDERED
AT LEAST 3 (THREE) TERMS OF
CONTINUOUS SERVICE AND
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Calixto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4397, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING FULL DISCLOSURE
OF ALL INFORMATION ON FISCAL
MANAGEMENT FROM ALL NATIONAL
GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS,
BUREAUS, AGENCIES AND OTHER
INSTRUMENTALITIES, INCLUDING
GOVERNMENT- OWNED OR
-CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS, AND
THEIR SUBSIDIARIES, AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENTS, AND PROVIDING
PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS
THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Abaya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

House Bill No. 4398, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTING A NATIONAL LAND
USE AND MANAGEMENT POLICY,
PROVIDING THE IMPLEMENTING
MECHANISMS THEREFOR, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Abaya
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON LAND USE

House Bill No. 4399, entitled:

“AN ACT TO ESTABLISH INCLUSIVE
EDUCATION IN ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH

SPECIAL NEEDS, PROVIDING
GUIDELINES AND FINANCIAL
ASSISTANCE THEREFOR”

By Representative Tambunting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND
CULTURE

House Bill No. 4400, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 11 AND
12 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7941 OR THE
PARTY-LIST SYSTEM ACT”

By Representative Salo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND
ELECTORAL REFORMS

House Bill No. 4401, entitled:

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

By Representative Bolilia
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
REORGANIZATION AND THE
COMMITTEE ON DISASTER
MANAGEMENT

House Bill No. 4402, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER
TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS
THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO
TAGBILARAN BROADCASTING
SYSTEM INC., FORMERLY
TAGBILARAN SYSTEM, TO
CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE,
AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND
TELEVISION BROADCASTING
STATIONS IN THE PROVINCE OF
BOHOL AND ANYWHERE IN THE
PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Aumentado
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 4403, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MEDICAL
CENTER IN BARANGAY LACARON,
MUNICIPALITY OF MALITA,
PROVINCE OF DAVAO OCCIDENTAL
TO BE KNOWN AS DAVAO
OCCIDENTAL MEDICAL CENTER, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Bautista-Bandigan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4404, entitled:

“AN ACT RENAMING THE MALITA
DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN POBLACION,
MUNICIPALITY OF MALITA,
PROVINCE OF DAVAO OCCIDENTAL
INTO MALITA CHILDRENS AND
WOMEN HOSPITAL”

By Representative Bautista-Bandigan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4405, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE AUTHORIZED
BED CAPACITY OF THE TOMAS
LACHICA DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN
THE MUNICIPALITY OF JOSE ABAD
SANTOS, PROVINCE OF DAVAO
OCCIDENTAL FROM TWENTY-FIVE
(25) BEDS TO FIFTY (50) BEDS,
UPGRADING ITS MEDICAL FACILITIES
AND IMPROVING HEALTH CARE
SERVICES, AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Bautista-Bandigan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4406, entitled:

“AN ACT PROTECTING SENIOR CITIZEN
FROM VIOLENCE, DEFINING
ELDER ABUSE, AND PRESCRIBING
PENALTIES THEREFOR”

By Representatives Yap (Eric), Tulfo and
Taduran
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter dated July 22, 2019 of Usec. Ricardo B. Jalad, Administrator, Office of Civil Defense, Department of National Defense, notifying the House of Representatives the posting in their Office’s website of the following Unified Reporting System (URS)-generated Budget and Financial Accountability Reports:

1. Statement of Appropriations, Obligations, Disbursements and Balances (FAR 1);
2. Summary of Appropriations, Allotments, Obligations, Disbursements and Balances by Object of Expenditures (FAR 1-A);
3. List of Allotment and Sub-Allotment (FAR 1-B);
4. Statement of Obligations, Disbursements, Liquidations and Balances for Inter-Agency Fund Transfers (FAR 1-C);
5. Statement of Approved Budget, Utilizations, Disbursements and Balances (FAR 2);

6. Statement of Approved Budget, Utilizations, Disbursements and Balances by Object of Expenditures (FAR 2-A);
7. Report of Disbursements (FAR 4);
8. Quarterly Report of Revenue and Other Receipts (FAR 5);
9. Statement of Approved Budget, Utilizations, Disbursements and Balances for Trust Receipts (FAR 6); and
10. Statement of Allotment, Obligations and Balances (SAOB).

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated July 23, 2019 of Benjamin S. Pongos, Jr., OIC City Mayor, Ormoc City, transmitting the Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project Implementation for the Quarter Ended March 30 and June 30, 2019 on the Local Government Support Fund – Assistance to Cities (LGSF-AC) and on the Local Government Support Fund – Financial Assistance to Local Government Units (LGSF-FA to LGUs).

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated 23 July 2019 of Juanito Victor C. Remulla, Provincial Governor, Province of Cavite, submitting the Quarterly Financial Report of Operations for the Ending of 2nd Quarter 2019 - Conditional Matching Grant to Provinces for Road Repair, Rehabilitation and Improvement (FY 2017-2018 CMGP).

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated 23 July 2019 of Atty. Guiller B. Asido, Administrator, Intramuros Administration, transmitting to the House of Representatives the Financial Reports of the Intramuros Administration for the quarter ending June 30, 2019.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated July 26, 2019 of Victor J. Yu, Provincial Governor, Province of Zamboanga Del Sur, submitting the Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project Implementation for the Quarter Ended April to June 2019 on the Local Government Support Fund to Local Government Unit, to wit:

1. Social Services Program;
2. Conditional Matching Grant Program;
3. Bottom-Up Budgeting (BUB) Projects; and
4. Kalsada Projects.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated July 29, 2019 of Ernesto M. Pernia, Secretary of Socioeconomic Planning, National

Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), submitting the NEDA's Physical Report of Operations (PRO) as of June 30, 2019.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Letter dated 29 July 2019 of Gilda G. Sañosa, Chief, Financial and Management Division, Civil Aeronautics Board, Department of Transportation, furnishing the House of Representatives with a copy of the following reports:

1. Status of Implementation of Prior Years' Audit Recommendation – Audit Observations and Recommendations for the CY 2019 as of June 30, 2019; and
2. Annual Audit Report of the Civil Aeronautics Board for the year ended December 31, 2018.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated 30 July 2019 of Michael G. Aguinaldo, Chairperson, Commission on Audit, furnishing the House of Representatives with copies of the 2018 Annual Audit Reports (AARs) on the following government agencies:

A. Consolidated Annual Audit Reports

1. Department of Education (DepEd);
2. University of the Philippines System (UPS);
3. Commission on Higher Education (CHED);
4. National Labor Relations Commission (NLRC); and
5. Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA).

B. Individual Annual Audit Reports

1. Early Childhood Care and Development Council (ECCDC);
2. National Council for Children's Television (NCCT);
3. National Book Development Board (NBDB);
4. National Museum (NM);
5. Marikina Polytechnic College (MPC);
6. Philippine State College of Aeronautics (PhilSCA);
7. Bureau of Workers with Special Concerns – Social Amelioration Program (BWSC-SAP);
8. Professional Regulation Commission (PRC);
9. Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA); and
10. Institute for Labor Studies (ILS).

C. Management Letters

1. Eulogio "Amang" Rodriguez Institute of Science and Technology (EARIST); and
2. Rizal Technological University (RTU).

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated August 6, 2019 of Ernesto M. Pernia, Secretary of Socioeconomic Planning and Head, Legislative-Executive Development Advisory Council (LEDAC) Secretariat, submitting the Second Quarter Financial and Physical Accomplishments that includes the following:

1. Statement of Appropriations, Allotments, Obligations, Disbursements and Balances as of the Quarter Ending June 30, 2019; and
2. Quarterly Physical Report of Operation as of June 30, 2019.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated 15 August 2019 of Secretary Adelino B. Sito, LLB, LLM, Presidential Adviser on Legislative Affairs and Head, PLLO, submitting the following financial accomplishment reports, pursuant to Section 102 of the General Provisions of Republic Act No. 11260:

1. Statement of Appropriations, Allotments, Obligations, Disbursements and Balances for the quarter ending June 30, 2019 (FAR No. 1);
2. Summary of Appropriations, Allotments, Obligations, Disbursements and Balances for the quarter ending June 30, 2019 (FAR No. 1-A);
3. List of Allotments and Sub-allotments for the quarter ending June 30, 2019 (FAR No. 1-B);
4. Monthly Report of Disbursements for the months of April, May and June 2019 (FAR No. 4); and
5. Quarterly Report of Revenue and Other Receipts as of June 30, 2019 (FAR No. 5).

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated August 27, 2019 of Jose Luis Martin C. Gascon, Chairperson, Commission on Human Rights, furnishing the House of Representatives with a copy of the Human Rights Advisory on the Accessibility as a Matter of Right of Persons with Disabilities, CHR (V) Advisory A2019-005, issued on July 1, 2019.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education (Committee Report No. 10), re H.B. No. 4466, entitled:

“AN ACT INTEGRATING LABOR EDUCATION INTO THE SOCIAL SCIENCE SUBJECTS IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION CURRICULUM”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 1228, 3323 and 3736
Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark) and Pineda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Rep. Juan Miguel Macapagal Arroyo, the Chair suspended the session at 2:57 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 3:23 p.m. with Speaker Alan Peter “Compañero” S. Cayetano presiding.

PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTIONS NO. 10 AND 9

Majority Leader Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez then stated that the Body had adopted the previous day Resolutions 10 and 9, the titles and texts of which he read into the records of the House. After he acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the officers of the Metrobank Foundation and the awardees of the Metrobank Foundation Outstanding Filipinos of 2019, the Body proceeded to the presentation of said resolutions to them.

REMARKS OF THE SPEAKER

Speaker Cayetano said it was a privilege and honor for him and all the Members to be part of the resolution that honors the commitment, life, and work of Metrobank’s founder, Dr. George Siao Kian Ty. In relation thereto, he invited the Metrobank Foundation officers and the Members to a simple ceremony at the Speaker’s Office.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair thereafter *motu proprio* suspended the session at 3:32 p.m. to allow the Metrobank Foundation officers and Metrobank Foundation Outstanding Filipinos of 2019 awardees to receive a copy of said resolutions.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:41 p.m., the session resumed.

BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 8 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

Thereupon, on motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 4228 contained in Committee Report No. 8 as reported out by the Committee on Appropriations.

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

“AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

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

On further motion of Majority Leader Romualdez, there being no objection, the Chair then recognized Rep. Isidro T. Ungab, chairperson of the sponsoring committee, to sponsor the measure.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE UNGAB

Initially, Representative Ungab stated that the 2020 General Appropriations Bill (GAB) did not embody the President’s National Expenditure Program *in toto* and the Committee would leave it to Congress to exercise its legislative power of the purse.

At this juncture, Speaker Cayetano (A.P.) relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Rodante D. Marcoleta.

Subsequently, the Sponsor stressed that the proposed P4.1 trillion national budget, which was 12 percent higher than the 2019 budget, aimed to achieve the government’s development goals by investing in priority programs. He added that the expenditure program, consistent with the fiscal program, supported the fiscal policy to finance strategic infrastructure and human capital development.

After presenting the budgetary allocations per expense class, sector, as well as department, with maintenance and other operating expenses, social services, and Department of Education receiving the largest, he asked for the Members’ support for the “People’s Budget” and the interest of the Filipino in general. He thanked the House leadership and the Secretariat, as well as his constituents for their trust and support.

On motion of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, the Chair next recognized Rep. Elenita Milagros “Eileen” Ermita-Buhain, senior vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to deliver her sponsorship speech.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ERMITA-BUHAIN

Representative Ermita-Buhain stated that the proposed national budget is based on cash-based budgeting which will instill fiscal discipline while improving the efficient implementation of projects and delivery of services. She said that under said budget, social services shall get a significant share; and public services that would provide jobs, educate the youth, ensure a healthier citizenry, and empower each Filipino to participate in economic activity, will be given focus.

Representative Ermita-Buhain thereafter stressed that the national budget is a powerful tool for promoting greater equity and appealed to the Members for the swift approval thereof.

DEBATE ON THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND PROVISIONS OF THE 2020 GAB

On successive motions of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, there being no objection, the Body then considered the General Principles and Provisions of the 2020 GAB and subsequently, the Chair recognized Minority Leader Bienvenido M. Abante Jr. for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

Minority Leader Abante initially expressed the Minority’s support for the immediate passage of the National Expenditure Program (NEP). He then asked about the capacity of executive agencies to utilize their allocations and of the capacity of the government to generate sufficient revenues to fund the national budget.

After Representative Ungab stated that the proposed 2020 GAB was based on the Philippine Development Plan formulated by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), he opined that the implementation of the Bill’s macroeconomic fundamentals could support sustainable growth and development.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Macapagal Arroyo acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the members of the Development Budget Coordination Committee, namely: Secs. Wendel E. Avisado, Carlos G. Dominguez, and Ernesto M. Pernia of the Departments of Budget and Management (DBM),

Finance (DOF), and NEDA, respectively; and Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) Deputy Governor Francisco Dakila Jr.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, the Chair recognized Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

At the outset, Representative Atienza requested the earlier distribution of copies of the proposed 2020 GAB as he had gotten his copy thereof just the previous day. Even as he said that said document was a faithful copy of the NEP, the Sponsor took note of his colleague's request.

Representative Atienza then sought information on the objectives and the main direction of the instant measure that would change the socioeconomic condition of and guarantee a better life, for the Filipino people.

After assuring Representative Atienza that the biggest allocation of the GAB will be for the social and economic services sectors, Representative Ungab and the former discussed the major role of culture in national development and how the budget will give more preference, appreciation, and importance to it.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, the Chair suspended the session at 4:53 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 4:54 p.m.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA (Continuation)

Representative Atienza's succeeding question focused on corruption as regards flood control projects which were either not implemented or completed, thus resulting in billions of pesos in government losses.

Finally, he enjoined his colleagues to respond to the President's call of ensuring that the 2020 budget will be properly spent to improve the lives of the Filipino people, and thanked the Sponsor for allowing him to express their sentiments.

Representative Macapagal Arroyo moved for the recognition of Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate for his interpellation.

REMINDER FROM THE CHAIR

Before giving the floor to Representative Zarate, the Chair first reminded the Members to limit their time of interpellation, and to focus their questions only on the General Principles and Provisions.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Representative Zarate raised concern that contrary to the sponsoring Committee's claim that the 2020 budget has allocated bigger amounts for general public services like education and health services, it has in reality given them a low rate of increase. He noted that on the contrary, the budgets for national defense, debt payments, and confidential and intelligence expenses under the Office of the President have a higher rate of increase than the previous year's appropriations. He opined that the proposed measure is not a continuing journey for a more peaceful country but a budget intended to address war and create repression. This, as he questioned the lack of real economic progress as evidenced by a high rate of unemployment, and the Duterte administration's debt-driven strategy in pursuing its programs and projects.

Representatives Zarate and Ungab then discussed the country's current and projected debts, the source of funds for the 2020 budget, such as tax collections, and the impact of the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion or TRAIN Law on the poor population.

Further, they delved into Representative Zarate's concern about the adjustments in the budget appropriations for, and the low obligation rates of, selected national agencies and departments to meet the targets for the rest of 2019, as well as the basis for determining which of the government agencies would receive a higher or lower budget allocation for 2020.

Finally, Representative Zarate stressed that the government, through the 2020 budget should not focus more on national defense than basic services, and likewise emphasized the need to prioritize the agriculture sector.

REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

The Chair reiterated the previous request on the limits of interpellation, explaining that based on the previous interpellations, an hour would cover an average of six questions. He reminded the interpellators to focus on their main questions rather than on their preliminary statements.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE TEVES

Recognized by the Chair upon motion of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, Rep. Arnolfo “Arnie” A. Teves Jr. initially asked for the assurance that no further revisions would be made upon approval of the budget, and results of its deliberations would exactly be reflected therein.

Representative Teves then posed his suggestion regarding the Bureau of Customs’ (BOC) implementation of a “No X-ray, No Entry” policy and its corresponding budget requirement, to which the Sponsor agreed that the proposed policy is possible for the Bureau.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Marcoleta relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Henry S. Oaminal.

SUSPENSION OF DEBATE ON THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND PROVISIONS

Thereupon, on motion of Rep. Precious Hipolito Castelo, there being no objection, the Body suspended the debate on the General Principles and Provisions of the 2020 national budget.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOF AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES/CORPORATIONS

On motion of Representative Castelo, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the Department of Finance (DOF) and its attached agencies and corporations.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Castelo, the Chair suspended the session at 6:02 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 6:03 p.m.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Upon resumption of session, Representative Castelo acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Deputy Speaker Raneo “Ranie” E. Abu, as well as the DOF officials headed by Secretary Carlos G. Dominguez III.

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Castelo, the Chair recognized Rep. Horacio P. Suansing Jr., vice chairperson of the sponsoring committee, to sponsor the proposed budgets of the DOF and its attached agencies and corporations.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE SUANSING (H.)

Representative Suansing said that as there is currently stronger fiscal governance due to the passage of measures pertaining to taxes, he called on his colleagues to support the approval of the 2020 budget of the DOF and its attached agencies and corporations in the amount of ₱17.2 billion.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Castelo, the Chair recognized Representative Atienza for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Representative Atienza inquired on the number of vans coming in daily in the different ports of the country, on whether the BOC have competent personnel to check and verify if the goods declared on the advanced manifest are true and correct, and how the bureau could say that it is aware of the goods in the container vans when no inspections in the ports of entry are being done and the BOC personnel are only relying on the declaration from the ports of origin.

Another issue that Representative Atienza raised was BOC’s non-implementation of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA) which he offered to amend, if necessary, to support its implementation; otherwise, an inaction on the matter would be unfair to those who are dutifully paying their taxes, he said.

Representative Atienza then discussed with Representative Suansing (H.) the BOC’s issues regarding the implementation of the pre-inspection scheme. Although Representative Atienza emphasized the need to invest on equipment that could help curb smuggling, he reiterated that smuggling continues because of container vans that enter the country uninspected.

In closing, Representative Atienza said that he would continue to fight for this issue should it remain unaddressed and that he would also be counting on the commitment of the Secretary of Finance to implement the CMTA.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOF AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS

There being no further interpellations, on joint motion of Representative Castelo on the part of the

Majority and Rep. Stella Luz A. Quimbo on the part of the Minority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DOF, including its attached agencies and corporations.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Rep. Christopher V. P. de Venecia acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of guests of Deputy Speaker Raneo “Ranie” E. Abu and Rep. Gavini “Apol” C. Pancho.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 6:41 p.m., upon motion of Representative de Venecia.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 6:45 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE LEDAC

On motion of Rep. Niña Taduran, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Legislative-Executive Development Advisory Council (LEDAC).

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Taduran, the Chair suspended the session at 6:46 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:46 p.m., the session resumed.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE LEDAC (Continuation)

On subsequent motion of Representative Taduran, the Body acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the officials and members of LEDAC; and the Chair thereafter recognized Rep. Peter John D. Calderon, vice chairperson of the sponsoring committee, to sponsor the budget of the LEDAC.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE CALDERON

Representative Calderon said that LEDAC, the creation of which was mandated under Republic Act (R.A.) No. 7640, serves as a consultative and advisory body to the president and a venue for high-level policy discussions to achieve national development. He thereafter requested for a favorable consideration of its proposed budget.

On motion of Representative Taduran, the Chair recognized Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr. for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BORDADO

Representative Bordado initially pointed out the important function of the LEDAC and subsequently discussed with Representative Calderon the LEDAC’s performance in terms of meetings, such as joint, executive, and technical working group meetings, which are crucial to facilitate the formulation of a common legislative agenda. When asked about LEDAC’s next plans, Representative Calderon said that a technical working group had already come up with an indicative list of common legislative agenda pending for approval by the Council.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE LEDAC

There being no other interpellations, on a joint motion of Representative Bordado on the part of the Minority and Representative Taduran on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the LEDAC.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Taduran, the Chair suspended the session at 6:58 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:59 p.m., the session resumed.

RESUMPTION OF THE DEBATE ON GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND PROVISIONS

Thereupon, on successive motions of Representative Bagatsing, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration of the debate on the General Principles and Provisions of House Bill No. 4228, and the Chair recognized Rep. Bayani F. Fernando for his interpellation.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 7:02 p.m. upon motion of Representative Bagatsing.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 7:02 p.m.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, the Chair recognized Rep. Joey

Sarte Salceda, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor the measure.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Oaminal relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Pablo John F. Garcia.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE FERNANDO

Representative Fernando discussed Section 20 of the General Provisions of House Bill No. 4228 on the Procurement of Common Use Supply and recommended the mandatory procurement of at least 70% of locally-manufactured products including that of garments and shoes. While Representative Salceda explained that there are laws guiding government procurement, Representative Fernando said that he would make the appropriate amendments at the proper time.

Thereafter, on motion of Rep. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo, the Chair recognized Rep. France L. Castro for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Representative Castro discussed the proposed salary increase for government employees, especially the public school teachers and school personnel. She also sought clarification on the allocation for, and implementation of, the next Salary Standardization Law (SSL).

Representative Salceda said he would share the explanation of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) on the Miscellaneous Personnel Benefits Funds for the Payment of Compensation and enjoined Representative Castro to look into the study to be submitted by the Governance Commission for Government-Owned and -Controlled Corporations (GCG) on the compensation framework for civil servants.

Representative Castro continued to discuss the main objectives of the 2020 GAB and the allocations for relevant agencies such as the Department of Health. She emphasized the need to address the root of conflict, such as social injustice, criminality, and terrorism in order to achieve long lasting peace and progress. She and the sponsor also looked into the tax collections and the government infrastructure spending under the “Build, Build, Build” program.

Representative Castro thereafter opined that the measure is not centered on poverty alleviation

because it lacks budgetary support for youth, health, housing, and education facilities.

On motion of Representative Bagatsing, the Chair recognized Rep. Junie E. Cua, vice chairperson of the sponsoring committee, and Rep. Arlene D. Brosas to sponsor the measure and interpellate thereon, respectively.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Representative Brosas asked how much was the total savings of the government from 2016 to 2018 under the Duterte administration.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Cua, the session was suspended at 7:48 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 7:49 p.m.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS (Continuation)

Pending the availability of her requested figures, Representative Brosas asked why there was a need to burden the people with additional taxes, given the increasing government savings. She then inquired on the estimated 2020 national government savings.

Representatives Brosas and Cua subsequently discussed the concerns on the sources of government savings, during which Representative Cua said that he would provide Representative Brosas a copy of the report on savings for 2017 and 2018. Finally, Representative Brosas said that it is important to provide budgetary support for the agriculture sector.

On motion of Representative Bagatsing, the Chair recognized Rep. Eufemia “Ka Femia” C. Cullamat for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CULLAMAT

At the outset, Representative Cullamat noted the huge allocations for the Departments of National Defense, and of the Interior and Local Government, the Intelligence and Confidential Fund, and the Office of the President, and said that the budgets for health and agriculture, and not the said allocations would support poverty alleviation.

As a martial law victim herself, Representative Cullamat suggested that the government should allocate funds for peace talks instead of increasing the budget for security forces; and stressed that for the country's progress, the concerns of the poor should be prioritized.

On motion of Representative Bagatsing, the Chair recognized Rep. Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CABATBAT

After getting confirmation that the reproduction of the NEP was done manually, Representative Cabatbat cited a discrepancy in a budgetary item under the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) as written in the NEP and the GAB.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

At 8:27 p.m., the session was suspended upon Representative Cua's motion.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 8:28 p.m.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CABATBAT (Continuation)

Representative Cabatbat then sought clarification regarding the definition of the word "savings" which, under the latest NEP, excludes unutilized funds for Personnel Services (PS), and the continuing appropriations of unobligated releases for the PS. Lastly, he also clarified if most of the agencies did not report their 2018 continuing appropriations.

TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES AND PROVISIONS OF THE 2020 GAB

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Representative Bagatsing and Senior Deputy Minority Leader Janette L. Garin, representing the Majority and the Minority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the General Principles and Provisions of the 2020 GAB.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair suspended the session at 8:35 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 8:36 p.m., the session resumed.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE NEDA AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES/CORPORATION

Whereupon, on motion of Rep. Anthony Peter "Onyx" D. Crisologo, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the NEDA and its attached agencies and corporation.

At this point, Representative Crisologo acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of NEDA officials headed by Secretary Ernesto M. Pernia; and on his motion, the Chair recognized Representative Cua for his sponsorship.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 8:38 p.m. upon motion of Representative Crisologo.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 8:39 p.m.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE CUA

Representative Cua stated that it was his pleasure to sponsor the budget of the NEDA, which is the policy-coordinating body and the lead agency for socioeconomic development of the country.

MANIFESTATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

On motion of Representative Crisologo, the Chair recognized Minority Leader Abante who requested the NEDA to just furnish him written answers with regard to its definition of and criteria on poverty; the status of and payment for "Build, Build, Build" projects; and the unsolicited bids that businessman Ramon S. Ang had submitted to the DOF for the construction of a new Manila International Airport. Representative Cua assured the Minority Leader that he will ask the NEDA to provide the information.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Crisologo, the Chair recognized Rep. Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DIMAPORO (M.K.)

Representative Dimaporo's concern centered on certain departments transferring budgets from one region to another, reminding the Body of the existence of executive orders, administrative orders, and laws which define the administrative jurisdiction of the NEDA Board or the NEDA Regional Development Councils.

Representative Dimaporo also discussed with Representative Cua whether the Bangsamoro government already submitted a regional development plan for projects to be funded by the proposed 2020 General Appropriations Act (GAA) aside from its ₱70-billion block grant. The former opined that this could be categorized as pork barrel in the Executive Branch.

On motion of Representative de Venecia, the Chair next recognized Rep. Ferdinand R. Gaité to interpellate the Sponsor.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

Representative Gaité debated with Representative Cua on the effect of the policy on public-private partnership (PPP) on the equitable distribution of income and wealth as provided for in the Constitution, as well as on fair competition and labor protection. The former cited in particular the increased service rates, poor service delivery, and worker layoffs in water utilities that had been privatized. The latter said that he will take note of his colleague's suggestions to ensure that public interest is safeguarded.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, the Chair recognized Rep. Angelica Natasha Co for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CO (A.N.)

Representative Co asked about the NEDA's unused appropriations in 2018, a large part of which she claimed, was classified as unobligated allotment. Representative Cua, saying this came from the budget of the Philippine Statistics Authority for the national ID system, said he will provide a detailed breakdown as requested by Representative Co.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DAGOOC

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, the Chair recognized Rep. Sergio C. Dagooc who discussed with the Sponsor the importance of addressing power and energy problems which are vital risks to the economic growth of the country. Representative Cua said that he had taken note of his colleague's suggestions.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE NEDA AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES/CORPORATION

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Representative Macapagal Arroyo on the part of the Majority and Rep. Alyssa Sheena P. Tan, CPA on the part of the Minority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the NEDA and its attached agencies/corporation.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE NICA AND THE NSC

On subsequent motion of Representative Romualdo, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency (NICA) and the National Security Council (NSC).

Upon further motion of Representative Romualdo, the Chair recognized Rep. Rozzano Rufino B. Biazon, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, for his sponsorship remarks.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE BIAZON

Representative Biazon presented the proposed budgets of the NSC and NICA, saying they were higher and lower, respectively, than their 2019 budgets.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Romualdo acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of NSC Director General and National Security Adviser

Hermogenes Esperon Jr., NICA Director General Alex Paul Monteagudo, and other officials of both agencies.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Romualdo, the Chair recognized Representative Zarate for his manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Representative Zarate pointed out that the budget for national security was augmented while that for social services was reduced. He said that the government should focus less on its all-out-war against insurgency and more on poverty, injustice and human rights issues, and resumption of peace talks. He stressed that the responsibility of the House was to craft a budget that will address the root of the five-decade old rebellion in the country.

On another motion of Representative Romualdo, the Chair recognized Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago for her manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Representative Elago raised the issue of the NICA and NSC's incomplete on-line reporting of accomplishments such as in the matter of asserting Philippine sovereignty in the West Philippine Sea. She also expressed apprehension about the agencies' on-line posting of their plan to intensify the anti-drug campaign, saying it would mean more killings especially in the youth and marginalized sectors.

In closing, she stressed that Congress should fund programs that address the clamor and sentiments of the people and that the government should not resort to suppression or repression.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE BIAZON

Representative Biazon said that the NSC and NICA had committed to update their websites accordingly.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Romualdo, the Chair recognized Representative Gaité for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

Representative Gaité sought clarification on and expressed fear about the red-baiting and red-tagging of several Members of Congress including himself as well as progressive party-list organizations, by the National Task Force to End Local Communist and Armed Conflict. He demanded that the NSC and NICA stop their misinformation campaign as they should learn to respect the rights of public officials and of the people.

Subsequently, Representative Gaité stated that he was not ready to accept the budgets of the NICA and NSC because the Sponsor's responses to his questions did not merit their budgets' approval.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

Whereupon, on motion of Rep. Manuel F. Zubiri, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE ZUBIRI

At this juncture, Representative Zubiri informed the Body that starting September 11, 2019, a new seating arrangement will be observed inside the Plenary Hall which was prepared based on established practice. He advised his colleagues to approach the plenary Secretariat and pages about their concerns on the matter.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Subsequently, on motion of Representative Zubiri, there being no objection, the session was suspended until one o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday, September 11, 2019.

It was 10:01 p.m. of Tuesday, September 10, 2019.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:00 p.m. of Wednesday, September 11, 2019 with Deputy Speaker Raneo “Ranie” E. Abu presiding.

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

On motion of Rep. Juan Pablo “Rimpy” P. Bondoc, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228 contained in Committee Report No. 8 as reported out by the Committee on Appropriations, entitled: “AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE FDCP AND THE OMB

Thereupon, on successive motions of Representative Bondoc, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the consideration of the proposed budgets of the following Executive offices:

1. Film Development Council of the Philippines (FDCP); and
2. Optical Media Board (OMB).

The Chair then recognized Rep. Ruwel Peter S. Gonzaga, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor the proposed budgets.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE FDCP AND THE OMB

In the absence of interpellations, on successive motions of Rep. Stella Luz A. Quimbo on the part of the Minority and Representative Bondoc on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the FDCP and the OMB.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETARY SUPPORT TO GOVERNMENT CORPORATIONS

On further successive motions of Representative Bondoc, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the consideration of the proposed budgetary

support to the following government corporations, one after the other:

1. Aurora Pacific Economic Zone and Freeport Authority (APEZFA);
2. Cagayan Economic Zone Authority (CEZA);
3. Credit Information Corporation (CIC); and
4. Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP).

The Chair recognized anew Representative Gonzaga for sponsorship of the foregoing budget proposals.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETARY SUPPORT TO GOVERNMENT CORPORATIONS

There being no interpellations, on successive motions of Representative Quimbo on the part of the Minority and Representative Bondoc on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the APEZFA, CEZA, CIC, and CCP.

MOTION OF REPRESENTATIVE SINGSON-MEEHAN

Rep. Kristine Singson-Meehan subsequently moved that the Body consider the proposed budget of the Judiciary.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Recognized by the Chair, Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. however manifested that the approval of the aforesaid budgets was a mockery of the Rules of the House because there was no quorum on the floor. He stressed that the Body should not approve any budget without the required number of Members present.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE BONDOC

Representative Bondoc explained that the budgets of small attached agencies had been scrutinized in the committee hearings; and that the Majority and Minority had no questions thereon. He pointed out that the plenary deliberations on the budgets of bigger agencies was next in line and more Members were arriving in the Session Hall.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session at 1:09 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:11 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE JUDICIARY

There being no objection to the previous motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Judiciary; and on the former's motion, the Chair recognized Representative Gonzaga to sponsor said budget and Rep. Arlene D. Brosas to interpellate thereon.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Before proceeding with Representative Brosas' interpellation, Representative Bondoc, with leave of the House, acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of justices from the Supreme Court, Sandiganbayan, Court of Appeals, and Court of Tax Appeals.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Upon recognition by the Chair, Representative Brosas asked for an investigation and proper administrative action as regards Judge Soliver Peras' quick issuance of hundreds of search warrants which were being used by the Philippine National Police (PNP) in Negros Oriental for its anti-insurgency program called "Oplan Sauron." She said that the latter has resulted in many deaths, summary executions, trumped-up charges of illegal possession of firearms and explosives, and other human rights violations.

Representative Gonzaga assured Representative Brosas that the Supreme Court will conduct a *motu proprio* investigation and submit the pertinent report within 30 days, on the matter.

On motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, the Chair then recognized Rep. France L. Castro for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Complementing Representative Brosas' interpellation, Representative Castro discussed with the Sponsor the proper procedure for the issuance of

warrants of arrest or search warrants; and the latter reiterated the aforecited commitment of the Supreme Court.

Subsequently, Representative Castro advocated the provision of sufficient manpower and infrastructure to the courts to enable them to address their low case disposition rates in particular; and an increase in the budget of the Judiciary in general as well as the return of the allocations that the DBM slashed from its budget proposal.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE JUDICIARY

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Representatives Singson-Meehan and Irene Gay F. Saulog, representing the Majority and the Minority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the Judiciary.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN

On successive motions of Representative Josephine Veronique R. Lacson-Noel, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Office of the Ombudsman.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

At 1:45 p.m., the Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:45 p.m.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Upon resumption of session, the Chair acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of officials of the Office of the Ombudsman headed by Ombudsman Samuel R. Martires.

On motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, the Chair thereafter recognized Rep. Romeo M. Jalosjos Jr., vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, and Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate for sponsorship and interpellation, respectively.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Representative Zarate inquired about the status, nature, basis, and guidelines of the Office of the

Ombudsman's investigations of (1) Bureau of Corrections (BOC) employees and top officials and involved in the irregular implementation of the "good conduct time allowance" program and (2) police officers involved in thousands of deaths under "Oplan Tokhang."

After Representative Jalosjos committed to provide data on police officers under said anti-illegal drug campaign who had been dismissed upon the request of Representative Zarate, the latter expressed hope that the agency will fill up its vacant positions to enable it to perform its job more effectively.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Representative Lacson-Noel and Senior Deputy Minority Leader Janette L. Garin, representing the Majority and the Minority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the Ombudsman.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF PCED

On successive motions of Representative Lacson-Noel, there being no objection, the Body next considered the proposed budget of the Philippine Center for Economic Development (PCED); and the Chair recognized Rep. Alfred Vargas, vice chairperson of the sponsoring committee, to sponsor the same.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF PCED

There being no Member who wished to interpellate thereon, on motion of Representative Quimbo on the part of the Minority and Representative Lacson-Noel on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of PCED.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Rep. Lianda B. Bolilia, at this point, acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Rep. Romeo S. Momo Sr.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF PCOO AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES AND CORPORATION

On motion of Representative Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) and its attached agencies and corporation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUESTS

With leave of the Chair, Representative Bolilia acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the PCOO family and its attached agencies and corporation headed by Secretary Martin Andanar.

Thereafter, on successive motions of Representative Bolilia, the Chair recognized Rep. Jose Enrique "Joet" S. Garcia III, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, and Representative Zarate for sponsorship and interpellation, respectively.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Representative Zarate reiterated his concerns, which he has presented in every national budget deliberation, about the small budget of the National Printing Office (NPO) and how this places its employees at a disadvantage. He asked for the restoration of the agency's budget proposal and the inclusion of a special provision in the Budget Bill that will address the matter.

Representative Garcia (J.E.) relayed his concern and the NPO's commitment to do all that was necessary.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Bolilia, the Chair recognized Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Representative Elago asked for an update on the documents she had requested from the PCOO during the budget briefing, regarding the Europe and U.S. Truth Caravan Trip; list of members of the Spokespersons Guild and the terms of reference of their development communication network; and fora and seminars on federalism.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

At 2:20 p.m., the Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 2:23 p.m.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

(Continuation)

After acknowledging receipt of said documents though incomplete, Representative Elago asked about #RealNumbers data on homicide cases and asked the agency to clarify that said cases were not the result of the war on illegal drugs. Representative Garcia (J.E.) said that the PCOO was committed to provide correct data based on the different operations of the government.

Representative Elago also asked about the agency's action regarding grammatical errors in press identification cards and inaccurate information in its publications and issuances; and reiterated her previous request for data on the spokespersons guild.

Finally, Representative Elago discussed with the Sponsor the status of the guidelines for government agencies in the use of social media platforms; and the source of funds for truth caravans.

MOTION OF REPRESENTATIVE BORDADO

On motion of Representative Bolilia, the Chair recognized Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr. who moved that the Body terminate the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the PCOO, but later withdrew his motion in view of Representative Atienza's manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Representative Atienza expressed support for the budget of the PCOO so as to ensure that it can provide effective means of communication in delivering the President's vision; and appealed for an increase in the agency's measly budget.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE PCOO

There being no further interpellations, on motion of Representative Bordado on the part of the Minority and Representative Singson-Meehan on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the PCOO.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session at 2:56 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 2:56 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE MTRCB

On subsequent motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, there being no objection, the Body then considered the proposed budget of the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Singson-Meehan acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the officers and members of the MTRCB led by Chairperson Maria Rachel J. Arenas; and on her motion, the Chair recognized Representative Vargas to sponsor the agency's budget.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE PCOO AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES AND CORPORATION

Before proceeding with the proposed MTRCB budget, Representative Bondoc corrected the termination of the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the PCOO to include the termination of the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of its attached agencies and corporation. There being no objection, the Body approved the motion.

Thereafter, on further motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, the Chair recognized Minority Leader Bienvenido M. Abante Jr. for a manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

Citing the mandate of the MTRCB, Minority Leader Abante questioned the airing of sexual and violent scenes by some television stations and online streaming platforms like Netflix, and asked the agency to give a written explanation thereon. He expressed hope for more family-oriented films especially on television.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, the Chair recognized Representative Atienza for his manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

As he said that he had nothing but praises for the MTRCB, Representative Atienza proposed to augment its proposed budget to enable it to perform its functions.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED MTRCB BUDGET

There being no further interpellations, on joint motion of Minority Leader Abante on the part of the Minority and Representative Singson-Meehan on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the MTRCB.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE CSC AND THE CESB

On motion of Representative Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the Civil Service Commission (CSC) and the Career Executive Service Board (CESB).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Thereupon, Representative Bolilia acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the officials of said agencies headed by CSC Chairperson Alicia Dela Rosa-Bala and CESB Executive Director Maria Anthonette C. Velasco-Allones; and on her motion, the Chair recognized Representatives Garcia (J.E.) and Ferdinand R. Gaité for sponsorship and interpellation, respectively.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

Representative Gaité debated with Representative Garcia (J.E.) on the wisdom, legality, and constitutionality of a joint circular of the CSC, Commission on Audit (COA), and Department of Budget and Management (DBM) which allows the hiring of employees under job orders and contracts. He reminded the Sponsor of the government's policy against labor-only contracting; and stressed that contractual employees who do not enjoy security of tenure and various health and insurance benefits, should be regularized.

After Representative Garcia said that he and the CSC were committed in finding ways in addressing

the needs of the workers, Representative Gaité also inquired on the delay in the hiring of employees in government hospitals because of certain CSC requirements.

To Representative Gaité's concerns about salary increases and collective negotiation agreements for government workers, the Sponsor assured his colleague of the CSC's support thereon.

On motion of Representative Bolilia, the Chair next recognized Rep. Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CABATBAT

Representative Cabatbat cited the recent case of several individuals who were deemed as having failed, based on statistically improbable results, in the civil service examinations that they had taken. He asked the CSC to revisit a memorandum which directs the CSC to stop conducting validating examinations, in order to enable said examinees to exercise their right to due process.

Thereupon, Representative Cabatbat sought details about the demolition of the CSC building in Sorsogon.

Instead of filing a motion to suspend further consideration of the proposed CSC budget, Representative Cabatbat took note of the commitment of the commission to submit a report on the matter.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair suspended the session at 4:20 p.m. upon Representative Garcia's (J.E.) motion.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:20 p.m., the session resumed.

On motion of Representative Bolilia, the Chair next recognized Representative Castro (F.L.) for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Representative Castro sought clarification on the high number of contractual and job order employees despite the reported 300,000 unfilled positions in the government, and thereafter asked the CSC to provide her with the details of the said vacant

positions. To provide clarifications on Representative Castro's subsequent concerns, Representative Garcia (J.E.) said the CSC would furnish her a copy of the guidelines on the Collective Negotiation Agreement or the CNA; and explained that the Commission does not have guidelines regarding the promotion of senior high school teachers.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE CSC AND THE CESB

Thereupon, on a joint motion of Rep. Ma. Victoria V. Umali and Representative Bolilia, on the part of the Majority and Minority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the CSC and the CESB.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DTI AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES/CORPORATIONS EXCEPT TESDA

On motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and its attached agencies/corporations except the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA); and thereafter, the Chair recognized Rep. Manuel F. Zubiri, vice chairperson of the sponsoring committee, to sponsor the proposed budgets.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Lacson-Noel acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the officials and employees of the DTI headed by Secretary Ramon M. Lopez.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE ZUBIRI

Representative Zubiri stated that despite DTI's small budget, its accomplishments, such as those that addressed unemployment, were able to help improve the lives of Filipinos and contribute to the national development. He hoped for the approval or even an increase of the DTI's 2020 proposed budget of ₱5.448 billion.

Thereupon, Representative Lacson-Noel acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the officials of the DTI; and on her motion, the Chair recognized Minority Leader Abante for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

Minority Leader Abante inquired into the reasons for the country's decrease in foreign investments and slow economic growth for the last three years, and asked what actions had been done by the DTI to address the concerns.

Minority Leader Abante also asked about the slowing down of the business process outsourcing or BPO industry's growth despite investment incentives given by the government. He cited the implications of tax laws such as the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN) Law and the pending Corporate Income Tax and Incentives Rationalization Act (CITIRA), and also mentioned about the seeming issue among officials of the DTI and Philippine Economic Zone Authority or PEZA.

On motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, the Chair next recognized Representative Atienza.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Upon request of Representative Atienza, Representative Lacson-Noel acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of guests from Southern Leyte who are guests of Rep. Florencio G. Noel.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Recognized by the Chair, Representative Atienza inquired if price monitoring of primary commodities is a function of the DTI, and whether the department has the power to enforce disciplinary action on establishments which would be caught violating the prescribed price ceiling or suggested retail price on a commodity.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Abu relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Michael L. Romero, PhD.

Representative Zubiri explained that the DTI could not impose penalties, except during calamities and cases of profiteering, because of the Price Act. Representative Atienza then suggested that the DTI prepare proposed amendments to the law to address the matter.

Further expounding on the price monitoring function of the DTI, Representative Atienza highlighted the importance of the DTI's commitment and its effective exercise of powers to protect the consumers.

The two Representatives then discussed the spread of African swine flu and called on the DTI to closely monitor the markets and even coordinate with other relevant agencies. Representative Zubiri stated that local pork is safe to consume and that the Food and Drug Administration in coordination with Department of Agriculture and National Meat Inspection Service are carefully monitoring the issue pointed out by Representative Atienza.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Lacson-Noel acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of former Rep. Neri J. Colmenares and guests of Rep. Weslie T. Gatchalian.

Thereafter, on further motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, the Chair recognized Rep. Sabiniano S. Canama for his manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CANAMA

Representative Canama, while recognizing the small proposed budget for DTI, stated that the allocation for the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) was reduced by ₱43 million. He added that the agency regulate more than 26,000 cooperatives and should have been given more budget, to which the Representative Zubiri agreed.

On motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, the Chair recognized Rep. Bayani F. Fernando for his manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE FERNANDO

Representative Fernando initially spoke about the DTI Department Administrative Order No. 19-01 or the guidelines on the issuance of certificate of preference for domestic bidders participating in government procurement project, which aims to promote domestic products and help local manufacturers. He then recommended for the implementation of a mandatory 70 percent local-added value procurement in all government agencies, and thereafter requested the DTI to submit a study on the potential impact of the proposal.

Further, he stated that he would introduce amendments at the proper time, in support of local products and goods, especially the garments and shoe industry. The Sponsor assured Representative Fernando that the DTI and even the House Committee on Trade and Industry would support his proposal.

On motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, the Chair recognized Representative Brosas for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Representative Brosas initially pointed out the reduced budget of DTI for 2020 and the passing of Republic Act No. 11203 or the Rice Liberalization and Tariffication Law which resulted to a huge loss in agricultural income, and further worsened the conditions of agricultural workers. She underscored the need for a genuine agrarian reform towards achieving food security and self-sufficiency in the country.

Representative Brosas then asked for information on the country's rice importers and the volume of imported rice entering the country, to which the Sponsor said that the DTI would get the available data from the Department of Agriculture and the Bureau of Customs although monitoring of the price of rice is not a mandate of the DTI.

Thereafter, Representatives Brosas and Zubiri discussed the decrease in the proposed budget for DTI, despite their crucial task of implementing programs for protection of consumers and local small enterprises.

Representative Brosas also asked about the DTI's interventions to address the negative impact of the TRAIN Law. Her queries also centered on the implementation of DTI's price monitoring and the suggested retail price for basic goods; how MSMEs could benefit from the ₱512 million budget for Negosyo Centers; and if DTI had programmed funds for tax expenditures. Representative Zubiri assured his colleague that she would be furnished the pertinent information on the plans for the said Negosyo Centers.

On motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, the Chair recognized Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr. for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BORDADO

Representative Bordado discussed with the Sponsor, the decrease in the 2020 budget for the Consumer Education and Advocacy Program and its implication on the DTI's efforts to promote consumer awareness; as well as the appropriations for, and current status of the Yolanda Rehabilitation and Task Force Bangon Marawi Programs.

On motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, the Chair recognized Representative Castro (F.L.) for her manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Representative Castro first called for an increase in the DTI budget, and thereafter relayed her concern on the effects of proposed and existing laws on micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), as well as Filipino-Chinese retailers. She stressed that the DTI should monitor the influx of Chinese businessmen and their products in the retail industry, and asked for a copy of a report on how it would protect the small Filipino businesses.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DTI AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS EXCEPT TESDA

On a joint motion of Representatives Garin (J.) and Lacson-Noel representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DTI and its attached agencies and corporations, except TESDA.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE AFAB

On successive motions of Rep. Alfred C. Delos Santos, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Authority of the Freeport Area of Bataan (AFAB), and thereafter acknowledged the AFAB family headed by Chairperson Emmanuel D. Pineda. The Chair, upon motion of Representative Delos Santos, subsequently recognized Rep. Joey Sarte Salceda, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor the said budget.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Salceda, the session was suspended at 6:38 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 6:39 p.m.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE AFAB

On a joint motion of Representatives Garin (J.) and Delos Santos representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the AFAB.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOJ AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

On motion of Rep. Michael Edgar Y. Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the Department of Justice (DOJ) and its attached agencies.

On motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair recognized Representative Gonzaga to sponsor the said budget.

Thereafter, Representative Aglipay acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the DOJ family headed by DOJ Secretary Menardo Guevarra and the officials of its attached agencies.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE GONZAGA

Representative Gonzaga said that it was an honor to sponsor the proposed budgets of the DOJ and its attached agencies.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GARIN (J.)

Recognized by the Chair upon Representative Aglipay's motion, Representative Garin asked Representative Gonzaga to state to the Body the mandate of the Public Attorney's Office (PAO) and the specific provision in R.A. No. 9406 or the PAO Law that allows for the PAO's investigative functions and creation of its forensic laboratory. Thereafter, Representative Garin cited the five line divisions mandated under the PAO Law, none of which, she said, covers the creation of forensic laboratories.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair suspended the session at 6:56 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 7:00 p.m.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF DOJ AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

On motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration of the proposed budgets of the DOJ and its attached agencies.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE SBMA

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Delos Santos, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) and thereafter, he acknowledged the presence of its officials and employees in the Session Hall.

On another motion of Representative Delos Santos, there being no objection, the Chair recognized Representatives Salceda and Gaite for sponsorship and interpellation, respectively.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

Representative Gaite asked about the status of the appointment of contractual employees and the so-called “volunteers” who are working in the SBMA, and the possibility to absorb them as regular employees. He likewise discussed his apprehension on the power subsidy provided to the Bases Conversion and Development Authority or the BCDA.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Romero relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Aurelio “Dong” D. Gonzales Jr.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE SBMA

Deputy Speaker Gonzales (A.) relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Romero.

Thereupon, on a joint motion of Representatives Delos Santos and Quimbo, on the part of the Majority and the Minority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the SBMA.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE BCDA

On motion of Representative Delos Santos, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the consideration of the proposed budget of the BCDA. He thereafter acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the BCDA family headed by its president, Mr. Vivencio Dizon.

The Chair thereafter recognized Representatives Salceda and Quimbo for sponsorship and interpellation, respectively, upon motion of Representative Delos Santos.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE BCDA

There being no interpellations, on a joint motion of Representative Quimbo on the part of the Minority and Representative Delos Santos on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the BCDA.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair suspended the session at 7:22 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 7:26 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOJ AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

On motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Chair recognized Representative Gonzaga to continue his sponsorship of the proposed budgets of the DOJ and its attached agencies.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair suspended the session at 7:27 p.m. upon Representative Aglipay’s motion.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 7:28 p.m.

On successive motions of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Chair recognized Representatives Gonzaga and Garin (J.) for sponsorship and interpellation, respectively, on the proposed budgets of the DOJ and its attached agencies.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GARIN (J.)

Representatives Garin and Gonzaga discussed the PAO's legal mandate, with the former saying it does not include the creation of a forensic laboratory and stressing that according to Interior and Local Government Secretary Eduardo Año, the only acceptable results are those coming from the Philippine National Police (PNP) Crime Laboratory and the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) Forensic Laboratory.

Representative Garin then presented the inconsistencies in the forensic results submitted by the NBI, PNP, and PAO forensic laboratories on certain cases, and questioned the capacity of PAO to conduct such investigation as well as the qualifications of the head of the PAO Forensic Laboratory.

The Sponsor gave the commitment that the DOJ would conduct its own investigation and give its report to Representative Garin who also said that she would, at the proper time, file a motion to subsume the PAO Forensic Laboratory under the NBI Crime Laboratory.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DIMAPORO (M.K.)

On motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair next recognized Rep. Mohammad Khalid Q. Dimaporo who narrated the harrowing experience he had with MILF Commander Bravo in 2008 while he was the provincial governor of Lanao del Norte, when Commander Bravo fired upon his constituents resulting in the death of 77 people. With the enactment of the Bangsamoro Organic Law and the decommissioning of the MILF combatants, Representative Dimaporo inquired about the DOJ's policy with regard to the MILF combatants with pending criminal cases.

Representative Gonzaga explained that not only is it a DOJ policy but a rule of law that pending cases would not be extinguished.

As Representative Dimaporo opined that Commander Bravo's appointment to the Bangsamoro Parliament was part of the plan to appease the latter, he also declared that the people of Lanao del Norte would never forget what the MILF had done to them. While he supported the Duterte administration's peace and order process, he requested the Secretary of Justice not to make a shortcut in the justice system but that due process should be observed.

INTERPELLATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

On motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair next recognized Minority Leader Bienvenido M. Abante Jr. who highlighted the so-called miscarriage of justice involving a DOJ attached agency, the Bureau of Corrections (BuCor), when it caused the premature release of more than a thousand inmates convicted of heinous crimes. He then made clarifications on whether it was former PNP Director General Ronald "Bato" Dela Rosa who asked for authority to release inmates under the Good Conduct Time Allowance (GCTA) Law; whether DOJ Department Order No. 953, designating the Justice Secretary as the final approving authority for the release of an inmate sentenced to life imprisonment, had been amended or modified; the implementation of the GCTA Law; and the possibility of re-imprisonment of those released through the said law.

Representative Gonzaga clarified that the DOJ can suspend the processing of GCTA applications but not the implementation of the law. The two Members also then talked about persons deprived of liberty (PDLs) in relation to the issues affecting the GCTA Law.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Romero relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Johnny Ty Pimentel.

At this point Representative Abante averted to the criminal cases filed against the Kapa Community Ministry International, Incorporated and questioned the dropping thereof that,

according to Representative Gonzaga, was due to the withdrawal of charges.

On motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair recognized Rep. Abdullah D. Dimaporo for his interpellation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DIMAPORO (A.)

Representative Dimaporo explained to the Body that there were four primary programs in Lanao del Norte namely: peace and order; unity of Muslims and Christians; development of the province; and good governance. He relayed the seemingly lack of support of the PNP which did not provide him with copies of investigation reports on the political killings in the province.

Representative Dimaporo lamented that they do not know anymore whom to turn to in order to keep peace and order in the province. He then expressed hope that his sentiments would be heard by the president.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair recognized Lawrence “Law” H. Fortun for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE FORTUN

Representatives Fortun and Gonzaga discussed the issues related to justice administration in the country such as delays in case development and backlogs of resolution of cases, congestion in jail facilities, and the consistent increase in the number of unfilled positions for public prosecutors.

Representative Fortun’s next questions focused on the inclusion in the surrender order of persons deprived of liberty or PDLs convicted of heinous crimes, including recidivists, habitual delinquents, and escapees, who were released under the GCTA Law. He then asked for the DOJ’s commitment to provide him with the data on the number of the released recidivists, habitual delinquents, and escapees, and concurred with the DOJ’s suggestion to revisit R.A. No. 10592 or the GCTA Law to check for possible its flaws.

Subsequently, Representative Fortun asked issues on contract agreements that the BuCor had entered into, including that with the Tagum Agricultural Development Corporation and the Iwahig Penal and Prison Farm. He requested for the Department’s commitment to provide him copies of the contracts he mentioned.

On another matter, the Members discussed the number of plantilla positions created under the establishment of the PAO Forensic Laboratory Center and the qualification requirements for these positions.

Thereafter on motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair recognized Rep. Solomon R. Chungalao for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CHUNGALAO

To the question of Representative Chungalao, Representative Gonzaga clarified that a private party is not allowed to pay the just compensation required in expropriation proceedings. He agreed that the matter should be brought to the attention of the Ombudsman.

On motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair recognized Representative Zarate for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Representative Zarate discussed with the Sponsor about the PNP members facing complaints and charges for deaths and offenses committed under the drug war program of the Duterte administration, to which Representative Gonzaga said that the DOJ would be giving his colleague detailed information on the matter.

Representative Zarate also asked about the possible criminal and administrative liabilities of PNP personnel in relation to the number of cases on the killings of activists and members of progressive organizations that are still pending preliminary investigation before the DOJ, and sought data on said cases.

The Members thereafter discussed the reason behind the transfer of high-value detainees from the BuCor to Fort Bonifacio; and the DOJ's opinion on President Rodrigo Roa Duterte's statement to set aside an arbitral ruling that the Scarborough Shoal is part of the exclusive economic zone of the Philippines, in view of a joint oil and gas exploration project with China.

The Sponsor said that the DOJ committed to let the rule of law prevail and that he will submit all documents requested by his colleague including a copy of the memorandum of agreement on the transfer of the subject prisoners.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair suspended the session at 9:27 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 9:39 p.m. with Deputy Speaker Gonzales (A.) presiding.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE (Continuation)

After pointing out that the DOJ Secretary had a role in the intergovernmental steering committee on the joint oil project, Representative Zarate urged his colleagues to defend the country's constitutional and sovereign rights over territorial waters.

On motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair recognized Representative Castro (F.L.).

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Representative Castro sought clarification on the legal basis for the transfer of high-value prisoners from the BuCor; and on the possible use of the GCTA system for the special treatment of foreign nationals convicted of heinous crimes especially those pertaining to illegal drugs.

On motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair next recognized Representative Brosas to interpellate the Sponsor.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Representative Brosas followed up the following documents that she had repeatedly requested from the BuCor: results of the investigation on former Mayor Antonio Sanchez' alleged violation of prison rules while inside the National Bilibid Prison (NBP); memorandum of release of Mayor Sanchez signed by former BuCor Director-General Nicanor E. Faeldon; and list of released convicts by virtue of the GCTA system as provided for in R.A. No. 10592.

Representative Gonzaga explained that the data will be submitted five working days after a BuCor officer-in-charge, who can authorize the processing of the release thereof, will have been assigned. He noted that the BuCor personnel in charge of the documents under question, had been suspended and had yet to be replaced.

Subsequently, the Members discussed how the DOJ can help the families of Mayor Sanchez' victims claim the payment of damages ordered by the court; and what kinds of convicts can apply under the GCTA Law. Finally, they discussed the proposed privatization of the NBP including the status of the informal settlers therein; and the Sponsor promised to submit a report thereon.

On motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair next recognized Representative Gaite for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

Acknowledging receipt of documents he had requested, Representative Gaite sought clarification on the seemingly different standards of punishment of the Bureau of Immigration (BI) as regards corrupt practices in the escort facilitation of foreign nationals.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Gonzales (A.) relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Pimentel.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Gonzaga, the Chair suspended the session at 10:24 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 10:30 p.m., the session was resumed.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE (Continuation)

Upon resumption of session, Representatives Gaité and Gonzaga then discussed the BI's role in monitoring the entry of foreign visitors; number of Chinese nationals who entered the country initially as visitors but later applied for work permits; and procedure in the issuance of special work permits.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Pimentel relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Abu.

Representative Gaité thereupon stressed the need to look into corruption in the issuance of work permits especially for Chinese nationals; and into the effect of the influx of Chinese workers in the Philippines on the local labor force, tax collection, and national security.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOJ AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Minority Leader Abante on the part of the Minority and Representative Aglipay on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DOJ and its attached agencies.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

Whereupon, on motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the Additional Reference of Business.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read on First Reading the titles of the following House Bills, including the Message from the President and Communications, which were consigned to the Archives or referred to the appropriate committees indicated hereunder:

House Bill No. 4407, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE COMMUNITY-DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT APPROACH AS A NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND SOCIAL PROTECTION, MANDATING ALL NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, INCLUDING THEIR ATTACHED AGENCIES, OFFICES AND BUREAUS, LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, AND OTHER GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES TO IMPLEMENT THEIR COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS, ACTIVITIES, AND PROJECTS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Dalog
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES

House Bill No. 4408, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE FORESTLAND BOUNDARY OF MOUNTAIN PROVINCE”

By Representative Dalog
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4409, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING THAT PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLE DRIVERS WHO ENCOUNTER FORTUITOUS VEHICULAR MALFUNCTIONS OR BREAKDOWNS WHILE ON DUTY SHALL BE PROVIDED WITH IMMEDIATE EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE, AND SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED AS A TRAFFIC OFFENSE”

By Representative Bautista
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4410, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7796, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE TESDA ACT OF 1994 AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Defensor (Michael)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4411, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 284 OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS 'HEALTH ALLOCATION
ACT OF 2019' ”

By Representative Defensor (Michael)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4412, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SIXTH
DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE
IN ISABELA PROVINCE AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Dy (Faustino Inno)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND
HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4413, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE REVISED
WAREHOUSE RECEIPTS LAW OF THE
PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Romualdo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 4414, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SPECIALTY
HOSPITAL IN CEBU CITY TO
SPECIALIZE IN KIDNEY AND ALLIED
DISEASES TO BE KNOWN AS THE
VISAYAS KIDNEY INSTITUTE AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Lagon
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4415, entitled:

“AN ACT RENAMING MARIANO MARCOS
STATE UNIVERSITY (MMSU) AS
FERDINAND E. MARCOS STATE
UNIVERSITY (FEMSU), EXPANDING
ITS CURRICULAR OFFERINGS AND
STRENGTHENING ITS GOVERNING
BOARD, AMENDING FOR THE
PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE
NO. 1279”

By Representative Barba
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL
EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4416, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING ALL BARANGAY
OFFICIALS, INCLUDING BARANGAY

TANODS, MEMBERS OF THE LUPON
NG TAGAPAMAYAPA, BARANGAY
WORKERS AND BARANGAY DAY
CARE WORKERS, A LUMP SUM
RETIREMENT PAY EQUIVALENT
TO ONE (1) YEAR HONORARIUM,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
SECTION 393 OF REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 7160, AS AMENDED,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'LOCAL
GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991' ”

By Representative Bagatsing
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4417, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT
OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND
SKILLS DEVELOPMENT, DEFINING
ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS,
REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7796,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE TESDA
ACT OF 1994 AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Salceda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON
HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4418, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE SPECIAL
SHARI'ABAR EXAMINATION AS CIVIL
SERVICE EXAMINATION, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE R.A. 1080
ENTITLED 'AN ACT DECLARING THE
BAR AND BOARD EXAMINATIONS AS
CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATIONS' ”

By Representative Sangcopan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND
PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 4419, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING THE USE OF
WASTE-TO-ENERGY TECHNOLOGY,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8749, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE CLEAN AIR ACT OF
1999”

By Representatives Suarez (David), Villaraza-
Suarez and Suarez (Aleta)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

SEP 04 2019

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
and Members of the House of Representatives
House of Representatives
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Pursuant to Section 27(1), Article VI of the 1987 Constitution, I am returning herewith without my signature the consolidated enrolled **Senate Bill No. 2124 / House Bill No. 9023**, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NUMBERED 1341, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘THE CHARTER OF THE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES.’”

While I recognize the noble objective of the measure to promote, foster, nurture, and protect the right of all citizens to accessible quality education, I have serious reservations on the suitability of the means chosen to attain this end, namely, granting the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) the status of a national polytechnic university, with all the benefits and privileges such status entails. I cannot disregard the fact that the PUP, despite its stature in our education sector, is but one of many state universities and colleges (SUCs) in the country. As such, its proposed designation as national polytechnic university needs to be reassessed in light of its current performance ranking among other SUCs. The comparative performance of its satellite campuses and extension programs needs to be similarly evaluated before granting the PUP system as a whole such privileged status.

A reassessment is all the more needful considering that the enrolled bill provides for the grant of fiscal autonomy to PUP, which departs from the adopted policy of granting only institutional autonomy to SUCs. The proposed provision on appropriations would also have a significant fiscal impact on the government, which may be avoided only if the PUP budget would continue to be subject to the need for prioritization and the usual budgetary and monitoring processes.

These concerns taken together put in question the suitability of the passage of the measure at this time.

In view of these considerations, I am constrained to veto the above mentioned Enrolled Bill.

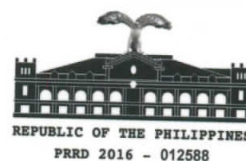
Very truly yours,



Copy furnished:

Sen. Vicente C. Sotto III
Senate President
The Philippine Senate
Pasay City

Sec. Adelino B. Sitoy
Head
Presidential Legislative Liaison Office
2/F New Executive Bldg.
Malacañang, Manila



TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter dated July 30, 2019 of Eduardo M. Año, Secretary, Department of the Interior and Local Government, submitting the Department's CY 2019 Performance Challenge Fund 1st Quarter Progress Report.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Letter dated 1 August 2019 of Arsenio M. Balisacan, PhD, Chairman, Philippine Competition Commission, providing the House of Representatives a copy of their 2018 Annual Report with the theme "Disrupting Unfair Market Competition".

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Letters dated August 7, 2019 of Delfin N. Lorenzana, Secretary, Department of National Defense, submitting the reports on the implementation of Martial Law in Mindanao covering the period of 1 January 2019 to 30 April 2019 and 1-31 May 2019.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

Letter dated 7 August 2019 of Ramon M. Lopez, Chairperson, Export Development Council (EDC), submitting the EDC Consolidated 1st and 2nd Quarter Report for 2019.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

Letter dated August 9, 2019 of Mario G. Lipana, Director III, Officer-in-Charge, Regional Office No. IV-A, Commission on Audit, furnishing the House of Representatives with a copy of the CYs 2016-2018 Annual Audit Report (AAR) on the Santa Cruz Water District, Santa Cruz, Laguna.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated August 9, 2019 of Minerva I. Morales Ed. D, SUC President III, Catanduanes State University, submitting to the House of Representatives the Budget Accountability Report (BAR-1) as of June 30, 2019 of the CSU, generated from the DBM – Unified Reporting System.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated August 22, 2019 of Maria Gleda E. Lim, State Auditor V, Supervising Auditor, Audit Groups CGS I & II – Water Districts and Other CGS Stand Alone Agencies, Regional Office No. VI, Commission on Audit, furnishing the House of Representatives a copy of the Annual Audit Report on the Patnongon Water District, Patnongon, Antique for the years ended December 31, 2016, 2017, and 2018.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated August 22, 2019 of Lucas P. Bersamin, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of the Philippines, Manila, presenting to the House of Representatives a copy of The 2018 Judiciary Annual Report.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

Letter dated August 22, 2019 of Maria Lourdes L. Agustin, CESO III, Regional Director, Department of the Interior and Local Government, National Capital Region (NCR), providing the House of Representatives a copy of their 2018 Annual Report, containing accomplishments in the implementation of the Department's PPAs in NCR.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Bureau of the Treasury-Proper Agency Action Plan and Status of Implementation on the Audit Observations and Recommendations for the calendar year 2018.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated August 22, 2019 of Michael G. Aguinaldo, Chairperson, Commission on Audit, furnishing the House of Representatives with copies of the 2018 Annual Audit Reports (AARs) on the following government agencies:

A. Consolidated AARs

1. Commission on Population and Development;
2. Department of Health;
3. Department of Information and Communications Technology;
4. Department of Science and Technology;
5. Department of Social Welfare and Development;
6. National Nutrition Council;
7. National Telecommunications Commission;
- and
8. Philippine Science High School System.

B. Individual AARs

1. Advanced Science and Technology Institute;
2. Council for the Welfare of Children;
3. Food and Nutrition Research Institute;
4. Industrial Technology Development Institute;
5. Inter-Country Adoption Board;
6. Juvenile Justice and Welfare Council;
7. Metals Industry Research and Development Center;
8. National Academy of Science and Technology;
9. National Council on Disability Affairs;
10. National Privacy Commission;
11. National Research Council of the Philippines;

12. Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration;
13. Philippine Council for Health Research and Development;
14. Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research and Development;
15. Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology;
16. Philippine Nuclear Research Institute;
17. Philippine Textile Research Institute;
18. Science and Technology Information Institute;
19. Science Education Institute; and
20. Technology Application and Promotion Institute.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated August 22, 2019 of Michael G. Aguinaldo, Chairperson, Commission on Audit, furnishing the House of Representatives with copies of the CY 2018 Annual Audit Reports (AARs) on Government-Owned or -Controlled Corporations (GOCCs) in the National Capital Region and Management Letter to a GOCC which did not submit its CY 2018 Financial Statements:

A. CY 2017-2018 Annual Audit Reports

1. Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA);
2. Boy Scouts of the Philippines (BSOP);
3. Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP);
4. Human Settlements Development Corporation (HSDC)-(CY 2018);
5. Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP);
6. Light Rail Transit Authority (LRTA);
7. National Development Company (NDC);
8. National Food Authority (NFA);
9. National Irrigation Administration (NIA);
10. Natural Resources Development Corporation (NRDC);
11. People's Television Network, Inc. (PTNI);
12. Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR);
13. Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO);
14. Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA);
15. Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA);
16. Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth);
17. Philippine National Construction Corporation (PNCC);
18. Philippine Ports Authority (PPA);

19. Philippine Postal Corporation (PPC);
 20. Quedan and Rural Credit Guarantee Corporation (QUEDANCOR);
 21. Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA);
 22. Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA); and
 23. Tourism Promotions Board (TPB).
- B. CY 2017-2018 Management Letter
1. Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC).

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letters dated August 22 and 28, 2019 of Salvador C. Medialdea, Executive Secretary, Office of the President, Malacañang, transmitting two (2) original copies each of the following Republic Acts which were signed by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte:

1. R.A. No. 11410, entitled:
"AN ACT GRANTING THE MAGNUM AIR (SKYJET) INC. A FRANCHISE TO ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT SERVICES";
2. R.A. No. 11411, entitled:
"AN ACT GRANTING IGNITE TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INCORPORATED A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES";
3. R.A. No. 11412, entitled:
"AN ACT GRANTING THE GOLDEN NATION NETWORK INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS WITHIN THE PHILIPPINES";
4. R.A. No. 11413, entitled:
"AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO PACIFIC BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7967, ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING THE PACIFIC BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION

BROADCASTING STATIONS WITHIN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES' ”;

5. R.A. No. 11414, entitled:
“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO RAJAH BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC. TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED FORTY-FIVE HUNDRED AND FIVE, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED EIGHTY-ONE HUNDRED AND FOUR”;
6. R.A. No. 11415, entitled:
“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO RADYO PILIPINO CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8145, ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING THE RADYO PILIPINO CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN COMMERCIAL RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS, SATELLITE AND CABLE STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES' ”;
7. R.A. No. 11416, entitled:
“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO PHILIPPINE RADIO CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8032, ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING THE PHILIPPINE RADIO CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN COMMERCIAL RADIO STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES' ”;
8. R.A. No. 11417, entitled:
“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO RT BROADCAST SPECIALIST PHIL. INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8126, ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING THE R.T. BROADCAST SPECIALIST PHILIPPINES A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN MINDANAO' ”;
9. R.A. No. 11418, entitled:
“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO ULTIMATE ENTERTAINMENT, INC., UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8102, ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING THE ULTIMATE ENTERTAINMENT, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS WITHIN THE PHILIPPINES' ”;
10. R.A. No. 11419, entitled:
“AN ACT GRANTING THE CADIZ RADIO AND TELEVISION NETWORK, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE WESTERN VISAYAS AREA”;
11. R.A. No. 11420, entitled:
“AN ACT GRANTING THE BASES CONVERSION AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE, LEASE, OWN, MANAGE AND MAINTAIN DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF ELECTRIC POWER TO END USERS IN SELECTED AREAS COVERED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7227, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'BASES CONVERSION AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1992' ”;
12. R.A. No. 11421, entitled:
“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO VIMCONTU BROADCASTING CORPORATION, UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8116, ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING THE VIMCONTU BROADCASTING CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN

RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS WITHIN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES' ”;

13. R.A. No. 11422, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO SWARA SUG MEDIA CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8122, ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING THE SWARA SUG MEDIA CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES' ”;

14. R.A. No. 11423, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY ALAMBRE, TORIL DISTRICT, DAVAO CITY TO BE KNOWN AS ALAMBRE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

15. R.A. No. 11424, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE HIGH SCHOOL DEPARTMENT OF STA. ROSA INTEGRATED SCHOOL IN BARANGAY STA. ROSA, MUNICIPALITY OF CONCEPCION, PROVINCE OF TARLAC, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS STA. ROSA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND RENAMING THE SURVIVING SCHOOL AS STA. ROSA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

16. R.A. No. 11425, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN BARANGAY SAN ISIDRO, JARO DISTRICT, ILOILO CITY TO BE KNOWN AS USWAG SAN ISIDRO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

17. R.A. No. 11426, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) DISTRICT OFFICE IN THE 2ND DISTRICT OF CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

18. R.A. No. 11427, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE MIDSAYAP EXTENSION OFFICE OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) LOCATED IN MIDSAYAP, NORTH COTABATO INTO A REGULAR LTO DISTRICT OFFICE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

19. R.A. No. 11428, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A REGULAR DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MORONG, PROVINCE OF RIZAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

20. R.A. No. 11429, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A LICENSING BRANCH OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) IN THE CITY OF PARAÑAQUE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

21. R.A. No. 11430, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A REGULAR DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) IN THE CITY OF TANAUAN, 3RD DISTRICT OF BATANGAS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

22. R.A. No. 11431, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SATELLITE OFFICE OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF GUIMBA, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

23. R.A. No. 11432, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SATELLITE OFFICE OF THE

LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) IN SAN JOSE DEL MONTE CITY, PROVINCE OF BULACAN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

24. R.A. No. 11433, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EXTENSION OFFICE OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF INFANTA, PROVINCE OF QUEZON AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

25. R.A. No. 11434, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE QUEZON LICENSING CENTER OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) IN LUCENA CITY, PROVINCE OF QUEZON INTO A REGULAR LICENSING CENTER TO BE KNOWN AS THE 'LUCENA CITY LICENSING CENTER' AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

26. R.A. No. 11435, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SATELLITE OFFICE OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF KIBAWA, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

27. R.A. No. 11436, entitled:

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

28. R.A. No. 11437, entitled:

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

29. R.A. No. 11438, entitled:

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

30. R.A. No. 11439, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE REGULATION AND ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC BANKS”; and

31. R.A. No. 11440, entitled:

“AN ACT RECOGNIZING THE OBSERVANCE OF JULY 25 OF EVERY YEAR AS THE NATIONAL CAMPUS PRESS FREEDOM DAY”.

TO THE ARCHIVES

Letters dated 3 September 2019 of Janice G. Ayson-Zales, Deputy Director, Office of the General Counsel and Legal Services, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), furnishing the House of Representatives with duly certified and authenticated BSP issuances, to wit:

1. Circular Letter No. CL-2019-062 dated 20 August 2019;
2. Circular Letter No. CL-2019-063 dated 27 August 2019; and
3. Memorandum No. M-2019-022 dated 22 August 2019.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

APPROVAL OF JOURNAL NO. 17

On motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body then approved Journal No. 17 dated September 9, 2019.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Chair suspended the session until one o'clock in the afternoon of Thursday, September 12, 2019.

It was 10:57 p.m. of Wednesday, September 11, 2019.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:00 p.m. of Thursday, September 12, 2019 with Deputy Speaker Conrado M. Estrella III presiding.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Thereupon, the session was suspended at 1:00 p.m. upon motion of Rep. Wilter “Sharky” Wee Palma II.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:08 p.m.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE PALMA

At this juncture, Representative Palma greeted Deputy Speaker Estrella who was celebrating his birthday that day.

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228 contained in Committee Report No. 8 as reported out by the Committee on Appropriations, entitled:

“AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS
FOR THE OPERATION OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY
ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE,
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE GAB

On successive motions of Rep. Ria Christina G. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Games and Amusements Board (GAB); and the Chair recognized Rep. Francisco Jose “Bingo” F. Matugas II, CPA, CESO, LLB, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor said budget.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Thereupon, Representative Fariñas (R.C.) acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of GAB officials led by Chairperson Abraham Kahlil Mitra.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE GAB

There being no interpellations, on a joint motion of Reps. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte and Fariñas (R.C.), representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the GAB.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 1:12 p.m. upon motion of Representative Fariñas (R.C.).

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:13 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE PSC

On successive motions of Rep. David “Jay-Jay” C. Suarez, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC); and the Chair recognized Representative Matugas anew to sponsor said budget.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Thereupon, Representative Suarez (D.) acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of PSC officials led by Chairperson William “Butch” Ramirez.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE PSC

There being no interpellations, on a joint motion of Representatives Belmonte and Suarez (D.), representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the PSC.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 1:16 p.m. upon motion of Representative Suarez (D.).

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:17 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF PHILRACOM

On successive motions of Rep. Camille A. Villar, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Philippine Racing Commission (Philracom); and the Chair recognized Rep. Juan Miguel Macapagal Arroyo, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor said budget.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUESTS

Thereupon, Representative Villar acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of Philracom officials led by Chairperson Andrew Sanchez.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED PHILRACOM BUDGET

There being no interpellations, on a joint motion of Representatives Belmonte and Villar, representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the Philracom.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Villar, the Chair suspended the session at 1:20 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:24 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE TESDA

On motion of Rep. Marlyn “Len” B. Alonte, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Alonte acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the TESDA family headed by Director General Isidro S. Lapeña;

and upon her motion, the Chair recognized Reps. Matugas and Gabriel H. Bordado Jr. for sponsorship and interpellation, respectively.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BORDADO

Representative Bordado first asked about the status and impact of the Training for Work Scholarship Program; and the Sponsor committed to provide a copy of the study conducted by the Philippine Statistics Authority thereon.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Matugas, the Chair suspended the session at 1:29 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:29 p.m.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BORDADO (Continuation)

Then inquiring on the rate of employment of TESDA graduates, Representative Bordado asked why the TESDA failed to deliver the latter’s tool kits. After the Sponsor said that there was an ongoing legal case thereon, he asked to be apprised of developments.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Alonte, the Chair recognized Rep. France L. Castro for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Representative Castro asked about the budget cuts of technical vocational institutions including their scholarship programs, saying this will affect the implementation of the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Matugas, the Chair declared a recess at 1:42 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:43 p.m.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)**
(Continuation)

Upon resumption of session, Representative Castro also sought information on how the TESDA will spend its budget for projects under the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC) Program; and Representative Matugas relayed the TESDA's promise to submit a written report thereon.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE FERNANDO**

Recognized by the Chair on motion of Representative Alonte, Rep. Bayani F. Fernando discussed with Representative Matugas his concern about the certificate requirements for welders in general and on the budget for welding electrodes needed by the examinees in particular.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Matugas, the session was suspended at 1:51 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:54 p.m.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE FERNANDO**
(Continuation)

Citing the need for practicality, Representative Fernando then suggested that the TESDA review its welder training program to focus on employment in the industry sector rather than entrepreneurship. He also said that at the proper time, he will propose an amendment to delete the appropriation for the purchase of welding machines for welder-trainees.

On motion of Representative Alonte, the Chair next recognized Minority Leader Bienvenido M. Abante Jr. for a manifestation.

**MANIFESTATION OF
MINORITY LEADER ABANTE**

Minority Leader Abante expressed concern about the effects of the inadequate budget of the TESDA on its skills and training programs and thus manifested his support for an increase of the same. Nevertheless, he sought clarification on the

findings of the Commission on Audit (COA) about the TESDA's irregular long-term bond investment of some program funds and the improper use of training funds for fictitious scholars.

**TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD
OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE
ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE TESDA**

There being no further interpellations, on motion of Minority Leader Abante on the part of the Minority and Representative Alonte on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the TESDA.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Alonte, the Chair suspended the session at 2:09 p.m. to allow the technical staff of the next department to settle down on the floor.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 2:14 p.m.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED
BUDGETS OF THE DOH AND ITS
ATTACHED AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS**

On successive motions of Rep. Julianne "Jam" Baronda, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the Department of Health (DOH) and its attached agencies and corporations; and the Chair recognized Rep. "Kuya" Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor said budget.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Baronda then acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the DOH family headed by Secretary Francisco Duque; and on her motion, the Chair recognized Senior Deputy Minority Leader Janette L. Garin for her interpellation.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session at 2:17 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 2:18 p.m.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GARIN (J.)

Representative Garin used video slides as she questioned several decisions made during the term of the former secretary of the DOH, to wit: assignment of a doctor who was not an infectious disease specialist as the head of the National Dengue Task Force; transfer of dengue rapid test kit funds from some regions to Region IV-A where said doctor was holding a clinic; and use of funds for monitoring and advertising services offered by Vireo Loadworks, Inc., instead of addressing the needs of dengue victims and of local government units in combatting dengue.

Representative Sy-Alvarado asked for the pertinent documents from his colleague to enable the DOH to investigate the abovementioned allegations. He also relayed, in response to Representative Garin's request, the DOH's commitment for a special audit on the transactions of the Center for Health Disease in Region IV-A for the past 10 years.

Representative Garin also questioned the purchase of Japanese encephalitis vaccines from a pharmaceutical firm that was not licensed by the Food and Drug Administration. In reply, the Sponsor said that the incumbent DOH secretary will not allow the repeat of any mess in the agency. He also agreed with his colleague that the DOH budget should be increased.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Estrella relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Evelina G. Escudero.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Baronda, the Chair recognized Representative Fernando for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE FERNANDO

Representatives Fernando and Sy-Alvarado agreed that in view of several requests for upgrading and increasing the bed capacities of government hospitals, the allocation for the Health Facilities Enhancement Program (HFEP) should be restored; and that the DOH budget should be increased in general. Representative Fernando stated that he will submit the pertinent amendments at the proper time.

On motion of Representative Baronda, the Chair recognized Rep. Eufemia "Ka Femia" C. Cullamat for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CULLAMAT

Initially, Representative Cullamat thanked the DOH for data on indigenous peoples (IPs) who had received health services from 2012 to 2018. She however clarified that the term "Lumad" is a collective name for all IPs, pointed out that the IPs in Davao del Sur and Surigao del Sur were not included in the DOH list, and expressed hope that the IPs will not be neglected by the government.

Whereupon, Representative Sy-Alvarado thanked his colleague for the information; said that the DOH will correct its listings accordingly; and relayed his and the agency's assurance that they will give the IPs extra attention and prompt assistance.

On motion of Representative Baronda, the Chair next recognized Rep. Ferdinand R. Gaite for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

Using a slide presentation, Representative Gaite emphasized the importance of health but observed that the proposed DOH budget did not reflect the same and its previous budgets showed a downward trend. The Sponsor acknowledged that budgets cuts on health were not good for the country and assured Representative Gaite that Speaker Alan Peter "Compañero" S. Cayetano and their colleagues will work for more funds for the DOH.

Representative Gaite then observed that for fiscal year 2020, the budget for government hospitals was reduced and the funding for capital outlay was removed; and pointed out that some supplies given to said hospitals were not appropriate for their needs. The Sponsor promised to ask for the restoration of the hospitals' budgets and asked his colleague to submit data on mismatched medical supplies and equipment.

Thereupon, Representatives Gaite and Sy-Alvarado discussed the need to augment funds for the DOH Human Resources for Health Deployment Program and to regularize DOH contractual employees. The latter said that the DOH had requested the DBM to add more plantilla positions in the agency.

At this point, the two Members agreed that the original budget proposal of the DOH should be restored to enable it to perform its mandated functions.

On motion of Representative Baronda, the Chair next recognized Rep. Arnolfo “Arnie” A. Teves Jr. for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE TEVES (A.)

Representative Teves informed the Body about the practice of prescribing antibiotics for dengue in his district, to the detriment of poor patients; and asked the DOH to provide data on the matter. The Sponsor said that the agency was concerned about this and will conduct an investigation.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Baronda, the Chair recognized Representative Castro (F.L.) for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Representative Castro observed that some hospitals such as the National Center for Geriatric Health and Camiguin General Hospital did not have allotments for personnel services. The Sponsor assured his colleague that said hospitals will be given these funds once the pertinent appropriations laws are passed; he will submit the requested data thereon; and the Committee on Appropriations will address the matter.

Representative Castro then asked about the status of the funds under the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) for the annual medical check-up of public school teachers as provided for in the Magna Carta for Public School Teachers; as well as of the implementing rules and guidelines for the same. The Sponsor relayed the PhilHealth’s commitment to do its best to be able to provide said medical service.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE QUIMBO

On motion of Representative Suarez (D.), the Chair next recognized Rep. Stella Luz A. Quimbo who initially sought clarification on the members and beneficiaries of PhilHealth and the computation and payment of PhilHealth premiums.

Representative Quimbo thereupon pointed out that as a result of the government’s guarantee of a big portion of PhilHealth premiums and the double counting of premium payments, the social

health insurance agency had been accumulating excess funds. The Sponsor welcomed her request for a review of the minimum amount needed for reserves; and for the inclusion in the 2020 budget of a provision, such as in the previous budget, for the release of premium contributions subject to key performance indicators.

On motion of Representative Suarez (D.), the Chair recognized Rep. Arlene D. Brosas for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Representative Brosas inquired on the DOH’s action on the poor distribution of medicines and wastage of expired or near-expired medicines, all worth billions of pesos. To her request for data thereon, Representative Sy-Alvarado promised a report per region.

Representative Brosas thereafter focused on the increasing amount of the DOH’s unused funds and requested a copy of the obligated funds from the Office of the Secretary, about which the Sponsor also promised to furnish relevant data.

Representative Brosas discussed with the Sponsor the low utilization of the DOH of its quick response fund despite the dengue outbreak. She also expressed her concern on the DOH administrative order (A.O.) which prohibits nurses and midwives to handle first- and fifth-time pregnant women in birthing clinics without the doctor’s supervision, particularly penalizing nurses and midwives in far-flung areas during emergency cases.

She appealed to the DOH to review the said A.O. and called for an increase in the DOH budget to support the establishment of more primary and maternal health care facilities especially in far-flung areas.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOH AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration of the proposed budgets of the DOH and its attached agencies and corporations.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOST AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

Thereafter, on motion of Rep. Alyssa Sheena P. Tan, CPA, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and its attached agencies.

On motion of Representative Tan, the Chair recognized Rep. Micaela S. Violago, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor the said budgets.

Likewise, Representative Tan acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the DOST family headed by Secretary Fortunato Dela Peña.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOST AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

Thereupon, in the absence of interpellations, on a joint motion of Representative Quimbo and Rep. Ma. Theresa V. Collantes, on the part of the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DOST and its attached agencies

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

At 5:01 p.m., the Chair suspended the session upon motion of Representative Collantes.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:06 p.m. with Deputy Speaker Prospero A. Pichay Jr. presiding.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF SUCS

Thereupon, on successive motions of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of state universities and colleges (SUCs), and thereafter, the Chair recognized Rep. Paul Ruiz Daza, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor the same.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 5:06 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:07 p.m., the session resumed.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF SUCS, EXCEPT THE PHILSCA, PUP, AND UP

There being no interpellations, on a joint motion of Representatives Garin (J.) and Palma, on the part of the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of SUCs, except the Philippine State College of Aeronautics (PhilSCA), Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP), and the University of the Philippines.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

At 5:09 p.m., the session was suspended.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:11 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOH AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration of the proposed budgets of the DOH and its attached agencies and corporations; and on his motion, the Chair recognized anew Representative Sy-Alvarado to sponsor the same and Representative Bordado to interpellate thereon.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE PALMA

At this point, Representative Palma requested the Members to observe silence to facilitate orderly proceedings.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BORDADO

Representative Bordado asked about the implementation of the DOH public health programs, particularly the National Immunization Program (NIP) and in increasing the awareness on the importance of vaccines.

Representatives Bordado and Sy-Alvarado discussed the upgrading of DOH systems for fast and effective implementation of the agency's different programs with the former expressing hope that his concerns would all be addressed.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Suarez (D.) acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Rep. Alfredo A. Garbin Jr.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Suarez, the Chair recognized Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Representative Zarate sought clarification on the decrease in budget for rehabilitation centers and facilities, the increasing subsidy for PhilHealth while the annual budget cuts for public hospitals, and PhilHealth's reserve funds. He then asked for a detailed report on the proceeds of the said reserve funds.

Representatives Zarate and Sy-Alvarado then delved into the PhilHealth's 2020 budget allocation with respect to its utilization and the alleged anomalies involving the PhilHealth.

In closing, Representative Zarate emphasized the persistent need to improve public health facilities and increase the number of as well as regularize health professionals.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CABATBAT

On motion of Representative Suarez (D.), the Chair next recognized Rep. Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat who asked how the DOH treated its 2017 unobligated funds and 2018 remaining balances. Representative Sy-Alvarado explained that both were reverted to the General Funds, hence there were no savings, and neither did the DOH requested for continuing appropriations.

Lastly, Representative Cabatbat inquired about the DOH's request for a ₱500 million fund augmentation and requested for a detailed report thereon, which the Sponsor agreed to submit.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOH AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Representatives Garin (J.) and Baronda representing the Minority and Majority, respectively,

there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DOH and its attached agencies and corporations.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Baronda, the Chair suspended the session at 5:59 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:17 p.m., the session resumed.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE PCC

On a subsequent motion of Representative Tan (A.S.), there being no objection, the Body then considered the proposed budget of the Philippine Competition Commission (PCC).

Representative Tan acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the officials of the PCC led by its chairman, Dr. Arsenio M. Balisacan, PhD., and on her motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Joey Sarte Salceda, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor the same.

Thereafter, on further motion of Representative Tan, the Chair recognized Representative Zarate for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Representative Zarate discussed with Representative Salceda the mandate, regulatory functions, jurisdiction and interventions of the PCC, citing anti-competitive behaviors and market abuse issues related to monopolistic activities, the increase in oil prices, and selection of power supply agreements.

On motion of Representative Palma, the Chair next recognized Minority Leader Abante for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

Minority Leader Abante discussed with Representative Salceda the details of PCC's mandate and functions and whether it has fully discharged them. He also asked what the PCC had done in so far as the monopolization in the power sector

is concerned which has resulted in the Philippines having the most expensive electricity rates in Asia.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Pichay relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Raneo "Ranie" E. Abu.

Finally, Representative Abante raised concern on the 2019 World Bank report saying that the Philippine economy is hampered by market abuses, and opined that in order to establish its integrity, the PCC should ensure that it effectively perform its duties.

On motion of Representative Tan (A.S.), the Chair recognized Representative Brosas for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Representative Brosas sought clarification on the scope of PCC's mandate and intervention on water supply market, particularly at the local level. Representative Salceda then said that the PCC would look into the possible consolidation of water districts and joint ventures entered by the water concessionaires as cited by Representative Brosas.

Subsequently, Representative Brosas asked what the PCC had been doing in view of the entry of a third telecommunications company in the Philippines. She called on the PCC to exercise its powers to avoid giving preferential treatment to the said telecommunications company in relation to the recent issues on contract agreements.

On another issue, Representative Salceda said that the PCC would provide Representative Brosas a copy of the undertaking between the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Dito Telecommunity Company.

Lastly, the Members discussed the mergers and acquisitions in the banking industry from 2016 to the present and the possible price manipulation and cartel activities in the rice industry.

MANIFESTATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

At this point, on motion of Representative Tan (A.S.), the Chair recognized Minority Leader Abante who committed to closely monitor the work and performance of the PCC and expressed his reservation to terminate its budget.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE PCC

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Minority Leader Abante and Representative Tan (A.S.), representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the PCC.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Tan (A.S.), the Chair suspended the session at 7:36 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 7:39 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE CHED INCLUDING THE PUP, UP, AND PHILSCA

Whereupon, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) including those of the PUP, UP, and PhilSCA.

On motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized the vice chairpersons of the Committee on Appropriations, Representative Matugas to sponsor the proposed budget of the CHED and Representative Daza to sponsor the proposed budgets of the PUP, UP, and PhilSCA.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Palma acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of UP President Danilo Concepcion, PUP President Emmanuel de Guzman, PhilSCA President Marvin dela Cruz, and the CHED family led by Chairperson J. Prospero E. de Vera III.

Subsequently, on motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Representative Teves to interpellate on the proposed budget of the CHED.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE TEVES

Representative Teves' interpellation focused on the timeline on the implementation of CHED National Budget Circular No. 461 increasing miscellaneous personnel benefits.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE SUNTAY

Recognized by the Chair on motion of Representative Palma, Rep. Jesus “Bong” C. Suntay asked on the rationale for the National Medical Admission Test (NMAT) as a basic requirement for admission to medical school as provided for in CHED Memorandum Order No. 18, series of 2016.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair suspended the session at 7:50 p.m. upon motion of Representative Palma.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 7:51 p.m., the session resumed.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE SUNTAY (Continuation)

Upon resumption of session, Representative Suntay pointed out the negative impact of the NMAT requirement on medical schools as the CHED monitors the passing of licensure exams of its graduates; as well as on Filipino and foreign medical students.

At this point, Representative Suntay asserted that the aforementioned memorandum should take effect starting 2020. After Representative Matugas told him that the Commission is willing to stop the implementation thereof, he also requested a report thereon.

Subsequently, the Chair recognized Representative Gaite for his interpellation upon motion of Representative Palma.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

After looking into the effectiveness of so-called Malasakit Centers, Representatives Gaite and Daza discussed the regularization of Philippine General Hospital (PGH) employees, especially low-level workers with contractual, casual, and job order status. The Sponsor assured his colleague that they will be regularized soon as long as they meet qualification standards.

Expressing disappointment over the government’s inadequate support for the PGH but bias for other agencies such as those allegedly responsible for political and extrajudicial killings,

Representative Gaite then said that he will make a motion to restore the appropriate budget for the PGH.

On motion of Representative Palma, the Chair next recognized Representative Castro (F.L.) for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Representative Castro initially remarked that President Rodrigo Roa Duterte vetoed the bill granting national polytechnic university status to PUP, of which she was a coauthor, because he believed that PUP students were joining communist groups.

She subsequently expressed concern about the slash in the CHED budget in relation to the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act and to tuition fee subsidies for medical students enrolled in SUCs. Representative Matugas stressed that he will join the House and Senate leadership in strongly recommending the augmentation of the CHED budget.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Matugas, the Chair suspended the session at 8:55 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 8:56 p.m.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.) (Continuation)

Representative Matugas at this point expounded on the fees that were stipulated under R.A. No. 10931, which is the basis of the provision in the IRR, and stressed that the SUCs are not allowed to impose fees other than those mentioned.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 9:00 p.m. upon motion of Representative Castro (F.L.).

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 9:02 p.m.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.) (Continuation)

With Representative Matugas’ clarification on R.A. No. 10931 that the SUCs will not collect tuition

and other miscellaneous fees, Representative Castro ended her interpellation.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

At the outset, Representative Elago clarified that she did not request for the deferment of the proposed budgets of several SUCs; stressed her support for the approval of the budgets of all the SUCs; and informed the Body that she together with other Members had filed a resolution urging the Committee on Appropriations to restore the budget cuts in the SUCs. She then sought clarification on the 141 other school fees, such as garbage and energy fees, imposed by certain SUCs despite the implementation of the Free Tuition Law.

Representative Matugas stated however that the CHED denied the collection of additional fees and that they were willing to investigate the matter.

REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

At this point, the Chair reminded Representative Elago not to expound on matters that she had already asked during the pre-plenary briefing.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO (Continuation)

Continuing with her interpellation, Representative Elago asked the CHED to issue again the memorandum prohibiting SUCs from collecting tuition and other school fees, and to review the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) on the implementation of free public education.

At this point, Representative Daza to whom Representative Matugas yielded the floor, assured Representative Elago of his support in the review of the said IRR together with the CHED.

Subsequently, Representative Elago asked for the CHED's written commitment and support that no new tuition and other school fees would be collected from the students, pending the review of the IRR issued by the Unified Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education Act or the UniFAST Board.

The Members then tackled the status of the ongoing renovation of dormitories inside the UP campus, where Representative Elago relayed her concerns on the measures undertaken by UP to alleviate the situation of displaced students particularly the indigents and underprivileged students, and its commitment that no increase in dorm fees would be imposed upon renovation of the dormitories.

Finally, Representative Elago also mentioned the slash in the budget of PUP, and the need to fast-track the reimbursement process for tuition and other school fees under the UniFAST to immediately address the needs of SUC students.

Representative Elago sought the support of the Philippine Association of State Colleges and Universities (PASUC), CHED, and UniFAST Board for the fiscal autonomy of student councils and campus press. She then asked about the CHED's current policy on the exemption of Sangguniang Kabataan officials from taking the National Service Training Program (NSTP).

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Matugas, the session was suspended at 9:43 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 9:44 p.m.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO (Continuation)

Upon resumption of session, Representative Elago argued against the budget cut for the Philippine State College of Aeronautics (PhilSCA), and subsequently, she requested for a copy of the list of schools that have increased their tuition and other school fees. On another matter, Representative Elago asked for clarification on the exemption of autonomous and deregulated private higher education institutions from CHED Memorandum Order No. 3 governing increases in tuition and other school fees.

Finally, Representative Elago called upon UP and PUP to continue to fight against military presence in the universities, and challenged the CHED's supervisory power over the NTF-ECLAC, particularly the current issue at Isabela State University.

On motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Minority Leader Abante for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

Minority Leader Abante asked that the PUP officials provide him with a written response on his concern about the Tulong Dunong Program, as well as on the succeeding issues: (1) the reason PUP was not able to implement three infrastructure projects as contained in the 2018 General Appropriations Act; and (2) the actions, if any, that PUP had taken to pay for unsettled fund suspensions and disallowances as cited in the 2018 COA Audit Report.

Representative Matugas assured Minority Leader Abante that the PUP officials will submit their answer to the latter within seven days.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE CHED, PUP, UP, AND PHILSCA

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Minority Leader Abante and Representative Palma, on behalf of the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the CHED, PUP, UP, and PhilSCA.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the Additional Reference of Business.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read on First Reading the titles of the following Bills and Resolutions, including the Communications, which were referred to the appropriate committees indicated hereunder:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 4420, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING MT. ARAYAT IN THE PROVINCE OF PAMPANGA AS PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE, PROVIDING FOR ITS

MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Gonzales (Aurelio)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4421, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE EXTENSION CAMPUSES OF THE DON HONORIO VENTURA STATE UNIVERSITY INTO SATELLITE CAMPUSES IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF STO. TOMAS, PORAC, LUBAO, CANDABA, AND APALIT, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF PAMPANGA, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Gonzales (Aurelio)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4422, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Bustos
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

House Bill No. 4423, entitled:

“AN ACT UPGRADING THE RANK STRUCTURE AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE UNIFORMED PERSONNEL OF THE BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION AND THE BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9263, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION AND BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY PROFESSIONALIZATION ACT OF 2004,' AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Bustos
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

House Bill No. 4424, entitled:

“AN ACT RATIONALIZING THE TAX TREATMENT FOR THE PHILIPPINE CHARITY SWEEPSTAKES OFFICE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Bustos
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4425, entitled:

“AN ACT PRESCRIBING A STANDARDIZED RATE FOR OPTIONAL STANDARD DEDUCTION AT FORTY PERCENT (40%) OF GROSS INCOME FOR ALL TAXPAYERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 34(L) OF NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Ong (Jose)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4426, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING OWWA OFW CENTERS IN EVERY PROVINCE AND REGION OF THE COUNTRY, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Savellano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 4427, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE OLD SAN VICENTE CHURCH, GABALDON BUILDING, PALACIO DE GOBERNADOR, SPANISH BALDI, DIEGO SILANG MARKER, ANCESTRAL HOUSES IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN VICENTE, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS SUR, AS CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL PATRIMONY OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN VICENTE AND BESTOWING IT WITH RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES ACCORDED MUSEUM CURATORS”

By Representative Savellano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4428, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING STA. CATALINA ROAD TRAVERSING TO BARANGAY CABITTAOGAN AND SITIO CALAWAAN, TAMURONG ROAD INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Savellano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4429, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDIGENOUS TRAINING CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MAGSINGAL,

PROVINCE OF ILOCOS SUR, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Savellano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INDIGENOUS CULTURAL COMMUNITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

House Bill No. 4430, entitled:

“AN ACT INITIATING PROGRESSION OF THE GARLIC COMMERCE IN THE PHILIPPINES WITH THE DESIDERATUM OF ACCOMPLISHING THE SAME AS A STAPLE COMMODITY IN THE AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY”

By Representative Savellano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4431, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION/FORMATION OF BARANGAY TOURISM AND INVESTMENTS COUNCILS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Savellano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 4432, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING APPOINTIVE OFFICIALS FROM RUNNING FOR ELECTIVE POSITIONS WITHIN THREE YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE EXPIRY DATE OF THEIR APPOINTMENT”

By Representative Savellano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

House Bill No. 4433, entitled:

“AN ACT INTEGRATING 'SCOUTING' IN THE COURSE OF STUDY AMIDST EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, WITH A VIEW TO ACCOMPLISH THE SAME AS A CORE ACADEMIC SUBJECT, TO IMBUE IN THE YOUTH PATRIOTISM, COURAGE, SELF RELIANCE AND KINDRED VIRTUES”

By Representative Savellano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4434, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10176 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT REVIVING THE OBSERVANCE OF ARBOR DAY BY AUTHORIZING THE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS THE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR CELEBRATING THE DAY FOR TREE PLANTING AS AN ANNUAL EVENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Savellano
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REFORESTATION

House Bill No. 4435, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING AND FURTHER PROHIBITING THE USAGE OF SINGLE-USE PLASTIC PRODUCTS, PROVIDING PENALTIES, LEVIES AND INCENTIVES FOR INDUSTRIES, BUSINESS ENTITIES AND CONSUMERS THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Teves (Jose)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 4438, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF BENGUET GENERAL HOSPITAL FROM TWO HUNDRED (200) TO FOUR HUNDRED (400), UPGRADING ITS FACILITIES AND HEALTH CARE SERVICE, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL PERSONNEL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Fongwan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4439, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A NEW DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE IN THE THIRD LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Amatong
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4440, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE MURCIELAGOS ISLAND PROTECTED LANDSCAPE AND SEASCAPE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LABASON, PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE AS AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Amatong
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 4441, entitled:

“AN ACT RECLASSIFYING CERTAIN PARCELS OF LAND OF THE PUBLIC DOMAIN LOCATED IN BARANGAYS CABIGAAN, MAGBABADIL, BARAKE, IRAAN, SAGPANGAN, ISAUB, SAN JUAN, APURAWAN AND CULANDANUM OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF ABORLAN, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN AS ALIENABLE AND DISPOSABLE LAND”

By Representative Acosta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4442, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MULTISPECIES MARINE HATCHERY IN BARANGAY BINDUYAN, CITY OF PUERTO PRINCESA, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Acosta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4443, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FISH PORT IN BARANGAY MACARASCAS IN THE CITY OF PUERTO PRINCESA AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Acosta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4444, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A REGULAR DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS’ CONSULAR OFFICE IN THE PROVINCE OF COTABATO, PARTICULARLY IN KIDAPAWAN CITY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Caoagdan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 4445, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE NATIONAL RAINWATER HARVESTING BOARD UNDER THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROMOTION, DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION OF RAINWATER HARVESTING TECHNOLOGY AS

A MEASURE TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS BROUGHT ABOUT BY CLIMATE CHANGE AND EXTREME WEATHER PHENOMENA LIKE SUPER TYPHOONS AND THE EL NIÑO THAT ARE THE CAUSES OF DOWNSTREAM FLOODING, SEVERE DROUGHT AND OTHER PROBLEMS ON FRESH WATER, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Savellano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4446, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING A NATIONAL SOIL HEALTH PROGRAM FOR THE OPERATIONALIZATION OF NATIONWIDE SOIL ANALYTICAL SERVICES AND PROMOTION OF SOIL CONSERVATION AND FERTILITY MANAGEMENT OF ALL AGRICULTURAL LAND IN THE COUNTRY AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS THEREOF TO ABATE SOIL DEGRADATION AND IMPROVE AGRICULTURAL LAND PRODUCTIVITY AND THEREBY ENSURE FOOD SECURITY”

By Representative Savellano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4447, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Hernandez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4448, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE KOLAMBUGAN - TANGKAL PROVINCIAL ROAD IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF KOLAMBUGAN AND TANGKAL, PROVINCE OF LANA DEL NORTE INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Dimaporo (Abdullah) and Dimaporo (Khalid)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4449, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE AGE OF SEXUAL CONSENT FOR STRONGER PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE 266-A (d) OF ACT NO. 3815, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 4450, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS TO DONATE ANY AND ALL UNSPOILED AND UNSOLD FOOD TO RECIPIENTS CATERING TO THE FOOD-DEPRIVED SECTORS OF SOCIETY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Salo
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD SECURITY

House Bill No. 4451, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT AND COMPENSATION FOR EDUCATORS IN BASIC EDUCATION”

By Representative Hernandez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 4452, entitled:

“AN ACT ABOLISHING THE TRAVEL TAX”

By Representative Haresco
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 4453, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS IN COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 541, AS AMENDED BY LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS NO. 630, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Haresco
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4454, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR WHISTLEBLOWER BILL OF RIGHTS”

By Representative Haresco
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4455, entitled:

“AN ACT LOWERING THE CORPORATE INCOME TAX RATE, AMENDING

SECTIONS 27 AND 28 OF THE
NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE
CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Haresco
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4456, entitled:

“AN ACT DEFINING GOOD CONDUCT,
INSTITUTING ADDITIONAL MEASURES
FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
GOOD CONDUCT TIME ALLOWANCE,
AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE
ARTICLES 97 AND 99 OF ACT NO. 3815,
AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE”

By Representative Haresco
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4457, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO.
7042, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
FOREIGN INVESTMENTS ACT OF 1991,
AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO.
8179, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Haresco
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND
THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 4458, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING TWO (2) NEW
BRANCHES OF MUNICIPAL TRIAL
COURTS, ALL IN THE SECOND
DISTRICT OF AKLAN, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA
BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
'THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION
ACT OF 1980', AS AMENDED AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Haresco
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4459, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING AND REGULATING
THE USE OF WEARABLE BODY
CAMERAS AND DASHBOARD
CAMERAS BY LAW ENFORCEMENT
OFFICERS IN THE COURSE OF
CONDUCTING A SEARCH OR
MAKING AN ARREST, PROVIDING
FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Haresco
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND
SAFETY

House Bill No. 4460, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING TEMPORARY
RESIDENCY STATUS TO CERTAIN
ALIENS IN THE PHILIPPINES UNDER
CERTAIN CONDITIONS”

By Representative Haresco
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4461, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MAXIMUM
SECURITY FACILITY FOR PERSONS
CONVICTED OF HEINOUS
CRIMES WITHIN THE NATIONAL
PENITENTIARY SYSTEM UNDER
THE BUREAU OF CORRECTIONS,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Haresco
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4462, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE MARITIME
INDUSTRY AUTHORITY TO
PROMOTE FAIR AND TRANSPARENT
DESTINATION AND OTHER SHIPPING
CHARGES AMONG FORWARDERS
AND AGENTS OF INTERNATIONAL
SHIPPING LINES”

By Representative Ong (Ronnie)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4464, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MAGNA
CARTA FOR BARANGAYS”

By Representative Puno
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 313, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND
COMMENDING POLICE COLONEL
EDWIN A. QUILATES, PROVINCIAL
DIRECTOR OF THE BATANGAS POLICE
PROVINCIAL OFFICE, AS ONE OF
THE 2019 OUTSTANDING FILIPINO
POLICE OFFICERS AWARDED BY THE
METROBANK FOUNDATION”

By Representative Bolilia
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 314, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING PROFOUND
CONDOLENCES ON THE DEMISE

OF FORMER SECRETARY OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND
NATURAL RESOURCES REGINA PAZ
'GINA' LOPEZ"

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 315, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR
THE CREATION OF A STANDING
COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES"

By Representative Legarda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 316, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING
THE IGLESIA NI CRISTO (CHURCH
OF CHRIST) FOR SETTING A NEW
WORLD RECORD FOR 'MOST PEOPLE
BAPTIZED' ON SEPTEMBER 7, 2019
WHICH COINCIDES WITH THE 10TH
YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF BROTHER
EDUARDO V. MANOLO AS INC
EXECUTIVE MINISTER"

By Representative Sy-Alvarado
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Joint Resolution No. 13, entitled:

"HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION DIRECTING
THE CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT
COMMITTEE ON CIVIL AVIATION
AUTHORITY OF THE PHILIPPINES
(COCCAAP) TO CONTINUE ITS
MANDATE AS PROVIDED FOR IN
SECTION 91 OF REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 9497 OR THE CIVIL AVIATION
AUTHORITY ACT OF 2008"

By Representative Ong (Ronnie)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Joint Resolution No. 14, entitled:

"HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION EXTENDING
THE LIFE OF THE CONGRESSIONAL
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON
CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF
THE PHILIPPINES (COCCAAP)
TO CONTINUE ITS MANDATE AS
PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 91 OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9497, CREATING
THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF
THE PHILIPPINES (CAAP)"

By Representative Sarmiento
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter dated 2 August 2019 of Usec. Ernesto G. Carolina, Administrator, Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO), submitting the PVAO Agency Action Plan and Status of Implementation on the Audit Observations and Recommendations for the Calendar Year 2018.
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letters dated August 8, 2019 of Sec. Adelino B. Sitoy, Presidential Adviser on Legislative Affairs and Head, PLLO, submitting the details on Appropriations, Obligations and Disbursements for the quarter ending June 30, 2019 and for the month ending July 31, 2019, pursuant to Section 101 of Republic Act No. 11260.
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated August 20, 2019 of Jose B. Patalinjug III, Regional Director, Department of Science and Technology (DOST), furnishing the House of Representatives a copy of the DOST-NCR 2018 Annual Report.
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Letter dated August 23, 2019 of Delfin N. Lorenzana, Secretary, Department of National Defense, submitting the results of the operational activities of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) based on its tasks in the implementation of Martial Law in Mindanao covering the period of June 1 to 30, 2019.
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

Agency Action Plan and Status of Implementation (AAPSI) on the audit observations and recommendations of the Construction Industry Authority of the Philippines (CIAP).
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

2018 Legislative-Executive Development Advisory Council (LEDAC) Accomplishment Report.
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Chair suspended the session until one o'clock in the afternoon of Friday, September 13, 2019.

It was 10:09 p.m. of Thursday, September 12, 2019.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:00 p.m. of Friday, September 13, 2019 with Deputy Speaker Aurelio “Dong” D. Gonzales Jr. presiding.

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

On motion of Rep. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228 contained in Committee Report No. 8 as reported out by the Committee on Appropriations.

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

“AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Representative Romualdo stated that the parliamentary status was that the Bill was in the period of sponsorship and debate.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE CFO, SPDA, AND ZCSEZA

On successive motions of Representative Romualdo, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO), Southern Philippines Development Authority (SPDA), and Zamboanga City Special Economic Zone Authority (ZCSEZA).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Thereupon, the Chair acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the officials and employees of the aforesaid agencies led by CFO Chairperson Francisco Acosta, SPDA Deputy Administrator Munap Pacio, and ZCSEZA Administrator Christopher Lawrence Arnuco.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE CFO, SPDA, AND ZCSEZA

There being no interpellations, on a joint motion of Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte

and Representative Romualdo, representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the CFO, SPDA, and ZCSEZA.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair suspended the session at 1:03 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 1:04 p.m., the session resumed.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 4465, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS TO DONATE UNSOLD AND SAFE TO EAT PRODUCTS FOR DISPOSAL TO CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION”

By Representative Crisologo
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD SECURITY

House Bill No. 4467, entitled:

“AN ACT MAKING THE POSITION OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER MANDATORY IN THE MUNICIPAL LEVEL, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE FIRST SENTENCE OF THE 2ND PARAGRAPH OF SECTION FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY AND THREE OF RA 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991”

By Representative Fongwan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4468, entitled:

“AN ACT MAKING THE POSITION OF MUNICIPAL AGRICULTURIST MANDATORY IN ALL MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE FIRST SENTENCE OF THE SECOND PARAGRAPH OF SECTION FOUR HUNDRED EIGHTY-TWO (SEC. 482) OF R.A. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991”

By Representative Fongwan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4469, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE GRANTING OF ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS IN CRISIS SITUATION (AICS) PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT (DSWD), AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Panotes
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES

House Bill No. 4470, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE COMMUNITY-DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT (CDD) APPROACH AS A NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND SOCIAL PROTECTION, MANDATING ALL NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND DEPARTMENTS, INCLUDING THEIR ATTACHED AGENCIES, OFFICES AND BUREAUS, LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, AND OTHER GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES TO ADOPT THE CDD APPROACH IN IMPLEMENTING THEIR COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS, ACTIVITIES, AND PROJECTS APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Bolilia
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES

House Bill No. 4471, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MEDICAL EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP AND SERVICE PROGRAM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Espino
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4472, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE PROVISION OF MATERNITY PACKAGES TO PREGNANT FILIPINO WOMEN BELONGING TO THE LOW INCOME GROUP, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Fernandez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND GENDER EQUALITY

House Bill No. 4473, entitled:

“AN ACT REVITALIZING THE BASES CONVERSION DEVELOPMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7227, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'BASES CONVERSION AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1992' AS AMENDED”

By Representative Abaya
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BASES CONVERSION

House Bill No. 4474, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION (SOGIE) AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR”

By Representative Abaya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND GENDER EQUALITY

House Bill No. 4475, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE INSTALLATION OF MOTOR VEHICLE DIGITAL AND ELECTRONIC RECORDING SYSTEMS TO ENSURE ROAD SAFETY AND SECURITY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Siao
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4476, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE MAIMBUNG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ANNEX LOCATED IN BARANGAY LAUM, MUNICIPALITY OF PAIMBUNG, PROVINCE OF SULU INTO A NATIONAL TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS THE MAIMBUNG NATIONAL TECHNICAL-

VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”
By Representatives Tan-Tambut and Tan
(Samier)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND
CULTURE

House Bill No. 4477, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE SULU
PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF JOLO, PROVINCE
OF SULU INTO A TERTIARY LEVEL
HOSPITAL, UNDER THE DIRECT
CONTROL, SUPERVISION AND
MANAGEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH (DOH), INCREASING ITS
BED CAPACITY TO TWO HUNDRED
(200) BEDS, AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Tan-Tambut and Tan
(Samier)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4478, entitled:

“AN ACT UPGRADING THE SALARY
GRADE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL
TEACHERS AND NON-TEACHING
PERSONNEL FROM SALARY GRADE
11 TO SALARY GRADE 18, AND FROM
SALARY GRADE 1 TO SALARY
GRADE 9 RESPECTIVELY, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Tan-Tambut and Tan
(Samier)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 4479, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CULTURAL
CENTER AND MUSEUM IN THE
PROVINCE OF BILIRAN AND
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Espina
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND
CULTURE

House Bill No. 4480, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT
OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC
RESOURCES, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE
AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4481, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT
10361, 'OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
DOMESTIC WORKERS ACT', AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 4482, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT
9236, 'OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
NATIONAL METROLOGY ACT OF 2003',
PROVIDING FOR STIFFER PENALTIES
AND SANCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 4483, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT
10068, 'OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ACT
OF 2010', APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR, PROVIDING STIFFER
PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4484, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 8762, 'OTHERWISE KNOWN THE
RETAIL TRADE LIBERALIZATION
ACT OF 2000', PROVIDING STIFFER
PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 4485, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT
7884, 'OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
NATIONAL DAIRY DEVELOPMENT
ACT OF 1995', APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR, PROVIDING STIFFER
PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4486, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING ALL TELEVISION
NETWORKS/STATIONS TO AIR/

SHOW AT LEAST ONE (1) HOUR OF EDUCATIONAL CHILDREN'S SHOW EVERYDAY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

House Bill No. 4487, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING AND ESTABLISHING AN IFUGAO RICE TERRACES COMMISSION FOR THE RESTORATION, PRESERVATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE IFUGAO RICE TERRACES, THE ONLY LIVING SOCIAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE INSCRIBED IN THE WORLD HERITAGE LIST IN 1995 BY THE UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (UNESCO) AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF”

By Representative Chungalao
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4488, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE IFUGAO STATE UNIVERSITY (IFSU) – POTIA CAMPUS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ALFONSO LISTA, IFUGAO, FROM THE IFSU IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LAMUT, IFUGAO, CONVERTING IT INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE EASTERN CORDILLERA STATE UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE, SCIENCE, AND TECHNOLOGY (ECSUAST), AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Chungalao
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4489, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING A NATIONAL REHABILITATION AND PHYSIOTHERAPY CENTERS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (NRPCPD) THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ACCESSIBLE PWD REHABILITATION CENTERS IN EVERY PROVINCE, CITY, AND OTHER STRATEGIC AREAS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY”

By Representative Lacson-Noel
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES

House Bill No. 4490, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE FOREST STUDIES AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER IN THE CARAGA STATE UNIVERSITY (CSU), DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE”

By Representative Fortun
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4491, entitled:

“AN ACT HONORING HON. REGINA PAZ 'GINA' LOPEZ, RENAMING FOR THE PURPOSE LA MESA ECO PARK TO GINA LOPEZ ECO PARK”

By Representatives Castelo, Crisologo, Reyes, Suntay, Vargas and Belmonte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4492, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING AND ESTABLISHING A PHILIPPINE HIGH SCHOOL FOR SPORTS (PHSS) SYSTEM AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Velasco
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 4493, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF BIKE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES, PROMOTING THE USE OF BICYCLES AS AN ALTERNATIVE MODE OF TRANSPORTATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Velasco
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4494, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE GRANT OF A TEACHING SUPPLIES ALLOWANCE FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Arenas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4495, entitled:

“AN ACT TO PROMOTE HIGH PERFORMANCE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS, TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL INSTRUCTORS AND HIGHER EDUCATION TEACHING PERSONNEL”

By Representative Arenas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4496, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE LEGAL STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, RENAMING IT AS THE OFFICE OF THE CHIEF STATE COUNSEL, REDEFINING, EXPANDING, RATIONALIZING AND FURTHER PROFESSIONALIZING ITS ORGANIZATION, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Fortun
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4497, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 52 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8435, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES MODERNIZATION ACT OF 1997' ”

By Representative Unabia
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4498, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE SPECIAL HARDSHIP ALLOWANCES OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS ASSIGNED IN CONFLICT AREAS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4670, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MAGNA CARTA FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Tan-Tambut and Tan (Samier)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 4499, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE GENERAL EMILIO AGUINALDO MEMORIAL HOSPITAL IN THE CITY OF TRECE MARTIRES, PROVINCE OF CAVITE INTO A GENERAL HOSPITAL TO BE

KNOWN AS THE CAVITE CENTRAL GENERAL HOSPITAL, INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY FROM TWO HUNDRED SIXTY-FOUR (264) TO SIX HUNDRED (600), UPGRADING ITS SERVICE FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS MEDICAL PERSONNEL, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Remulla
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4500, entitled:

“AN ACT MODIFYING THE SALARY SCHEDULE OF CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Lim
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 4501, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE NARRA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – LAPU-LAPU ANNEX IN BARANGAY LAPU-LAPU, MUNICIPALITY OF NARRA, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN FROM THE NARRA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS LAPU-LAPU NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Abueg-Zaldivar
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4502, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE SANDOVAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – ESTRELLA VILLAGE ANNEX IN BARANGAY ESTRELLA VILLAGE, MUNICIPALITY OF NARRA, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN FROM THE SANDOVAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS ESTRELLA VILLAGE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Abueg-Zaldivar
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4503, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE PULOT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – PUNANG EXTENSION IN BARANGAY PUNANG, MUNICIPALITY OF SOFRONIO ESPAÑOLA, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN FROM THE PULOT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS PUNANG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Abueg-Zaldivar
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4504, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE PANITIAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – LABOG ANNEX IN BARANGAY LABOG, MUNICIPALITY OF SOFRONIO ESPAÑOLA, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN FROM THE PANITIAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS LABOG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Abueg-Zaldivar
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4505, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE ARAMAYWAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – BURIRAO ANNEX IN BARANGAY BURIRAO, MUNICIPALITY OF NARRA, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN FROM THE ARAMAYWAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS BURIRAO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Abueg-Zaldivar
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4506, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE SUMBILING NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – SAPA ANNEX IN BARANGAY SAPA, MUNICIPALITY OF BATARAZA, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN FROM

THE SUMBILING NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Abueg-Zaldivar
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4507, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE TARUSAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – SARONG EXTENSION IN BARANGAY SARONG, MUNICIPALITY OF BATARAZA, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN FROM THE TARUSAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS SARONG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Abueg-Zaldivar
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4508, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE CANDAWAGA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – PANALINGAAN EXTENSION IN BARANGAY PANALINGAAN, MUNICIPALITY OF RIZAL, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN FROM THE CANDAWAGA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS PANALINGAAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Abueg-Zaldivar
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4509, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE SOUTHERN BATARAZA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – BULILUYAN ANNEX IN BARANGAY BULILUYAN, MUNICIPALITY OF BATARAZA, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN FROM THE SOUTHERN BATARAZA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT

INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS BULILUYAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Abueg-Zaldivar
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4510, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY MANGGA, MUNICIPALITY OF TUBURAN, PROVINCE OF CEBU, TO BE KNOWN AS THE MANGGA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Lagon
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4511, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SPECIALTY SCHOOL IN CEBU CITY TO SPECIALIZE IN THE ARTS TO BE KNOWN AS THE VISAYAS SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Lagon
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4512, entitled:

“AN ACT FURTHER PROMOTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP BY STRENGTHENING, EMPOWERING AND ENHANCING THE FINANCING PROGRAMS FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6977, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'MAGNA CARTA FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (MSMEs)' ”

By Representative Nograles (Jericho)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 4513, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE COMMISSION ON CHILDREN, DEFINING ITS POWERS, FUNCTIONS, AND RESPONSIBILITIES, AND

APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Nograles (Jericho)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

House Bill No. 4514, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE REGULATION OF EMPLOYMENT OF FOREIGN NATIONALS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 40, 41, AND 42 OF TITLE II, BOOK ONE OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES' ”

By Representative Nograles (Jericho)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 4515, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 13 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3019, AS AMENDED, ENTITLED THE 'ANTI-GRAFT AND CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT' ”

By Representative Nograles (Jericho)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 4516, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING AND RATIONALIZING THE CAREER SERVICE OF THE CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES BY ESTABLISHING A LEGISLATIVE CAREER SERVICE AND A LEGISLATIVE ACADEMY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Cabochan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 4517, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR TAX EXEMPTIONS AND SUBSIDIES FOR THE LOCAL MUSIC INDUSTRY, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991”

By Representative Cabochan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4518, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING MARINE PROTECTED AREAS IN ALL COASTAL MUNICIPALITIES AND CITIES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Cabochan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4519, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR STIFFER PENALTIES AGAINST PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES WHO REFUSE OR NEGLECT TO ACT PROMPTLY ON THE PUBLIC’S PERSONAL TRANSACTIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS AS REQUIRED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6713, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICAL STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES’ ”

By Representative Cabochan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 4520, entitled:

“AN ACT PRESCRIBING EVERY SECOND SUNDAY OF SEPTEMBER AS A NATIONAL COASTAL CLEAN-UP DAY IN THE COUNTRY”

By Representative Cabochan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 4521, entitled:

“AN ACT EXEMPTING PLEDGE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY COVERING A LOAN OF MONEY NOT EXCEEDING TEN THOUSAND PESOS FROM DOCUMENTARY STAMP TAX, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 195 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4522, entitled:

“AN ACT RECTIFYING ERRORS STATED IN HISTORY TEXT BOOKS BEING USED IN SCHOOLS”

By Representatives Nieto, Maceda, Malapitan, Martinez and Valeriano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4523, entitled:

“AN ACT CONSTITUTING A CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON DEBT MANAGEMENT

TO LOOK INTO ALL FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC BORROWINGS NEGOTIATED, CONTRACTED OR GUARANTEED BY THE PRESIDENT ON BEHALF OF THE PHILIPPINES AS WELL AS THOSE BY THE GOVERNMENT OR GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND -CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4524, entitled:

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

By Representatives Nieto, Maceda, Malapitan, Martinez and Valeriano
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD SECURITY

House Bill No. 4525, entitled:

“AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE LICENSING AND CONTROL OF DEALERS IN SECONDHAND GOODS AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH”

By Representatives Nieto, Maceda, Malapitan, Martinez and Valeriano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 4526, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE VOLUNTARY ACCREDITATION OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN THE PHILIPPINES BY INSTITUTIONALIZING THE EXISTING POLICIES AND PRACTICES AND PROVIDING GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE THEREOF”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4527, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMPUTER LABORATORY IN ALL PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4528, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE AMUSEMENT AND GAMING COMMISSION (PAGCOM), AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON GAMES AND AMUSEMENTS

House Bill No. 4529, entitled:

“AN ACT DESIGNATING THE THIRD SUNDAY OF NOVEMBER AS THE PHILIPPINE DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ROAD CRASH VICTIMS, SURVIVORS AND FAMILIES”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4530, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES FROM REQUIRING THE SUBMISSION OF A PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY CERTIFIED BIRTH CERTIFICATE ISSUED WITHIN THE PAST SIX (6) MONTHS”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON POPULATION AND FAMILY RELATIONS

House Bill No. 4531, entitled:

“AN ACT EXEMPTING BOOKS, NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES, JOURNALS, REVIEWS, BULLETINS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL OR LEARNING MATERIALS MADE OR PUBLISHED IN DIGITAL OR ELECTRONIC FORMAT FROM VALUE-ADDED TAX, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 109 (1) OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4532, entitled:

“AN ACT DESIGNATING THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AS CHAIRPERSON OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE NATIONAL IRRIGATION

ADMINISTRATION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 4 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3601, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4533, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING THE DIRECT REMITTANCE TO THE HOST LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS OF THEIR FORTY PERCENT (40%) SHARE DERIVED FROM THE NATIONAL WEALTH AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 293 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4534, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE MILITARY AND UNIFORMED PERSONNEL PENSION SYSTEM, CREATING THE MILITARY AND UNIFORMED PERSONNEL INSURANCE FUND, AMENDING SECTIONS 3 AND 24 OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER 8291, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 4535, entitled:

“AN ACT RESCINDING THE RESTRICTIONS ON OWNERSHIP AND TRANSFERABILITY OF LANDS AWARDED UNDER THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRARIAN REFORM

House Bill No. 4536, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING BROADER PROTECTION TO CONSUMERS AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7394, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'THE CONSUMER ACT OF THE PHILIPPINES' ”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 4537, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE RIGHTS OF GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM (GSIS) MEMBERS, PROVIDING THEM ADDITIONAL REPRESENTATION IN THE GSIS BOARD, ENSURING PROMPT PAYMENT OF ALL THEIR BENEFITS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 4538, entitled:

“AN ACT SETTING A CEILING TO THE INDEBTEDNESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES TO ENSURE MACRO-ECONOMIC STABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4539, entitled:

“AN ACT DESIGNATING THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AS CHAIRPERSON OF THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY COUNCIL”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4540, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE DELINEATION OF THE SPECIFIC FORESTS LIMITS OF THE PUBLIC DOMAIN AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4541, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE EXCISE TAX ON MINERALS, MINERAL PRODUCTS AND QUARRY RESOURCES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4542, entitled:

“AN ACT EXEMPTING TOLLWAY OPERATIONS FROM THE VALUE-

ADDED TAX, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTIONS 108 AND 109 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4543, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE CITIZEN ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES, REINSTITUTING FOR THE PURPOSE A MANDATORY RESERVE OFFICERS’ TRAINING CORPS (ROTC) PROGRAM IN THE CURRICULUM OF ALL UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE, DIPLOMA, CERTIFICATE OR TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE TERTIARY-LEVEL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 4544, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA FOR THE ROAD TRANSPORTATION SECTOR”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4545, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTING INCOME TAX REFORM FOR CORPORATE TAXPAYERS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTIONS 27(A) AND 28 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4546, entitled:

“AN ACT TO RECONSTRUCT AND REHABILITATE THE EXISTING 479-KILOMETER PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RAILWAYS LINE FROM SAN FERNANDO, LA UNION TO LEGAZPI CITY, ALBAY, PROVIDING FUNDS FROM THE ANNUAL VALUE-ADDED TAX COLLECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE

NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE
CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND
HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4547, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE SALARY
SCHEDULE OF CIVILIAN PERSONNEL
IN THE GOVERNMENT, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 4548, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING LOCAL
INFRASTRUCTURE INDUSTRY
PLAYERS, AMENDING FOR THE
PURPOSE SECTION 23 OF REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 9184, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT
REFORM ACT, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 4549, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING CARPOOL
SERVICE IN THE COUNTRY,
REGULATING ITS USE AND
OPERATION, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4550, entitled:

“AN ACT TO PROMOTE FAIR TRADE
IN THE OIL INDUSTRY AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES, AMENDING
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8479, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE 'DOWNSTREAM OIL
DEREGULATION ACT OF 1998' ”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Bill No. 4551, entitled:

“AN ACT EXEMPTING THE SALE OR
IMPORTATION OF PETROLEUM
PRODUCTS AND SALE OF
ELECTRICITY FROM THE VALUE-
ADDED TAX, AMENDING FOR THIS
PURPOSE SECTIONS 108 AND 109 OF
THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE
CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4552, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF TIMBANGAN
NG BAYAN CENTERS IN PUBLIC AND
PRIVATE MARKETS NATIONWIDE,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7394, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE 'CONSUMER ACT OF
THE PHILIPPINES,' AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Santos-Recto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 4553, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING ARTICLE 70 OF ACT
NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL
CODE”

By Representative Veloso
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 4554, entitled:

“AN ACT SETTING THE MINIMUM PAID UP
CAPITAL AND LOCALLY PRODUCED
STOCK INVENTORY REQUIREMENTS
FOR FOREIGN RETAIL BUSINESS
ENTERPRISES AMENDING FOR THE
PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8762,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE RETAIL
TRADE LIBERALIZATION ACT”

By Representative Garin (Sharon)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 4555, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING THE RECORDING
OF THE IDENTITY OF ALL DRONE
OWNERS/OPERATORS AND THE
REGISTRATION OF THEIR DRONES
OR REMOTELY-PILOTED AIRCRAFT
SYSTEMS (RPAS) WITH THE CIVIL
AVIATION AUTHORITY OF THE
PHILIPPINES AND PRESCRIBING
PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4556, entitled:

“AN ACT MODIFYING THE
QUALIFICATIONS, REQUIREMENTS
FOR CANDIDACY, AND THE
CONTINUING QUALIFICATIONS
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES, AND
ADJUSTING THE COMPOSITION OF THE

SCREENING COMMITTEE, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 26-A
AND 26-B OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE
NO. 269 AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 10531”

By Representative Dagooc
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Bill No. 4557, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN AQUATIC
RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTAL
BREEDING STATION FOR LAKES,
RIVERS, BAYS, PONDS, AND OTHER
INLAND FISHES AT THE UNIVERSITY
OF NORTHERN PHILIPPINES IN THE
CITY OF VIGAN, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS
SUR AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR”

By Representative Savellano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND
FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4558, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A STRATEGIC
AND INTEGRATED CHEMICAL,
BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL,
NUCLEAR (CBRN) RESILIENCY
APPROACH, TO FOSTER SAFETY AND
SECURITY OF THE FILIPINO PEOPLE,
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 4559, entitled:

“AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE LOCAL
EQUITABLE ALLOCATION PROGRAM
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Go (Mark)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4560, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A REGULAR
DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE LAND
TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING
AND REGULATORY BOARD (LTFRB) IN
THE CITY OF BACOR, PROVINCE OF
CAVITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR”

By Representative Revilla
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 317, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND
COMMENDING POLICE CORPORAL
EVA CLAIRE C. SANTIAGO FOR
WINNING ONE (1) GOLD AND TWO (2)
SILVER MEDALS IN THE RECENTLY
CONCLUDED 2019 WORLD POLICE
AND FIRE GAMES HELD AT CHENGDU,
CHINA”

By Representative Lara
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND
SAFETY

House Resolution No. 318, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING
AND COMMENDING POLICE STAFF
SERGEANT AARON JAYXEN BANATAO
FOR WINNING ONE (1) SILVER MEDAL
IN THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED 2019
WORLD POLICE AND FIRE GAMES
HELD AT CHENGDU, CHINA”

By Representative Lara
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND
SAFETY

House Resolution No. 319, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND
COMMENDING MS. ZYKA ANGELICA
C. SANTIAGO FOR WINNING ONE (1)
SILVER MEDAL IN THE 14TH ASEAN
TAEKWONDO CHAMPIONSHIPS AND
TWO (2) GOLD MEDALS IN THE 2019
PYEONGCHANG WORLD TAEKWONDO
HANMADANG CONTEST”

By Representative Lara
TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS
DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 320, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND
FOOD TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID
OF LEGISLATION INTO THE PRESENT
STATE OF FARMERS ESPECIALLY IN
THE PLANTING, SALE AND PRICING
OF PALAY WITH THE END IN VIEW OF
ENACTING LEGISLATIVE MEASURES
TO ADDRESS THE SAME”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 321, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY TO, IN

AID OF LEGISLATION, DIRECT THE GRID MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE THROUGH THE ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION TO REVIEW THE EXISTING OPEN ACCESS TRANSMISSION SERVICE RULES PARTICULARLY ON THE ISSUE OF IMPOSING PENALTIES TO VIOLATORS THEREOF”

By Representatives Dagooc, De Jesus, Ebcas and Guya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 322, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT (DSWD), DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG), DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE (DND), DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, (DOTR), AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DENR), IN COORDINATION WITH THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY (NFA) AND THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA), TO DIRECTLY BUY BACK PALAY OF THE LOCAL FARMERS FOR THE RICE SUBSIDY PROGRAM”

By Representatives Romualdez (Yedda) and Romualdez (Ferdinand)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Joint Resolution No. 15, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE RICE COMPETITIVENESS ENHANCEMENT FUND (RCEF) AS PROVIDED UNDER THE UNPROGRAMMED APPROPRIATIONS OF THE 2019 GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT (GAA), THE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS’ TARIFF COLLECTIONS FROM IMPORTED RICE AS OF 31 AUGUST 2019, AND OTHER POSSIBLE SOURCES, AS A SPECIAL EMERGENCY FUND FOR DIRECT CASH TRANSFERS TO RICE FARMERS”

By Representatives Quimbo, Lagman, Belmonte, Abaya, Amatong, Billones, Bordado, Chatto, Daza, Erice, Hataman, Limkaichong, Peña and Ramirez-Sato
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

COMMUNICATIONS

Letters dated 23 August and 6 September 2019 of Janice G. Ayson-Zales, Deputy Director and Marissa M. Reyes, Acting Deputy Director, Office of the General Counsel and Legal Services, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), furnishing the House of Representatives with duly certified and authenticated BSP issuances, to wit:

1. Circular Letter No. CL-2019-061 dated 20 August 2019;
2. Circular No. 1045 dated 29 August 2019;
3. Circular No. 1046 dated 29 August 2019;
4. Circular No. 1047 dated 29 August 2019; and
5. Circular Letter No. CL-2019-064 dated 30 August 2019.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

Letter dated 28 August 2019 of Fire Director Leonard R. Bañago, PME, Chief, National Headquarters, Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), Department of the Interior and Local Government, furnishing the House of Representatives the Agency Action Plan and Status of Implementation (AAPSI) on the Audit Observation and Recommendations for the Calendar Year 2018 as of August 20, 2019.
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated 2 September 2019 of Maria Catalina E. Cabral, Ph. D., CESO I, Undersecretary for Planning and Public-Private Partnership (PPP), Department of Public Works and Highways, submitting to the House of Representatives the Project Briefers of PPP Projects being undertaken as of August 25, 2019.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

Letter dated September 5, 2019 of Wendel E. Avisado, Acting Secretary, Department of Budget and Management, transmitting to the House of Representatives the consolidated Statement of Appropriations, Allotments, Obligations, Disbursements and Balances (SAAODB) of the national government agencies for the quarter ending June 30, 2019.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Committee on Legislative Franchises (Committee Report No. 11), re H.B. No. 4581, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO GOLDEN BROADCAST PROFESSIONAL, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8025 ENTITLED 'A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE A STATION FOR FM RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING IN THE ISLAND OF MINDANAO AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES', AND EXPANDING ITS COVERAGE TO THE ENTIRE PHILIPPINES”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 3005

Sponsors: Representatives Alvarez (Franz) and Jimenez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Legislative Franchises (Committee Report No. 12), re H.B. No. 4582, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO GOLD LABEL BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8087 ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING TO THE GOLD LABEL BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC. A FRANCHISE TO ESTABLISH, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN DUMAGUETE AND OTHER AREAS IN THE VISAYAS AND MINDANAO WHERE FREQUENCIES AND/OR CHANNELS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING' ”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 2361

Sponsors: Representatives Alvarez (Franz) and Sagarbarria

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Legislative Franchises (Committee Report No. 13), re H.B. No. 4583, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO BROADCAST ENTERPRISES AND AFFILIATED MEDIA, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8098 TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH,

OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 4055

Sponsors: Representatives Alvarez (Franz) and Romualdo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Legislative Franchises (Committee Report No. 14), re H.B. No. 4584, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO CRUSADERS BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC., UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8091 ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING THE CRUSADERS BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN COMMERCIAL RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS WITHIN THE PHILIPPINES' ”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 2227

Sponsors: Representatives Alvarez (Franz) and Crisologo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

CONTINUATION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

On motion of Representative Romualdo, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228 contained in Committee Report No. 8 as reported out by the Committee on Appropriations, entitled:

“AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE NCMF

On motion of Representative Romualdo, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCMF).

**TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD
OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE
ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE NCMF**

There being no interpellations, on a joint motion of Representatives Belmonte and Romualdo, representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the NCMF.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED
BUDGETS OF THE DILG AND ITS
ATTACHED AGENCIES**

On motion of Rep. Manuel F. Zubiri, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and its attached agencies.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Zubiri acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests from the DILG and its attached agencies led by DILG Secretary Eduardo M. Año; and upon his motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Alfred Vargas, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, and Rep. Ferdinand R. Gaité for sponsorship and interpellation, respectively.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE GAITE**

Representative Gaité sought clarification on the action taken against members of the Philippine National Police (PNP) who had intervened in labor disputes and had illegally arrested striking workers and violated their constitutional rights, such as what happened in the Peerless Products Manufacturing Corporation in Laguna.

After asking about the protocol in handling labor disputes, Representative Gaité discussed with Representative Vargas the DILG's position on the alleged involvement of uniformed personnel and DILG officials such as Assistant Secretary Ricojudge Echiverri in partisan political activity. The Sponsor said that the DILG will support any complaint thereon and will follow the law.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Rep. Juan Fidel Felipe F. Nograles, the Chair suspended the session at 1:58 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:58 p.m.

On motion of Representative Nograles (J.F.F.), the Chair recognized Rep. Abdullah D. Dimaporo for a manifestation.

**MANIFESTATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE DIMAPORO (A.)**

Representative Dimaporo manifested that in accordance with the Speaker's advice to confer with government officials concerned, he had consulted the PNP chief and the brigadier general of PNP-Region XI about criminal incidents in Lanao del Norte. He said that he wanted to place it on record that the latter had agreed to look into the matter.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE**

On motion of Representative Nograles (J.F.F.), the Chair next recognized Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate for his interpellation.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE**

Representative Zarate inquired into the PNP's seemingly conflicting statistics about the number of deaths in connection with the government's antidrug campaign as well as the number of inquest proceedings that had been conducted. He sought information on the action taken by the PNP about policemen who had not followed the manual of procedures in police operations; and had been allegedly responsible for such deaths, including the status of cases and settlements entered into with the victims and their families.

Representative Vargas relayed the commitment of the DILG to promote and ensure public safety and security and stated that the PNP would verify the status of the cases which had been amicably settled; and Representative Zarate requested that he be furnished with the report thereon.

**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION
ON SECOND READING
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228**

At this point, on motion of Rep. Juan Miguel Macapagal Arroyo, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228.

ROLL CALL

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, there being no objection, the Chair directed the Secretary General to call the Roll and the following Members were present:

Abante	Dalipe
Abaya	Dalog
Abueg-Zaldivar	De Jesus
Abunda	de Venecia
Acop	Defensor (L.)
Acosta	Del Mar
Agabas	Delos Santos
Aglipay	Deloso-Montalla
Albano (A.)	Dimaporo (A.)
Amante-Matba	Dimaporo (M.K.)
Angara	Duterte
Arbison	Dy (F.)
Arroyo	Ebcas
Atienza	Ecleo
Balindong	Elago
Barba	Enverga
Baronda	Ermita-Buhain
Bascug	Escudero
Bautista	Espina
Belmonte	Fernandez
Bernos	Fernando
Biazon	Flores
Billones	Fongwan
Bolilia	Fortuno
Bondoc	Frasco
Bordado	Gaite
Bravo	Garcia (P.J.)
Brosas	Garin (J.)
Bustos	Garin (S.)
Cabatbat	Gato
Calixto	Go (E.C.)
Campos	Gonzaga
Cari	Gonzales (A.)
Castelo	Gonzales (N.)
Castro (F.L.)	Guico
Castro (F.H.)	Guya
Cayetano (A.P.)	Haresco
Cayetano (M.L.)	Hataman
Chatto	Jalosjos
Chungalao	Javier
Co (A.N.)	Jimenez
Crisologo	Kho (E.)
Cua	Kho (W.)
Cuaresma	Lacson-Noel
Cueva	Lagman
Cullamat	Lazatin
Dagooc	Lim

Limkaichong	Sanchez
Loyola	Sangcopan
Macapagal Arroyo	Sarmiento
Malapitan	Savellano
Marcoleta	Silverio
Mariano-Hernandez	Singson-Meehan
Matba	Sinsuat
Matugas	Suansing (E.)
Momo	Suansing (H.)
Natividad-Nagaño	Suarez (D.)
Nieto	Suntay
Noel	Sy-Alvarado
Nogralles (J.F.F.)	Taduran
Nolasco	Tallado
Oaminal	Tambunting
Ong (J.)	Tan (A.)
Ortega	Tan (S.A.)
Ouano-Dizon	Teves (A.)
Pacquiao (R.)	Teves (J.)
Padiernos	Tiangco
Paduano	Tolentino
Palma	Tulfo
Pancho	Ty
Panotes	Umali (M.V.)
Peña	Unabia
Pimentel	Ungab
Pineda	Uy (R.)
Plaza	Valeriano
Puno	Valmayor
Quimbo	Vargas
Ramos	Vergara
Remulla	Villa
Reyes	Villanueva (E.)
Rivera	Villanueva (N.)
Robes	Villaraza-Suarez
Romualdez (F.M.)	Villarica
Romualdo	Violago
Roque	Zamora (W.K.)
Sacdalan	Zarate
Sagarbarria	Zubiri
Salo	

With 175 Members responding to the call, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum. (See Appendix 2)

APPROVAL ON THIRD READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4157

On motion of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the approval on Third Reading of House Bill No. 4157, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on September 10, 2019, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the Provisional Rules of the House.

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

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 4, 5, 20, 22, 27, 28, 34, 40, 50, 73, 112, 117, 204, 222, 237, 237-A, 255, 256, 257, 258, 261, 263, 264, 266, 275, 290, 291, 292 AND ADDING NEW SECTIONS 6-A, 282-A, 293, 294, 294-A, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, AND 316, ALL UNDER THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

The Chair then directed the Secretary General to call the Roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Provisional Rules of the House, a second Roll Call was made.

MANIFESTATION OF SEVERAL MEMBERS

During the voting, Reps. Jose L. Atienza Jr., Arlene D. Brosas, France L. Castro, Eufemia “Ka Femia” C. Cullamat, Sarah Jane I. Elago, Ferdinand R. Gaite, Edcel C. Lagman, and Carlos Isagani T. Zarate reserved their right to explain their negative votes.

RESULT OF THE VOTING

The result of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative:

Abante	Barzaga
Abueg-Zaldivar	Bascug
Abunda	Bautista-Bandigan
Acop	Bernos
Agabas	Biazon
Aglipay	Billones
Albano (A.)	Bolilia
Almario	Bondoc
Amante-Matba	Bravo
Angara	Bustos
Arbison	Cabatbat
Arroyo	Calixto
Bagatsing	Campos
Balindong	Cari
Barba	Castelo
Baronda	Castro (F.H.)

Cayetano (M.L.)	Malapitan
Chatto	Mangudadatu
Chipeco	Marcoleta
Chungalao	Mariano-Hernandez
Co (A.N.)	Matba
Crisologo	Matugas
Cua	Momo
Cuaresma	Natividad-Nagaño
Cueva	Nieto
Dagooc	Noel
Dalipe	Nograles (J.F.F.)
Dalog	Nolasco
De Jesus	Nuñez-Malanyaon
de Venecia	Oaminal
Defensor (L.)	Ong (J.)
Del Mar	Ortega
Delos Santos	Ouano-Dizon
Deloso-Montalla	Pacquiao (R.)
Dimaporo (A.)	Padiernos
Dimaporo (M.K.)	Paduano
Dy (F.)	Palma
Ebcas	Pancho
Ecleo	Panotes
Ermita-Buhain	Peña
Escudero	Pichay
Espina	Pimentel
Fernandez	Pineda
Fernando	Plaza
Flores	Puno
Fongwan	Quimbo
Fortuno	Ramos
Frasco	Remulla
Garbin	Revilla
Garin (J.)	Reyes
Garin (S.)	Rivera
Gato	Robes
Go (E.C.)	Romero
Gonzales (N.)	Romualdez (F.M.)
Guico	Romualdez (Y.M.)
Guya	Romualdo
Herrera-Dy	Roque
Jalosjos	Sacdalan
Javier	Sagarbarria
Jimenez	Salo
Kho (E.)	Sanchez
Kho (W.)	Sarmiento
Labadlabad	Savellano
Lacson-Noel	Siao
Lagon	Silverio
Lazatin	Singson-Meehan
Lim	Sinsuat
Limkaichong	Suansing (E.)
Loyola	Suansing (H.)
Macapagal Arroyo	Suarez (D.)

Suntay	Uy (R.)
Sy-Alvarado	Valeriano
Taduran	Valmayor
Tallado	Vargas
Tambunting	Vergara
Tan (A.)	Villa
Tan (S.A.)	Villafuerte
Teves (J.)	Villanueva (E.)
Tolentino	Villanueva (N.)
Tulfo	Villaraza-Suarez
Ty	Villarica
Umali (A.)	Violago
Umali (M.V.)	Yap (V.)
Unabia	Zamora (W.K.)
Ungab	Zubiri

Negative:

Atienza	Elago
Brosas	Gaite
Castro (F.L.)	Lagman
Cullamat	Zarate

Abstention:

Belmonte	Sangcopan
Bordado	Singson
Hataman	Teves (A.)

With 170 affirmative votes, eight negative votes, and six abstentions, the Body approved on Third Reading House Bill No. 4157.

EXPLANATION OF VOTES

The following Members explained their votes:

1. Representative Atienza voted “No” for the following reasons: the measure amends 53 provisions of the law on taxation with different subject matters and was passed hastily, thus exposing it to possible corruption; it violates the provision on one subject matter for every law; and it is not a revenue law which would enable the government to raise additional revenue.
2. Representative Brosas likewise voted “No,” saying the Bill is a pro-rich and International Monetary Fund-inspired regressive tax measure; and provides preferential treatment to big, foreign businesses at the expense of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). It allows the president to award land rights and water resources and grant

power subsidies to ecozone locators as part of the incentives, she further said.

3. In explaining her negative vote, Representative Castro (F.L.) pointed out that House Bill No. 4157 will create mass layoffs and increase unemployment and underemployment but will create additional profits for giant corporations through foregone tax incentives. She said that the measure provides the president with unlimited power to lower corporate tax and grants additional tax breaks and longer income tax holidays. She added that it will remove benefits provided to local entrepreneurs under the Magna Carta for Public Small Enterprises and the Barangay Micro Business Enterprises Act.
4. Representative Cullamat said that while the measure is an additional burden to the poor through excessive indirect taxes, it provides huge bonuses to big corporations including foreign ones through savings and incentives in their taxes. She stressed that the Bill is wrong, immoral, and violative of the Constitution as she cast her negative vote.
5. Representative Elago stated that she and the KABATAAN Party-List strongly opposed House Bill No. 4157 for lowering the corporate income tax rate to a uniform 20 percent up to 2029, thus disproportionately benefitting foreign and local big corporations. It augments the president’s discretionary power to grant incentives to corporations and widens the elbow room of the president in extracting bribes and corruption money from big businesses, she added.
6. Representative Gaite voted “No” to the proposed Corporate Income Tax and Incentives Rationalization Act (CITIRA) emphasizing that it is not pro-poor and will not contribute to the country’s development. She opined that it is against workers and MSMEs and instead favors big local and foreign corporations by granting them tax incentives and other benefits.
7. Also voting “No” to the measure, Representative Lagman cited the following reasons: it is a classic example of how skewed the Philippine tax system is against the poor; it liberates all corporations from their current corporate income tax of 30

percent to only 20 percent for 10 years; its reduction of the corporate income tax rate will exacerbate the effective tax rate; and it will not generate employment. He also said that the Bill was constitutionally infirm because it covered two subject matters.

8. Representative Zarate cast his “No” vote to the measure, observing that it is the same as the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN) II Law. He opined that the CITIRA Bill is a flawed tax measure that will not benefit ordinary Filipinos; and just like the TRAIN I which caused higher inflation, the CITIRA is a regressive tax measure. While he said that he agrees with the rationalization of fiscal incentives, it should be oriented towards national industrialization and its focus should be small and medium enterprises.

At this point, Deputy Speaker Gonzales (A.) relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Eduardo “Bro Eddie” C. Villanueva.

TRANSMITTAL TO THE SENATE OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4157

Subsequently, on motion of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, there being no objection, the Body directed the Secretary General to immediately transmit to the Senate a copy of House Bill No. 4157 that had just been approved on Third Reading.

CONTINUATION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

On successive motions of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4288 contained in Committee Report No. 8 as reported out by the Committee on Appropriations, entitled:

“AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Thereafter, the Chair recognized Representatives Vargas and Zarate to continue with their sponsorship and interpellation, respectively.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE (Continuation)

Representatives Zarate and Vargas tackled the violation of the PNP manual of operations by some operatives of the police force, this time as regards the conduct of the “Oplan Sauron” anti-insurgency program. They also discussed an update on the investigation of the murder of Councilor Bobby Jalandoni of Canlaon City, Negros Oriental.

On motion of Representative Nograles (J.F.F.), the Chair next recognized Representative Atienza for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

After inquiring into the sufficiency of the budget of the DILG to cover its many functions, Representative Atienza asked about the billion-peso purchase in 2015 of Mahindra vehicles that were later discovered to be performing poorly and opined that those who ordered the same should be held accountable. The Sponsor assured his colleague that the DILG will submit its position about the matter.

Proceeding to another matter, Representative Atienza recommended the inventory of all city jails and the decongestion of the same, as well as an inventory of all fire trucks in the country. Representative Vargas concurred with the same.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DILG AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

To give Representative Vargas more time to check on data requested by Representative Atienza, on motion of Representative Romualdo, there being no objection, the Body suspended the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DILG and its attached agencies.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE MINDA

On motion of Representative Romualdo, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Mindanao Development Authority (MinDA).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Romualdo acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of MinDA officials led by Secretary Emmanuel F. Piñol and Executive Director Janet Lopez.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE MINDA

There being no interpellations, on a joint motion of Representative Sergio C. Dagooc on the part of the Minority and Representative Romualdo on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the MinDA.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Thereafter, the session was suspended at 4:30 p.m. upon motion of Representative Romualdo.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 4:33 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DILG AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

On successive motions of Representative Romualdo, there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration of the proposed budgets of the DILG and its attached agencies; and the Chair recognized Representative Vargas to continue sponsorship of the same and Representative Atienza to interpellate thereon.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Representatives Atienza and Vargas exchanged views on what the DILG has done to enforce the Clean Water Act especially in Manila Bay and in relation to the Supreme Court decision ordering the Maynilad Water Services, Inc. and Manila Water Company, Inc. to provide wastewater treatment facilities.

Then discussing the metro traffic problem with the Sponsor, Representative Atienza asked the DILG to see to it that their traffic bureaus are doing their jobs to address the problem and to investigate traffic enforcers involved in malpractices in the streets. He opined that the traffic problem will not be solved by granting emergency powers to the president.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Villanueva (E.) relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Raneo "Ranie" E. Abu.

Thereafter, on further motion of Representative Nograles (J.F.F.), the Chair recognized Representative Cullamat for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CULLAMAT

Representative Cullamat initially asked for clarification about some details in the report on some killings in Lianga, Surigao del Sur, that had been submitted to her.

Representative Cullamat questioned the lifting of the warrant of arrest for the suspects responsible for the brutal killing of their officials and expressed her doubts on the intention of the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC). She then called for the immediate arrest of the suspects as she herself had witnessed the incident.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Nograles (J.F.F.), the Chair recognized Representative Brosas for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Representative Brosas talked about, and asked for the pertinent report she had requested during the pre-plenary hearing, regarding drug-related cases involving women; and discussed with Representative Vargas about the compensation that is supposed to be granted to the families affected by "Oplan Tokhang" and whether the PNP has allotment for the said purpose.

The Members also talked about the participation of local government units in the implementation of the local government empowerment program.

Subsequently tackling matters about the PNP, the two Members discussed the current status of their war on drugs or "Oplan Tokhang" in Metro Manila, a report of which will be provided to Representative Brosas; the confidentiality of the supposed budget for the community awareness and public information activities; the PNP's accomplishments in terms of arresting big-time drug dealers in relation to the

“Oplan Tokhang”; and the PNP’s stand on the electioneering activities of certain policemen who were caught distributing newspapers which maligned the Makabayan and other activist groups.

During the interpellation, the Sponsor agreed to provide Representative Brosas with data on all of her concerns.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

On motion of Representative Nograles (J.F.F.), the Chair recognized Representative Castro who raised her concern regarding the PNP’s response to her request regarding the profiling of members of the Alliance of Concerned Teachers which was addressed to another member of the said organization. She stressed that such action by the PNP was improper and unethical.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 5:36 p.m. upon motion of Representative Castro.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:37 p.m.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.) (Continuation)

At this point, Representative Castro asked about certain items listed in the DILG’s 2018 Accomplishment Report regarding the Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (E-CLIP) and its predecessor CLIP, which gave financial and livelihood assistance to former rebels.

To Representative Castro’s concern about the department’s monitoring and assessment reports on said programs, the Sponsor said that the DILG would provide her a copy of the report regarding DILG’s actions on the COA findings.

Lastly, Representatives Castro and Vargas discussed Executive Order No. 70 specifically the meaning of the word “left” which she argued could also cover civilian activist groups, and not only the Communist Party of the Philippines and the New People’s Army. They also tackled the powers and mandate of the agencies involved in attaining the

E.O.’s objective to attain inclusive and sustainable peace.

On motion of Representative Nograles (J.F.F.), the Chair recognized Representative Elago for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Representative Elago called on the support of the Body to provide more funds to the National Youth Commission (NYC) to assist them better with their work. She then asked the NYC to look into her concern regarding the grant of privileges and benefits to Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) officials.

Regarding the killings and casualties related to the antidrug campaign, Representative Vargas gave the assurance that the DILG would uphold the law, respect the due process and human rights of Filipinos; and that it would punish those within their ranks who would violate the law.

Representative Elago next talked about the displacement of side-street vendors as part of the road clearing operations that was directed by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte and argued that there should be a comprehensive plan to include all those who would be affected.

Lastly, Representative Elago proposed that the DILG budget for confidential and intelligence expenses be transferred instead to projects related to local development.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DILG AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

There being no further interpellations, on joint motion of Senior Deputy Minority Leader Janette L. Garin and Rep. Cristal L. Bagatsing, on the part of the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DILG and its attached agencies.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session at 6:09 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 6:12 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE CCC

On motion of Rep. Anthony Peter “Onyx” D. Crisologo, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Climate Change Commission (CCC).

Likewise, Representative Crisologo acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the CCC family headed by Secretary Emmanuel de Guzman, and upon the former’s motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Ed Christopher S. Go, vice chairperson of the sponsoring committee, to defend the proposed budget and Representative Elago for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Representatives Elago and Go (E.C.) delved into the actions being done by the CCC to ensure that the big part of its budget was being well-spent for climate change adaption and mitigation measures.

Representative Elago also asked if the CCC had reviewed its accomplishments and program-related expenditures and requested the commission to give her a copy of the policy review of its climate change expenditures, programs and activities.

Representative Elago enjoined Representative Go to support the increase in the CCC’s budget to ensure that the commission is empowered to perform according to its mandate and international treaties, including its response to climate emergencies.

In closing, she mentioned about the Human Rights Defender Bill, and commended the CCC for its commitment to protect the rights of the environment defenders.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Upon motion of Representative Crisologo, the Chair recognized Representative Atienza who inquired about the CCC’s performance in relation to climate change risk reduction and other mitigation

and adaptation measures, as well as its specific capacity building programs to clean up and protect bodies of water such as the Laguna de Bay.

MOTION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Whereupon, Representative Atienza moved to defer the proposed budget of the CCC.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session at 6:33 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:35 p.m., the session resumed.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE CCC

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Crisologo, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration of the proposed budget of the CCC.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 6:35 p.m. upon motion of Representative Bagatsing.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 6:37 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOLE AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

On motion of Representative Crisologo, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the DOLE and its attached agencies.

At this point, Representative Crisologo acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the officials and employees of DOLE led by Secretary Silvestre H. Bello III.

On motion of Rep. Niña Taduran, the Chair recognized Rep. Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong, vice

chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, for her sponsorship speech.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE LIMKAICHONG

Representative Limkaichong stated that the DOLE had always acted in accordance with its constitutional mandate to uphold labor protection, promote full employment, and ensure equal work opportunities for Filipinos working domestically and overseas. She said that through the implementation of the different programs, DOLE had set bold plans to meet the end goals of socioeconomic development, and improve the well-being of the country's workforce. She then called on her colleagues to support DOLE with an adequate budget so it can effectively fulfill its mandate.

Thereupon, Representative Limkaichong yielded the floor to Rep. David "Jay-Jay" C. Suarez to defend the proposed budget of the DOLE; and on motion of Representative Taduran, the Chair then recognized Rep. Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CABATBAT

Representative Cabatbat requested for a report on the details of the DOLE's unobligated allotment as reported in the 2018 National Expenditure Program (NEP), to which the Sponsor said that the agency would comply. He then asked about the generated savings for fiscal years 2017 and 2018, and on whether the agency had asked for augmentation for the budget deficiencies for its priority programs and projects.

Thereafter, the Chair recognized Rep. Enrico A. Pineda for a manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE PINEDA

Representative Pineda manifested that he has filed a resolution to restore the original requested budget of DOLE that the DBM had reduced considering that the reduction would severely affect the implementation of DOLE's programs such as the "Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa ating

Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers" or TUPAD program.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Recognized by the Chair upon motion of Representative Taduran, Representative Atienza informed the Body of his support to restore the original budget for the TUPAD Program which is a cash-for-work program, as against the increased budget for the government's dole-out program. He then asked the Members to support the resolution which he had filed concerning the said budget cut.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BORDADO

Upon recognition by the Chair, Representative Bordado's inquiries focused on the 2017 and 2019 Value-for-Money audit of the COA on DOLE's mediocre performance, low and improper fund utilization, and delayed implementation of JobStart Philippines Program.

He then discussed the slash in the budget for the National Labor Relations Commission (NLRC), which according to the Sponsor was due to DBM's budget ceiling. Representative Bordado believed that the NLRC would need more funds to support its operations.

The Members looked at the regularization efforts of the DOLE, where Representative Suarez reported the positive performance of the department. In closing, Representative Bordado expressed his support to increase the budget of the department.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOLE AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

On motion of Representative Taduran, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration of the proposed budgets of the DOLE including its attached agencies.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Thereafter, the session was suspended at 7:10 p.m. upon motion of Representative Taduran.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 7:11 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED CCC BUDGET

On motion of Representative Crisologo, there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration of the proposed budget of the CCC; and the Chair recognized Representative Go (E.C.) to continue sponsorship of the same and Representative Atienza to interpellate thereon.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA (Continuation)

As a follow-through to his previous question, Representative Atienza asked about the CCC's efforts with regard to the cleanup of bodies of water in the country, particularly Laguna de Bay and Manila Bay, in lieu of climate change risk mitigation. The Sponsor then explained that the CCC had been working jointly with local government units and said that the Commission accepted Representative Atienza's challenge to lead the efforts in addressing this concern.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED CCC BUDGET

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Rep. Stella Luz A. Quimbo on the part of the Minority and Representative Crisologo on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the CCC.

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOLE AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

On motion of Representative Taduran, there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration of the proposed budgets of the DOLE and its attached agencies; and the Chair recognized Representative Suarez (D.) to sponsor the same and Representative Gaité to interpellate thereon.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

Representative Gaité highlighted the issue on contractualization and the workers' protection and welfare program. While he also agreed in the previous manifestation on the budget increase for DOLE, he said that a significant portion of this budget should be used to address the said labor concerns.

Representative Gaité talked about the issue of contractualization that is compounded by the lack of labor compliance inspectors from DOLE, and stressed that dangerous labor practices and underpaid workers should not be condoned by the department. He also mentioned several violations of workers' rights, including the PNP's illegal dispersal of labor demonstrations resulting to injuries of protesters, the alleged union busting activities of the PNP and intimidations on *Kilusang Mayo Uno* (KMU) members, and the 43 incidents of alleged extrajudicial killing of workers and laborers.

At this point, Representative Gaité stressed that industrial peace can only be attained through elimination of contractualization, security of tenure, good working conditions, respect for the right to organize, and collective bargaining.

In response, Representative Suarez (D.) said that the DOLE would continue to provide funding for the protection of employees and the promotion of industrial peace, promote the interest of the labor force in the country and abroad, and pursue the inspection of establishments and labor conditions. He assured his colleague that reports of labor abuses would be dealt with accordingly. Thereafter, he assured that the department will take note of all the suggestions and recommendations of Representative Gaité.

On motion of Representative Taduran, the Chair recognized Rep. Jesus "Bong" C. Suntay for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE SUNTAY

Representative Suntay raised his concern on the slashed budget of the DOLE which affected its employment facilitation and employment preservation

programs which, in fact, had high rates of obligation and disbursement. He emphasized the important role of the department in the implementation of poverty reduction programs of the government. As such, he appealed for the restoration of the allocation for said programs considering that they are benefitting many people.

The Sponsor then assured that the DOLE would continue to perform its mandated task in helping the Filipino workers.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Abu relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Johnny Ty Pimentel.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Taduran, the Chair recognized Representative Brosas for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Representative Brosas discussed with Representative Suarez (D.) the alleged agreement between the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine Economic Zone Authority on the recruitment of workers as military reservists; the DOLE's implementation of Republic Act No. 11058 or the Occupational Safety and Health Law, especially within the ecozones; and her proposal to amend the latter law to empower the DOLE in imposing penalties and sanctions on violators.

Representative Suarez assured Representative Brosas that the DOLE would look into the MOA and provide the inspection report in the ecozones, as well as on the other concerns of the latter.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Taduran, the Chair recognized Representative Castro (F.L.) for her manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Representative Castro asked for the commitment of the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) to look into the concern

regarding the blacklisting of certain teachers in Central Luzon from the renewal of their professional license due to the complaint of a loan shark. She argued that such act violates the teacher's right to practice and to be presumed innocent until proven otherwise

The Sponsor assured that the PRC would investigate the matter.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOLE AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

There being no further interpellations, Representative Garin (J.) said that the Minority joins the Majority in its request for augmentation of the DOLE's budget.

Thereafter, on her joint motion with Representative Taduran on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DOLE and its attached agencies.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Zubiri, the session was suspended at 8:01 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 8:05 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE OPAPP

On motion of Representative Zubiri, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process (OPAPP).

After Representative Zubiri acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the OPAPP officials, the Chair recognized Rep. Rozzano Rufino B. Biazon, vice chairperson of the Committee of Appropriations, to sponsor the same and Representative Brosas to interpellate thereon.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Representative Brosas focused her interpellation on the role of the OPAPP in the implementation

of the E-CLIP and the PAYapa at MASaganang PamayaNAn (PAMANA) Program, and their benefits to former rebels, the identification of areas or barrios covered by E-CLIP, as well as the bases for identification of beneficiary communities in conflict-afflicted areas. She also asked the Sponsor about the responsibilities of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), and the PhilHealth in the implementation of these programs.

Representative Brosas also discussed with Representative Biazon the OPAPP's role and programs in conflict areas, citing incidents of harassment of some members of the Gabriela Women's Party (GWP) by PNP and AFP personnel. Regarding the foreign trips that were promised to former rebels, Representative Biazon clarified that the OPAPP had no program for such.

Finally, Representative Brosas sought clarification on the OPAPP's process of validation of former rebels and stated that the GWP is not an armed group. She expressed hope that the OPAPP would work for the restoration of peace negotiations with the armed rebel groups.

On motion of Representative Zubiri, the Chair recognized Rep. Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DIMAPORO (M.K.)

Representative Dimaporo's queries focused on the implementation process of the PAMANA Program, in partnership with the DSWD, and the target recipients and areas for implementation of the program. He then requested for a list, to be given to the Committee Secretariat, of target beneficiaries specifically MILF decommissioned rebel returnees of Maguindanao.

Representative Dimaporo also clarified about the allocation of the Special Development Fund as mandated under the Bangsamoro Organic Law, to which Representative Biazon replied that it was included in the block grant for conflict-afflicted areas. The Members next discussed the assistance programs to the said areas, including PAMANA, with Representative Dimaporo making sure that there

were no duplications of programs within the same area.

Representative Dimaporo asked Representative Biazon about the list of different conflict-afflicted barangays that would receive the Special Development Fund; the latest inventory of decommissioned MILF combatants, the destruction of firearms that would be turned over by rebel surrenderees; the timeline for the turnover of cases of the MILF combatants to the PNP and the Department of Justice (DOJ); and the status of the 29 pending cases against Commander Bravo. According to Representative Biazon, Representative Dimaporo would be furnished with pertinent reports to provide more details, except for the list of decommissioned MILF combatants due to the confidentiality of information.

Representative Dimaporo then cited the discussion he had with the DOJ regarding Commander Bravo's criminal cases, and expressed hope that it would be clear and transparent because he wanted to avoid another rebellion in the province of Lanao del Norte.

On motion of Representative Zubiri, the Chair recognized Representative Zarate for his manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Citing September as the National Peace Consciousness Month by virtue of an executive order issued in 2001, Representative Zarate questioned the Duterte administration's pursuit of long lasting peace and reconciliation. He reminded the OPAPP that it has to review the essence of the E.O. and resume the peace talks with the rebel groups in the country, and thereafter called for socioeconomic, political and constitutional reforms.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED OPAPP BUDGET

Thereupon, on a joint motion of Rep. Irene Gay F. Saulog and Representative Zubiri, representing the Minority and Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of

sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the OPAPP.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

At 9:01 p.m., the Chair suspended the session.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 9:02 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DFA AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

Upon resumption of session, on motion of Rep. Christopher V.P. de Venecia, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) and its attached agencies.

Representative de Venecia then acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of DFA officials headed by Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr.; and on his motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Manuel T. Sagarbarria, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, for his sponsorship speech.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE SAGARBARRIA

Representative Sagarbarria first pointed out the DFA's role in promoting the country's independent policy and commitment to deliver world-class frontline services. He thereafter enumerated its key achievements primarily in forging agreements on labor and investments, as well as on its advocacy in the West Philippine Sea; promoting and protecting the rights and interest of overseas Filipino workers; and delivering satisfactory passport services and other frontline services.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Pimentel relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Roberto V. Puno.

Representative Sagarbarria stressed that with such improvement and accomplishments and with more projects still to be implemented, the DFA needs

steadfast support and sustainable financial resources. He thus called on the Body to give the agency a sufficient budget.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Recognized by the Chair upon Representative de Venecia's motion, Representative Zarate initially sought clarification on President Duterte's statement about China's threat of war as regards the issue of the West Philippine Sea.

Representative Zarate next asked for details about the Philippine-China oil and gas exploration project in the West Philippine Sea in general, particularly about the memorandum of understanding thereon despite an arbitral ruling on the Philippines' sovereign rights therein.

Subsequently, he asked questions about the requests for assistance from migrant workers; and suggested that the DFA secretary delegate the approval thereof to other officials for the sake of expediency.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE LAGMAN

Recognized by the Chair upon Representative de Venecia's motion, Representative Lagman inquired about any specific amount in the FY 2020 proposed budget of the DFA for the defense and enforcement of the Permanent Court of Arbitration's ruling in favor of the Philippines as regards conflicting claims in the West Philippine Sea.

Representative Lagman argued that the DFA's non-appropriation for the said purposes could signal the government's dispassion in defending the arbitral award. The Members then discussed the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea which validates the finality of the award unless the prevailing party abandons or relinquishes it. Thereafter, on his subsequent points, Representative Lagman stressed the need to uphold the said arbitral ruling.

Representatives Lagman and Sagarbarria thereupon agreed that in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution regarding joint projects or agreements, the same should be limited to technical

or financial assistance only. The Sponsor said that such is also the position of the Department of Justice.

Subsequently, Representative Lagman asked whether the DFA will work for the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women which was the only international convention that the Philippines was not a signatory of. Representative Sagarbarria replied in the affirmative.

Finally, he asked about the UN Human Rights Council resolution calling for an investigation on the human rights situation in the country. The Sponsor affirmed that the DFA secretary supported President Duterte's rejection of the same.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Recognized by the Chair on motion of Representative de Venecia, Representative Elago initially acknowledged the DFA's prompt response on her request for data concerning climate change negotiations and welcomed the agency's assurance of continuing to provide technical assistance to such negotiations. She also affirmed receipt of an update on the reported abuses on the J-1 visa for Filipino teachers in the U.S.

To her subsequent query, Representative Sagarbarria affirmed the support of the DFA and the UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines to have the Safe Schools Declaration signed within the year.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DFA AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Minority Leader Bienvenido M. Abante Jr. and Representative de Venecia, representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DFA and its attached agencies.

CHANGE OF REFERRAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4263

Thereupon, on motion of Representative de Venecia, there being no objection, the Body changed the referral of House Bill No. 4263 from the

Committee on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development to the Committee on Higher and Technical Education.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 10:25 p.m. upon motion of Representative de Venecia.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 10:28 p.m.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

At this point, on motion of Representative de Venecia, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228.

ELECTION OF MINORITY MEMBERS TO VARIOUS COMMITTEES

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Belmonte, there being no objection, the following Members from the Minority were elected to the committees specified hereunder:

Committee on Legislative Franchises

(as members)

Rep. Stella Luz A. Quimbo vice Rep. Alfredo A. Garbin Jr.

Rep. Janette L. Garin

Committee on Labor and Employment

(as member)

Rep. Ferdinand R. Gaite vice Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative de Venecia, there being no objection, the Chair suspended the session until one o'clock in the afternoon of Monday, September 16, 2019.

It was 10:29 p.m of Friday, September 13, 2019.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:00 p.m. of Monday, September 16, 2019 with Deputy Speaker Neptali M. Gonzales II presiding.

MOTION TO RESUME CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

Rep. Juan Pablo “Rimpy” P. Bondoc then moved that the Body resume the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228 or the 2020 General Appropriations Bill (GAB).

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Bondoc, the Chair suspended the session at 1:00 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:00 p.m.

WITHDRAWAL OF REPRESENTATIVE BONDOC’S MOTION

Upon resumption of session, Representative Bondoc withdrew his previous motion to resume consideration of House Bill No. 4228.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Bondoc, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the Additional Reference of Business.

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 4561, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE MAIMBUNG MUNICIPAL PORT LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MAIMBUNG, PROVINCE OF SULU INTO A PORT AUTHORITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE MAIMBUNG PORT AUTHORITY, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING

FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Tan-Tambut and Tan (Samier)

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

House Bill No. 4562, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE SULU PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF JOLO, PROVINCE OF SULU INTO A TERTIARY LEVEL HOSPITAL, UNDER THE DIRECT CONTROL, SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH), INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY TO TWO HUNDRED (200) BEDS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Tan-Tambut and Tan (Samier)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4563, entitled:

“AN ACT UPGRADING THE SALARY GRADE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AND NON-TEACHING PERSONNEL FROM SALARY GRADE 11 TO SALARY GRADE 18, AND FROM SALARY GRADE 1 TO SALARY GRADE 9 RESPECTIVELY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Tan-Tambut and Tan (Samier)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 4564, entitled:

“AN ACT ENSURING THE EMPLOYEES’ RIGHT TO THEIR WAGES, INCLUDING WAGE-RELATED SOCIAL SECURITY AND WELFARE BENEFITS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Alvarez (Pantaleon)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 4565, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR EARLY VOTING FOR QUALIFIED SENIOR CITIZENS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTIONS”

By Representative Alvarez (Pantaleon)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

House Bill No. 4566, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF DOLORES, PROVINCE OF QUEZON AS A PILGRIMAGE SITE AND TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Suarez (David), Villaraza-Suarez and Suarez (Aleta)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 4567, entitled:

“AN ACT CHANGING THE TERM OF OFFICE OF ELECTIVE BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND MEMBERS OF THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN FROM THREE YEARS TO FOUR YEARS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 43 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991”

By Representatives Suarez (David), Villaraza-Suarez and Suarez (Aleta)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

House Bill No. 4568, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE 1144, 'OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FERTILIZER AND PESTICIDE AUTHORITY', APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, PROVIDING STIFFER PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4569, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A REVISED HUMAN ORGAN DONATION AND TRANSPLANTATION PROGRAM AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7170, AS AMENDED, ALSO KNOWN AS THE 'ORGAN DONATION ACT OF 1991' ”

By Representative Chipeco
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4570, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE PEOPLE’S RIGHT TO INFORMATION”

By Representative Rodriguez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

House Bill No. 4571, entitled:

“AN ACT ALLOWING AND REGULATING THE USE OF MOTORCYCLES AS PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLES, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4136, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LAND TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC CODE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Rodriguez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4572, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY CENTERS ESTABLISHED BY REPUBLIC ACT 6959 INTO PROVINCIAL SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY OFFICES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Rodriguez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 4573, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL ECONOMIC DECENTRALIZATION PLAN TO FACILITATE FURTHER GROWTH IN ALL REGIONS OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Rodriguez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 4574, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PERTINENT PROVISIONS OF BATAS PAMBANSA 881, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'OMNIBUS ELECTION CODE', AS AMENDED, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Rodriguez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

House Bill No. 4575, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING SECURITY OF TENURE FOR BARANGAY HEALTH

WORKERS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 6 (D) OF REPUBLIC ACT 7883, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS' BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES ACT OF 1995' ”

By Representative Rodriguez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4576, entitled:

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

By Representative Aragonés
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 4577, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF DISASTER RESILIENCE, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Aragonés
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT

House Bill No. 4578, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES TO SENIOR CITIZENS BY MANDATING THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR TO INSTITUTIONALIZE A SENIOR CITIZENS EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS

House Bill No. 4579, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE OPERATION OF DRONES OR REMOTELY-PILOTED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS (RPAS) AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4580, entitled:

“AN ACT RIGHTSIZING THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT TO IMPROVE PUBLIC SERVICE DELIVERY”

By Representative Tambunting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 4585, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PROGRAM ON PREVENTING AND COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Hataman and Sangcapan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

House Bill No. 4586, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING RACIAL, ETHNIC AND RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION”

By Representative Belmonte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 323, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE MILITARIZATION AND RECENT VIOLENT ATTACKS ON OCCUPIED HOUSING COMMUNITIES IN PANDI, BULACAN BY THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP), PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), AND CIVILIAN GROUPS IDENTIFYING THEMSELVES AS ‘PRO-GOVERNMENT’”

By Representatives Brosas, Zarate, Castro (France) and Elago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 324, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY TO DIRECTLY REMIT TO THE MUNICIPALITY OF VILLANUEVA ITS EQUITABLE SHARE IN THE PROCEEDS OF THE UTILIZATION OF THE NATIONAL WEALTH BY THE INDEPENDENT POWER PRODUCERS LOCATED IN AND HOSTED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT”

By Representative Uy (Juliette)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Resolution No. 325, entitled:

“RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS TO RESTORE CUTS IN THE MAINTENANCE AND OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES OF STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES, AND STUDY OPTIONS TO AUGMENT FUNDING FOR PERSONNEL SERVICES AND CAPITAL OUTLAY”

By Representatives Elago, Castro (France), Zarate, Gaite, Cullamat, Fernando, Delos Santos, Gato, Fongwan, Barba, Ferrer (Juliet), Valmayor, Saulog, Sangcopan, Biron, Hataman, Sinsuat, Reyes, Belmonte, Bagatsing, Suansing (Estrellita), Momo, Aguinaldo, Arenas, Castelo, Agabas, Limkaichong, Chatto, Salimbangon, Radaza, Revilla, Lara, Vargas Alfonso, Lacson, Deloso-Montalla, Duavit, Cuaresma, Pineda, Villanueva (Noel), Lagman, Garcia (Pablo John), Abellanos, Sanchez, Bautista-Bandigan, Ermita-Buhain, Labadlabad, Romualdo, Uy (Juliette), Nuñez-Malanyaon, Co (Agelica), Sagarbarria, Caminero, Calderon, Loyola, Mariano-Hernandez, Abante, Quimbo, Gullas, Marquez, Javier, Abunda, Acosta, Fortun, Zamora (Way Kurat), Cabochan, Kho (Wilton), Balindong, Ty, Matugas, Sacdalan, Rodriguez and Haresco

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Resolution No. 326, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION IN AID OF LEGISLATION BY THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE OMINOUS DOWNWARD TREND OF THE PRICES OF COPRA”

By Representatives Suarez (David), Villaraza-Suarez and Suarez (Aleta)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 327, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE CULTURAL CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES IN CELEBRATION OF FIFTY YEARS OF CONTINUOUSLY PROMOTING,

PRESERVING AND DEVELOPING THE PHILIPPINE ARTS AND CULTURE”

By Representative De Venecia
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Resolution No. 328, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS TO RESTORE THE 2020 PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE) AMOUNTING TO 19.37 BILLION PESOS THAT WAS REDUCED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT TO 14.421 BILLION PESOS”

By Representatives Pineda, Romero, Umali (Ma. Victoria), Garin (Sharon), Paduano, Estrella, Taduran, Tulfo, Garbin, Lagon, Ebcas, Villaraza-Suarez, Sangcopan, Delos Santos, Dagooc, Aguinaldo, Herrera-Dy, Co (Angelica), Atienza, Rivera, Villanueva (Eduardo), Canama, Momo, Aglipay, Padiernos, Salo, Cabochan, Cabatbat, Lacson, Gonzalez, Pacquiao (Alberto), Bustos, De Jesus, Singson, Lim, Guya, Teves (Jose), Saulog, Go (Mark), Abunda, Suansing (Horacio), Go (Ed), Salceda, Panotes, Amante-Matba, Benitez, Calixto, Fortun, Villarica, Collantes, Ty, Mariano-Hernandez, Cabredo, Tiangco, Deloso-Montalla, Tan (Angelina), Suansing (Estrellita), Robes, Vergara, Angara, Vargas Alfonso, Lara, Chungalao, Revilla, Ortega, Violago, Dalipe, Savellano, Zubiri, Daza and Alonte

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

COMMUNICATION

Letter dated September 2, 2019 of Michael G. Aguinaldo, Chairperson, Commission on Audit, furnishing the House of Representatives with copies of the CY 2018 Consolidated Annual Audit Reports (CAARs) on the following government agencies:

1. Department of Public Works and Highways;
2. Department of Transportation; and
3. Department of Tourism.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Committee on Local Government (Committee Report No. 15), re H.B. No. 4599, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING SITIO PANACAN-2 FROM BARANGAY PANACAN IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NARRA, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN AND CONSTITUTING IT INTO A SEPARATE AND INDEPENDENT BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY PANACAN-2”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 674

Sponsors: Representatives Villanueva (Noel) and Abueg-Zaldivar
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Local Government (Committee Report No. 16), re H.B. No. 4600, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE SITIOS OF ILEB, NEW COLAYO VILLAGE, KINAMA AND NAMBARAN DAYA FROM BARANGAY NAMBARAN, CITY OF TABUK, PROVINCE OF KALINGA AND CONSTITUTING THEM INTO A SEPARATE AND INDEPENDENT BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY NAMBARAN EAST”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 588

Sponsors: Representatives Villanueva (Noel) and Mangaoang
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Local Government (Committee Report No. 17), re H.B. No. 4601, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY NEW LOWER BICUTAN IN THE CITY OF TAGUIG, METROPOLITAN MANILA”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 352

Sponsors: Representatives Villanueva (Noel) and Cayetano (Maria Laarni)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Local Government (Committee Report No. 18), re H.B. No. 4602, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY SAN

MIGUEL IN THE CITY OF TAGUIG, METROPOLITAN MANILA”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 351

Sponsors: Representatives Villanueva (Noel) and Cayetano (Maria Laarni)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Local Government (Committee Report No. 19), re H.B. No. 4603, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY NORTH DAANG HARI IN THE CITY OF TAGUIG, METROPOLITAN MANILA”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 356

Sponsors: Representatives Villanueva (Noel) and Cayetano (Maria Laarni)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

On motion of Rep. Alfred C. Delos Santos, there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228 contained in Committee Report No. 8 as reported out by the Committee on Appropriations, entitled:

“AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

On motion of Representative Delos Santos, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the consideration of the proposed budget of the Office of the President (OP).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Delos Santos acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the officials of the Office of the President headed by Executive Secretary Salvador C. Medialdea.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE UNGAB

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair recognized Rep. Isidro T. Ungab, chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, who presented the proposed budget of the Office of the President in the amount of ₱8,250,182,000.00.

On subsequent motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair recognized Rep. Eufemia “Ka Femia” C. Cullamat for a manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CULLAMAT

Representative Cullamat emphasized the strong desire of the indigenous peoples (IPs) for peace and development.

She then mentioned the past threat of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte to bomb Lumad schools contrary to his promise of peace; the operations of mining and logging companies in the ancestral lands of the IPs that resulted to environmental destruction; and the infrastructure projects that caused the displacement of the IPs.

In closing, Representative Cullamat noted the huge proposed budget of the OP, which she hoped would not be used in activities that would threaten the welfare and ancestral lands of the indigenous peoples.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE UNGAB

Representative Ungab took note of Representative Cullamat’s manifestation and assured her that as a former councilor from Mindanao, he could vouch for President Duterte’s closeness to the IPs.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair recognized Rep. France L. Castro for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Representative Castro’s initial queries focused on the budget appropriated for the implementation of Executive Order (E.O.) No. 70 which created the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC) and sought to institutionalize a “whole-of-nation” approach against insurgency.

After asking whether consultations were conducted not only in the security sector but with all stakeholders as well, Representative Castro stressed the need for a socioeconomic, aside from a military, approach to address the insurgency problem.

On motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair next recognized Rep. Ferdinand R. Gaité to ask questions.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

Representative Gaité centered his interpellation on the proposed confidential and intelligence budget of the OP, which he noted was double its budget for the past three years. He also exchanged views with Representative Ungab on the issue of the OP as an intelligence-gathering agency. He then asked for the reasons behind the increase in the Confidential and Intelligence Funds (CIF) of the OP, and sought the assurance of the sponsor that the budget of the OP would be used properly and appropriately.

The Members agreed that the Congress has the power of the purse and that the allocation and approval of the CIF rests in their hands.

On motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair recognized Rep. Arlene D. Brosas for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Representatives Brosas and Ungab discussed about the awareness of, and actions taken by the OP regarding the release of prisoners convicted of heinous crimes, under the Good Conduct Time Allowance (GCTA) Law and the alleged “cash-for-release” racket of the Bureau of Corrections. They also tackled the issue regarding the all-expense paid trip to Hong Kong of 88 former rebels, and whether the President had warranted the agreement between the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Dito Telecommunity Corporation to establish towers and telecommunications facilities inside military bases. This, as she stressed that the funds intended for security-related activities should be allocated instead for basic social services such as health, education, and housing.

On motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair recognized Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Expressing concern on the number of young people who were killed, victimized, and orphaned by the ongoing antidrug war, Representative Elago discussed with Representative Ungab the government programs which were being implemented to support these victims. The former then proposed that instead of doubling the president's confidential and intelligence funds, the budget for this purpose should be allocated instead to fund programs and projects that would directly benefit the children and the youth.

Representative Elago also called on the president to stop issuing statements that could imply abuse of authority in order to restore integrity in the police ranks.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE OP

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte and Representative Delos Santos, on the part of the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the Office of the President.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair suspended the session at 2:18 p.m. upon motion of Representative Delos Santos.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 2:22 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DND AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

Upon resumption of session, on motion of Rep. Michael Edgar Y. Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the Department of National Defense (DND) and its attached agencies.

On further motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair recognized Rep. Rozzano Rufino B. Biazon, vice chairperson of the sponsoring committee, for his sponsorship remarks.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE BIAZON

Representative Biazon stated that he was ready to answer questions on the proposed budgets of the DND and its attached agencies totalling ₱188.96 billion.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Rep. Josephine Veronique R. Lacson-Noel, the Chair suspended the session at 2:24 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 2:26 p.m.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Whereupon, Representative Lacson-Noel acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the DND family.

The Chair then recognized Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate for his interpellation upon motion of Representative Lacson-Noel.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Representative Zarate's interpellation centered on the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Modernization Program, wherein the sponsor said that the bulk of its budget would be allocated for external defense. He and Representative Biazon then discussed the acquisition of Philippine Navy warships and the donated corvette naval vessel of South Korea to the Philippines, including its accompanying armaments, and the condition of the donated vessel.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Gonzales (N.) relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Rodante D. Marcoleta.

The Members also talked about the amount allocated for the refurbishment of the said vessel, with Representative Biazon saying that it was a reasonable acquisition despite the cost for its repair and refurbishment. The sponsor added that the donated naval vessel of South Korea had nothing to do with the planned government-to-government

acquisition of two brand new corvettes from the same country.

In lieu of the AFP modernization program, Representative Zarate emphasized the need for the DND and the AFP to conduct a thorough study prior to the acquisition of the vessel. This, as he cited the issues surrounding the repair of previously acquired vessels and the need for navy personnel to undergo training. He also voiced his concern over the alleged maritime militias that were entering the country using foreign fishing vessels.

With regard to the United States vessels in the Philippine territory, Representative Biazon said that the DND would also provide his colleague with the list of maritime vessels under the “freedom of navigation” principle.

The Members then discussed the unliquidated funds of the AFP for the Task Force Balik-Loob (TFBL) and the Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (E-CLIP).

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 3:05 p.m., upon motion of Representative Biazon.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 3:07 p.m.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE (Continuation)

Representative Zarate at this point inquired about the identification of recipients and the implementation process of the TFBL and E-CLIP programs in relation to the unliquidated funds, a report on which the sponsor said would be submitted by the AFP.

To the other concerns of Representative Zarate, Representative Biazon assured the former that the DND and the AFP would investigate and look into the unwarranted statements of Major General Antonio Parlade, Jr. on the Jabidah massacre and the alleged labelling of Makabayan bloc members.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, the Chair recognized Representative Brosas for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Initially, Representative Brosas sought the details on the proposed allocation for the Balikatan exercises, the report on which was already available at the Committee on Appropriations, according to the sponsor.

Subsequently, Representatives Brosas and Biazon tackled the actions taken by the DND regarding the atrocity and violence committed against an alleged female member of the New People’s Army who was killed during a military operation in Davao del Norte. The latter said that the AFP and DND committed to investigate the alleged crime and would provide his colleague with the findings.

They thereafter delved into the spate of human rights violations especially against the women of indigenous communities, as well as the review of the constitutional basis of the Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA) and the AFP agreement on the recruitment and training of workers inside the economic zones as military reservists to ensure the protection of these workers.

On another matter, Representative Brosas asked if the DND Secretary was present to enlighten her on the issue of whether the supposed establishment of telecommunication facilities by the China-backed Mislattel Consortium Philippines inside AFP bases posed a security threat.

At this point, Deputy Speaker Marcoleta relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Dan S. Fernandez.

Representative Biazon said that the AFP and the DND had guaranteed her that they would be prudent in assessing said co-location project and that the military’s loyalty lie with the Filipino people.

The next interpellator was Representative Gaité, whom the Chair recognized upon motion of Rep. Lianda B. Bolilia.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

Representative Gaité adverted to the “Guidelines on the Conduct of the DOLE, DILG, DND, DOJ, AFP, and PNP Relative to the Exercise of Workers’ Rights and Activities” signed by the aforesaid

agencies in 2012 as he cited reports on extrajudicial killings, red tagging, threats and harassment, anti-union activities, and human rights violations committed by AFP members against workers and their organizations since 2016.

The sponsor stressed that the AFP and the DND are committed to protect the rights of workers and to prosecute any of its members who acts against this commitment.

Representative Gaite then expressed his apprehension on the steps being done by concerned agencies like the DOLE, DILG, DOJ and others on the workers' rights and activities and whether cases have been filed against involved members of the AFP.

On motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair next recognized Representative Elago for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Representative Elago discussed with the sponsor the actions taken by the DND with regard to the Commission on Audit (COA) report on the unutilized monetary donations for the victims of Typhoon Yolanda and the foreign and local donations for the victims of the Marawi siege; and asked for a copy of the details of the disbursement of the said funds.

On another matter, she asked about the Joint Monitoring Committee which was supposed to be convened to tackle the agreements between the DND and the University of the Philippines on the military and police presence in the university.

Representative Elago's succeeding questions focused on the conduct of, and fund source for the Campus Peace and Development Forum in certain universities, where the KABATAAN Party-List was maliciously dragged into the recruitment of students to the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and the New People's Army (NPA). Representative Biazon said that the guidelines on the civil-military operations (CMO) would be shared with the House Members, in response to Representative Elago's request for the pertinent policy on the conduct of the said forum.

After condemning and denying the allegations against herself and the KABATAAN Party-List,

Representative Elago called on the DND to look into the matter and review the truthfulness of information given out during these fora.

Lastly Representative Elago commended the DND for coming up with a new social media policy; and committed to fully support measures that would fight the spread of fake news.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Recognized by the Chair on Representative Lacson-Noel's motion, Representative Castro explained the implication of E.O. No. 70, as it subjugates civilian authority to military authority, and in effect led to the detriment of the interest of the Lumads.

Lastly, she stressed that the "whole-of-nation" approach was a deceitful policy for militarization, in the guise of civilian supremacy.

On motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, the Chair recognized Representative Cullamat for her manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CULLAMAT

Representative Cullamat manifested her disagreement in increasing DND's budget which she believed would mean further increase in the number of victims of human rights violations. She then recounted the attacks and violations of the military against the IPs under martial law. She thereafter called for an end to civilian attacks and an end to martial law in Mindanao.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DND AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Minority Leader Bienvenido M. Abante Jr. on the part of the Minority and Representative Lacson-Noel on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DND and its attached agencies.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, the Chair suspended the session at 5:09 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:11 p.m.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representatives Lacson-Noel and Bolilia acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Reps. Estrellita B. Suansing, Micaela S. Violago, Rosanna “Ria” Vegara, and Maricel G. Natividad-Nagaño, MD, as well as the guests of Majority Leader Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez and Rep. Yedda Marie K. Romualdez.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DENR AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES/CORPORATIONS

On motion of Representative Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the consideration of the proposed budgets of the Department of Natural Resources (DENR) and its attached agencies/corporations. Thereupon, Representative Bolilia acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests from the DENR family headed by Secretary Roy Cimatu.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE SY-ALVARADO

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Bolilia, the Chair recognized Rep. “Kuya” Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, who stated that he was ready to defend the proposed budget of the DENR for the year 2020.

The Chair then recognized Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. for his interpellation upon motion of Representative Bolilia.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Representative Atienza questioned the DENR’s allocation of substantial funds for Metro Manila, considering the absence of natural resources in the area, and suggested to prioritize areas that need protection of their natural resources.

He then proceeded to ask about the protection of forests and forest rangers, considering that the country’s forestlands are undermanned. Further, he called for an investigation on the recent killing of a forest ranger by alleged illegal loggers.

Thereafter, the Members discussed the clean-up of Manila Bay and Representative Atienza’s concern regarding the failure of the Manila Water Company, Inc. and Maynilad Water Services, Inc., to provide waste water treatment facilities.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Fernandez relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Rose Marie “Baby” J. Arenas.

At this point, Representative Sy-Alvarado relayed the DENR’s appreciation to Representative Atienza for filing the case against the two water concessionaires that pushed them to act on the matter. Representative Atienza stressed that he would consistently call on the DENR secretary to ensure continuous clean-up operations.

Representative Atienza also recommended the non-renewal of their contracts in the event that the said water concessionaires would not be able to follow through with their contracts. He then asked the sponsor about the distribution of the 2,000 hectares of disputed land in Calatagan, Batangas under Ayala Corporation that was already covered by a Supreme Court decision.

On motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair recognized Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr. for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BORDADO

Representative Bordado initially discussed with Representative Sy-Alvarado the allocations for the DENR subprograms for their forest development, rehabilitation, and protection activities. Pointing out the budget increase for the Water Resources Management Program, Representative Bordado asked how the National Water Resources Board (NWRB) intends to prevent the water crisis which the country has experienced recently.

Representative Sy-Alvarado explained the plan of the NWRB regarding the matter, and thereafter discussed the issues on the slow progress in the implementation of the Forestland Management Program and the Integrated Natural Resources and Environmental Management Program.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Bolilia, the Chair recognized Rep. Antonio “Tony” T. Albano for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ALBANO (A.)

Representative Albano's interpellation focused on the budgets for forest protection under the Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park (NSMN) Act of 2001 and the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (E-NIPAS) Act of 2018. He then cited possible fund sources, such as the Malampaya Funds, to augment the implementation of said laws.

As regards the issue of forest fire protection, Representative Albano recommended the creation of a program therefor, and called on the Body to restore the budget cut of the DENR.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Bolilia, the Chair recognized Rep. Lawrence "Law" H. Fortun for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE FORTUN

Representative Fortun raised his concern on seemingly poor results of the DENR National Greening Program (NGP) despite its significant budget allocations in the past years, and emphasized that the discussion intended to help improve the NGP.

Subsequently, Representatives Fortun and Sy-Alvarado talked about other NGP-related concerns such as the deficiencies on sub-allotments for the DENR regional offices and bureaus, the absence of work and financial plans for sub-allotments to the Forest Management Bureau (FMB); the identification of new sites as reforestation areas; and the alleged misuse of the NGP funds.

They also dealt with the issue of the damaged marine ecosystems at the Panatag Shoal and Spratly Islands due to China's reclamation activities and illegal fishing operations, as well as how the DENR had addressed the problem.

After the sponsor explained the current and future plans under the NGP as well as the rationale therefor, Representative Fortun said he will propose pertinent amendments at the proper time. The former welcomed the same.

Finally, the two Members discussed the policy of planting bamboo trees alongside native trees under the NGP.

On motion of Representative Bolilia, the Chair recognized Rep. Solomon R. Chungalao for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CHUNGALAO

Representative Chungalao voiced his concern about the possible issuance by the DENR of an environmental compliance certificate (ECC) for the construction of a dam higher than the Magat River in Luzon, stressing that it will inundate his province and the DENR should preserve the river's headwaters.

The sponsor relayed the DENR's assurance that no ECC had been issued and no application had been received; and the agency will protect the natural resources in the subject area.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CABATBAT

On motion of Representative Bolilia, the Chair next recognized Rep. Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat who asked about the status of the DENR's continuing appropriations, savings, and requests for augmentation – all for the period 2017-2018. Upon Representative Sy-Alvarado's promise to submit reports thereon within the week, he also asked for the agency's justification in hiring a foreign instead of a local consultant for the national greening program.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Arenas relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Henry S. Oaminal.

On motion of Representative Bolilia, the Chair recognized Rep. Arnolfo "Arnie" A. Teves Jr. for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE TEVES (A.)

Through his subsequent questions, Representative Teves stressed that the DENR, especially some of its sub-offices, should do their work well and address inefficiencies within the department. He also said that the ineffectiveness of some officials in the DENR affect the department's credibility.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CULLAMAT

Recognized by the Chair upon motion of Representative Bolilia, Representative Cullamat manifested that the Oceana Gold had illegally continued its commercial mining operations in Nueva Vizcaya despite the expiration of their contract in

June 2019. She said that the mining activity resulted to environmental degradation and displacement of IPs. Likewise, she voiced out her concern on the militarization in rural areas and the killings of environmental defenders.

In closing, Representative Cullamat appealed to the government to stop the acquisition of ancestral lands and the violations of the rights of local and IP communities.

The Chair duly noted the manifestation of Representative Cullamat.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Recognized by the Chair upon motion of Representative Bolilia, Representative Zarate asked about the proposed 2020 budget for the Manila Bay Rehabilitation Program and the fund source for the program's implementation in 2019.

To Representative Zarate's succeeding query, Representative Sy-Alvarado committed to submit a detailed report on programmed activities related to the Manila Bay rehabilitation.

On motion of Representative Bolilia, the Chair next recognized Representative Elago for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Representative Elago probed into mangrove cuttings in Bulacan and the issuance of an ECC to a land development project in Taliptip, Bulacan. She discussed with Representative Sy-Alvarado the role of the DENR in protecting the environment since the approval of reclamation projects had been transferred to the Office of the President.

On motion of Representative Bolilia, the Chair recognized Rep. Sharee Ann Tee Tan for her manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE TAN (S.A.)

Representative Tan manifested her strong accord to the request of Representative Albano to give additional budget for areas included in the E-NIPAS Law, in order for the DENR to effectively

and efficiently perform its mandate to protect and preserve these areas.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DENR AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Representatives Tan (S.A.) and Bolilia, representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DENR including its attached agencies and corporations.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

At 7:32 p.m., the session was suspended.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 7:34 p.m., with Deputy Speaker Johnny Ty Pimentel presiding.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE DAR

Upon resumption of session, on motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the consideration of the proposed budget of the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR).

Thereafter, Representative Aglipay acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the DAR officials headed by Secretary John R. Castriciones.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Pimentel relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Oaminal.

On motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair then recognized Rep. Jose "Pingping" I. Tejada, vice chairperson of the sponsoring committee, for his sponsorship speech.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE TEJADA

Representative Tejada stated that the Constitution provides for the promotion of a comprehensive rural development and agrarian reform and that two of the 10-point socioeconomic agenda of the Duterte

Administration are related to the DAR's mandate of implementing genuine land reform.

Representative Tejada then said that he was ready to sponsor DAR's 2020 proposed budget in the amount of ₱8.426 billion.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CULLAMAT

Upon recognition of the Chair on Representative Aglipay's motion, Representative Cullamat expressed concern for landless farmers despite their important role in providing food supply.

Representative Cullamat opined that DAR's budget would be more favorable to landowners and businessmen. She also questioned why large private lands had remained undistributed while public lands were being distributed in haste.

In this kind of situation, Representative Cullamat stated that DAR cannot achieve its goal to complete the land acquisition and distribution in 2022. She also argued against the Build, Build, Build program and other land use activities that reduced agricultural land areas.

She then challenged her colleagues, and the DAR to support the Genuine Agrarian Reform Bill or House Bill No. 239.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair recognized Rep. Geraldine B. Roman for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ROMAN

While delighted with the increase in DAR's budget, Representative Roman stated that the increase should be justified by effective and efficient performance of the department that would lead to good results.

She then presented her concerns on the department's processes in terms of the identification and validation of legitimate agrarian reform beneficiaries, and the presence of an internal system that monitors and identifies corrupt practices within the department.

She then focused her queries on the availment of support services by farmer beneficiaries, and whether DAR coordinates with the Department of Agriculture and the National Irrigation Administration, saying

there seems to be a duplication in the kind of support services extended to the farmers.

In closing, Representative Roman appealed to DAR to look into its internal audit systems and review policies to make them more efficient especially with regard to justice delivery.

On motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair recognized Representative Brosas for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Representatives Brosas and Tejada initially focused their debate on the reasons why farmers enter into agribusiness venture arrangements (AVAs) or contracts between agribusiness corporations and farmers, such as the difficulty and failure of agrarian reform beneficiaries to pay land amortization resulting in actual threats of foreclosure, lack of capital to support the production cost, and lack of subsidies and social services from the government.

Representative Brosas then asked on the status of the review of all AVA contracts in 2016 when DAR was headed by Secretary Rafael Mariano. She next questioned the granting of loans by the Land Bank of the Philippines to pineapple grower cooperatives, when it should be Dole Philippines, Inc. which should be providing the capital to the pineapple growers.

Representative Brosas stressed that the AVAs aim to control vast tracts of lands, thereby undermining the agrarian reform beneficiaries' rights to the awarded lands. She then discussed with Representative Sy-Alvarado the status of and DAR's actions on the land dispute involving the Mandaum Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Association Inc., and the Lapanday Food Corporation.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon request of the sponsor, the Chair suspended the session at 8:11 p.m..

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 8:12 p.m.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS (Continuation)

Thereupon, Representative Brosas proceeded by asking for a list of AVAs and asked if the DAR had offered alternatives to AVA. She also asked for

the list of beneficiaries of Hacienda Luisita during the term of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, and then discussed with the sponsor issues on land use conversion.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon the request Representative Tejada, the Chair suspended the session at 8:17 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session was resumed at 8:18 p.m.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS (Continuation)

Upon resumption of session, Representative Tejada clarified that the determination of lands to be converted rests on the local government unit and the reclassification, on the Department of Agriculture. He however committed to provide Representative Brosas with data on the hectarage of agricultural lands converted to nonagricultural lands.

Representatives Brosas and Tejada also talked about the submission of an ECC as an application requirement for land use conversion. Representative Tejada clarified that the changes in procedure or requirement was simply a form of streamlining but the ECC is still a requirement for land conversion.

Thereafter, Representative Brosas asked for an update on the agrarian reform beneficiaries in Hacienda Nene, including the result of the dialogue between the National Federation of Sugar Workers with the DAR provincial and municipal offices.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair recognized Rep. Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DIMAPORO (M.K.)

Representative Dimaporo initially discussed with the sponsor the mandate of the department and next inquired about the DAR's budget for the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM).

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 8:37 p.m., upon motion of Representative Tejada.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 8:38 p.m., the session resumed.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DIMAPORO (M.K.) (Continuation)

At this point, Representative Dimaporo requested information on the 2020 budget for the DAR personnel and programs of the BARMM. In response, Representative Tejada stated that there were administrative concerns that need to be resolved in view of the existing BARMM.

Representative Dimaporo discussed the powers of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Regional Government (BARG) and said that considering that agrarian reform was not included in its powers, it is then the mandate of the DAR to fully implement agrarian reform programs in the region and urged the Body to reconsider DAR's budget in the period of amendments.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair recognized Representative Zarate for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

As millions of hectares of land have been awarded to agrarian reform beneficiaries, Representative Zarate and Tejada debated on the success of the agrarian reform program in terms of land redistribution. Representative Zarate also inquired about the DAR's 2020 budget allocation; the verification and profiling of agrarian reform beneficiaries; and planned parcelization of collective certificates of land ownership award.

At the end of Representative Zarate's interpellation, Representative Tejada assured his colleague that the DAR will be able to distribute the Dapecol property to its beneficiaries within three years.

MANIFESTATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

On motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair recognized Minority Leader Bienvenido M. Abante Jr. who called on the government to implement a genuine land reform program, and the landed rich, to help in this regard.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED DAR BUDGET

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Minority Leader Abante and Representative Aglipay representing the Minority and Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the DAR.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair declared a recess at 9:23 p.m. upon Representative Aglipay's motion.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 9:24 p.m., the session resumed with Deputy Speaker Pimentel presiding.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF EXECUTIVE OFFICES

On motion of Rep. Kristine Singson-Meehan, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the following executive offices, one after the other: National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA)-Proper; National Archives of the Philippines (NAP); and National Library of the Philippines (NLP).

Deputy Speaker Pimentel relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Oaminal at this point.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Singson-Meehan acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the officials of the aforementioned executive offices led by NCCA Chairperson Virgilio S. Almario; NAP Executive Director Victorino Manalo; and NLP Director Cesar Adriano.

On subsequent motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, the Chair recognized Rep. Joey Sarte Salceda, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor said budgets.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE SINGSON

Recognized by the Chair upon Representative Singson-Meehan's motion, Rep. Jose "Bonito" C. Singson Jr. emphasized the importance of the NAP in the country's culture and history and inquired into the status of the archiving system; the case involving

the former head of the NAP who had been accused of stealing priceless documents; and the reported auction of the Murillo Velarde map of the Philippines. He said that during the committee hearings, he will ask for an investigation thereon.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF EXECUTIVE OFFICES

There being no further interpellations, on joint successive motions of Representative Singson-Meehan on the part of the Majority and Representatives Sergio C. Dagooc, Singson, and Godofredo N. Guya on the part of the Minority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the NCCA-Proper, the NAP, and the NLP.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE AMLC

On motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Anti-Money Laundering Council (AMLC).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Singson-Meehan subsequently acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the officials of said agency lead by Executive Director Mel Georgie Racela; and on her motion, the Chair recognized Representative Salceda to sponsor said budget.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Recognized by the Chair on motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, Representative Castro discussed with Representative Salceda the AMLC's mandate as well as jurisdiction over Philippine offshore gaming operators (POGOs). She asked for a report on the investigation conducted by AMLC with regard to money laundering and other suspicious transactions of POGOs; and the sponsor said that he will furnish her with the same.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED AMLC BUDGET

There being no further interpellations, on joint motion of Senior Deputy Minority Leader Janette L.

Garin on the part of the Minority and Representative Singson-Meehan on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the AMLC.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE GCG

On motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Governance Commission for Government-Owned and -Controlled Corporations (GCG).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Singson-Meehan acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the GCG family headed by Chairperson Atty. Samuel G. Dagpin Jr.; and on her motion, the Chair recognized Representatives Salceda and Gaite for sponsorship and interpellation, respectively.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

Initially, Representative Gaite asked for data on all government agencies that had been merged, abolished, streamlined, or privatized since the GCG's inception in 2011 and the employees affected thereby. The sponsor said that he could submit the information to his colleague.

He also inquired into the suspension or delay in the implementation of the Compensation and Position Classification System for GOCCs and the steps taken by the GCG on the resulting deprivation of GOCC employees from the coverage of the 2016 Salary Standardization Law. He said that he will file a resolution in connection therewith, at the proper time.

On motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, the Chair recognized Representative Dagooc to next interpellate the sponsor.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DAGOOC

Also asking about the salary increases and performance-based benefits that GOCC employees had not received, Representative Dagooc asked how long the inter-agency task force thereon will evaluate and process the same. He specifically cited the case of the National Electrification Administration which had been repeatedly submitting documents required by the task force.

Representative Salceda relayed the GCG's commitment to render a decision on the NEA in October of the current year.

INTERPELLATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

On motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, the Chair recognized Minority Leader Abante who initially inquired about the GCG's mandate, as well as performance since its creation. He then asked about its regulatory program that will guide GOCCs in significantly contributing to inclusive and sustainable economic growth and development.

At this point, Minority Leader Abante and Representative Salceda talked about the GCG's mandate to conduct a periodic study, examination, evaluation, and assessment of the performance of the GOCCs and require reports on their operations and assets and finances; the non-coverage of GCG officials and employees in the executive directive regarding foreign travel; the jurisdiction of the Presidential Anti-Corruption Commission over reports of corruption in GOCCs; and the difference between the Civil Service Commission and the GCG with regard to functions.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE GCG

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Minority Leader Abante and Representative Singson-Meehan representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the GCG.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE CFL AND THE NHCP

On an omnibus motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the Commission on the Filipino Language (CFL) and the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Singson-Meehan acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the CFL family led by Chairperson Virgilio S. Almario and of the officials of the NHCP led by Chairperson Rene Escalante; and upon her motion, the Chair recognized

Representative Castro (F.L.) to interpellate the sponsor, Representative Salceda.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Representative Castro inquired about the status of R.A. No. 11106 or the Filipino Sign Language Act and asked for the support of the sponsor for the finalization of its implementing rules and regulations (IRR) as well as the augmentation of the budget of the CFL. Representative Salceda said that he will act on the matter at the proper time.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

On motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, the Chair then recognized Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago who wanted to know about the NHCP's allocations for the Local Historical Committees Network which includes the creation of a digital database of all its archival collections. She also asked about funds for the agency's quinquennial celebrations and requested a report thereon.

Representative Elago thereafter inquired about the NHCP's initiatives on the review of Philippine history textbooks. The sponsor replied that the commission will discuss the matter with the Department of Education.

MOTION OF REPRESENTATIVE SINGSON-MEEHAN

At this point, Representative Singson-Meehan moved for the recognition of Representative Castro (F.L.) anew for another interpellation.

POINT OF ORDER OF DEPUTY SPEAKER ABU

Upon recognition by the Chair, Deputy Speaker Raneo "Ranie" E. Abu asked whether the interpellation of Representative Castro (F.L.) was by leave of the House.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE BONDOC

The Chair recognized Representative Bondoc who explained that Representative Castro (F.L.) was not violating Section 91, Rule XII of the Provisional House Rules which states that no Member shall speak more than once on the same question without leave

of the House, because she was actually interpellating on two agencies whose budgets were being taken up by virtue of an omnibus motion.

RULING OF THE CHAIR

Accordingly, the Chair recognized Representative Castro (F.L.) for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Representative Castro stressed the erroneous exclusion of the NHCP, Commission on Higher Education, and Department of Education in the planning for the commemoration of the Filipino-American War Memorial Day by virtue of R.A. No. 11304, of which the ACT Party-List Representative was the primary author. After the sponsor said that the same should be rectified, she added that these agencies are mandated to participate in the implementation of said law and in drafting the pertinent IRR thereon.

Thereupon, Representative Castro asked about the restoration of Philippine history in the basic school curriculum.

At the end of Representative Castro's interpellation, Representative Salceda acceded to her colleague's request for a written copy of the NHCP's proposal on history subjects.

On motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, the Chair next recognized Representative Fortun for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE FORTUN

Representatives Fortun and Salceda initially talked about the mandate of the CFL to coordinate and promote the development, propagation, and preservation of the different Filipino languages; and subsequently about the promotion, preservation, documentation, and translation of endangered languages. To the former's information about the use of Butuanon in his district, the latter said he will accept any request to preserve a specific language.

After Representative Salceda explained the substantial increase in the 2020 budget of the CFL, Representative Fortun expressed hope that the Senate, with the commitment of the sponsor, will retain the agency's budget proposal.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE RODRIGUEZ

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, the Chair recognized Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez who expressed his gratitude and that of the people of Cagayan de Oro to the officials of the NCCA, CFL, and NHCP for their support in the establishment of the Cagayan de Oro Cultural Center and Museum. He manifested support for the increase of their budgets for fiscal year 2020.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE CFL AND NHCP

There being no further interpellations, on motion of Representative Fortun on the part of the Minority and Representative Singson-Meehan on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the CFL and the NHCP.

REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

At this point, the Chair commended Representative Salceda for sponsoring and ably defending the proposed budgets of various executive offices.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

On motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, there being no objection, the Body then suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228.

REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

On behalf of the Speaker, Deputy Speaker Oaminal commended all of the Members and officials and employees of various government agencies for staying late in the Session Hall for the plenary budget deliberations.

OMNIBUS APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILLS UNDER THE BUSINESS FOR THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

Thereafter, on an omnibus motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, there being no

objection, the Body considered on Second Reading the following House bills calendared under the Business for Thursday and Friday contained in various Committee Reports as submitted by the Committee on Local Government; dispensed with the reading of the texts of the measures without prejudice to their insertion into the records of the House, as copies thereof had been distributed to the Members; adopted the Explanatory Notes of the bills as the sponsorship remarks on the measures; terminated the period of sponsorship and debate, there being no Member who wished to interpellate the sponsor; terminated the period of amendments in the absence of committee and individual amendments; and approved the measures on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting:

1. House Bill No. 4599 contained in Committee Report No. 15, separating Sitio Panacan-2 from Panacan, Narra, Palawan and constituting it into a separate and independent barangay to be known as Barangay Panacan-2;
2. House Bill No. 4600 contained in Committee Report No. 16, separating the Sitios of Ileb, New Colayo Village, Kinama and Nambaran Daya from Nambaran, Tabuk City, Kalinga Province and constituting them into a separate and independent barangay to be known as Barangay Nambaran East;
3. House Bill No. 4601 contained in Committee Report No. 17, creating Barangay New Lower Bicutan in Taguig City, Metropolitan Manila;
4. House Bill No. 4602 contained in Committee Report No. 18, creating Barangay San Miguel in Taguig City, Metropolitan Manila; and
5. House Bill No. 4603 contained in Committee Report No. 19, creating Barangay North Daang Hari in Taguig City, Metropolitan Manila.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, there being no objection, the Chair suspended the session until one o'clock in the afternoon of Tuesday, September 17, 2019.

It was 11:31 p.m. of Monday, September 16, 2019.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:00 p.m. of Tuesday, September 17, 2019 with Deputy Speaker Pablo John F. Garcia presiding.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

Thereupon, on motion of Rep. Wilter “Sharky” Wee Palma II, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the Additional Reference of Business.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read on First Reading the title of the following Bills and Resolutions, including a Committee Report, which were referred to the appropriate committees indicated hereunder:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 4587, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF AGE, RACIAL OR ETHNIC ORIGIN, RELIGIOUS BELIEF OR ACTIVITY, POLITICAL INCLINATION OR CONVICTION, SOCIAL CLASS, SEX, GENDER, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER IDENTITY AND EXPRESSIONS, MARITAL OR RELATIONSHIP STATUS, DISABILITY, HIV STATUS, HEALTH STATUS OR MEDICAL HISTORY, LANGUAGE, PHYSICAL FEATURES, AND OTHER STATUS, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Abellanos
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

House Bill No. 4588, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING COCKFIGHTING IN THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Teves (Arnolfo)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GAMES AND AMUSEMENTS

House Bill No. 4589, entitled:

“AN ACT MODIFYING THE SALARY SCHEDULE FOR CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL AND AUTHORIZING THE GRANT OF ADDITIONAL BENEFITS”

By Representative Cabochan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 4590, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING YOUNG WOMEN’S KIT TO FEMALE STUDENTS IN ALL PUBLIC ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Fariñas (Ria)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4591, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10870 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE CREDIT CARD INDUSTRY REGULATION LAW”

By Representative Delos Santos
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

House Bill No. 4592, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING ALL TOLL OPERATORS TO GIVE DISCOUNTS TO MOTORISTS WHO AVAIL OF ELECTRONIC TOLL COLLECTION SYSTEM”

By Representative Violago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4593, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING PHILIPPINE AGRICULTURAL GROWTH AND STIMULI ACCELERATION (PAGASA) ACT, DEFINING ITS MANDATES, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Cabatbat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4594, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING A COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL GRASSROOTS SPORTS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM CENTERED IN THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL GAMES”

By Representative Torres-Gomez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 4595, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING SEPTEMBER 11 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE IN COMMEMORATION OF THE BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF

FORMER PRESIDENT FERDINAND
EDRALIN MARCOS TO BE KNOWN AS
'PRESIDENT FERDINAND EDRALIN
MARCOS DAY' ”

By Representatives Fariñas (Ria) and Fariñas
(Rudys Caesar)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4596, entitled:

“AN ACT TO FURTHER PROMOTE THE
MOBILITY OF PERSONS WITH
DISABILITY BY MANDATING CERTAIN
ACCESSIBILITY FACILITIES AND
SERVICES, AMENDING FOR THE
PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7277,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'MAGNA
CARTA FOR DISABLED PERSONS',
AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representatives Fariñas (Ria) and Fariñas
(Rudys Caesar)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES

House Bill No. 4597, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE LAND
TRANSPORTATION OFFICE REGION
VI OF ILOILO CITY INTO A REGULAR
LICENSING CENTER TO BE KNOWN
AS THE ILOILO CITY LICENSING
CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Baronda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 329, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO
CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE HUMAN
RIGHTS VIOLATIONS BROUGHT
ABOUT BY THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 70, SERIES OF
2018”

By Representatives Brosas, Zarate, Cullamat,
Gaite, Castro (France) and Elago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 330, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CONDEMNING IN THE
STRONGEST POSSIBLE TERMS THE
AMBUSH ON FORMER PANGASINAN

REPRESENTATIVE AMADO ESPINO
JR. IN SAN CARLOS CITY, URGING
THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE
TO IMMEDIATELY APPREHEND THE
SUSPECTS, AND CALLING FOR A
SPEEDY INVESTIGATION IN AID
OF LEGISLATION INTO THE SAME
AND SIMILAR ATTACKS AGAINST
GOVERNMENT LEADERS”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 331, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES TO SIGNIFY
ITS COMMITMENT IN SUPPORT OF
THE YOUTH STRIKE FOR CLIMATE
PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Elago
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE
CHANGE

House Resolution No. 332, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND
FOOD AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES TO CONDUCT
AN INQUIRY AND INVESTIGATION,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, RELATING
TO INCREASING NUMBER OF RICE
CARTELS AND RICE SMUGGLING IN
THE COUNTRY”

By Representative Cabatbat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 333, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION, EXPRESSING THE SENSE
OF THE HOUSE, FOR THE CREATION
OF A NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS
(DPWH) IN THE BANGSAMORO
AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM
MINDANAO (BARMM) FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL
INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMS,
ACTIVITIES, AND PROJECTS (PAPs)
IN THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED
AUTONOMOUS REGION”

By Representatives Hataman, Sinsuat,
Mangudadatu, Arbison, Matba, Balindong,
Sangcopan and Adiong
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND
HIGHWAYS

House Joint Resolution No. 16, entitled:

“JOINT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE RICE SUBSIDY AS PROVIDED UNDER THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM (4Ps) IN THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT (GAA) FOR THE PURCHASE OF PALAY FROM FARMERS, MANDATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT (DSWD) TO BUY PALAY FROM THE LOCAL FARMERS AND DISTRIBUTE RICE SUBSIDY IN THE FORM OF ACTUAL RICE INSTEAD OF CASH ASSISTANCE TO QUALIFIED BENEFICIARIES”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Committee on Transportation (Committee Report No. 20), re H.B. No. 4611, entitled:

“AN ACT DESIGNATING THE THIRD SUNDAY OF NOVEMBER EVERY YEAR AS THE NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ROAD CRASH VICTIMS, SURVIVORS, AND THEIR FAMILIES, ENSURING ITS MEANINGFUL OBSERVANCE”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 698 and 4166

Sponsor: Representative Sarmiento
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration on Second Reading of Committee Report No. 8 on House Bill No. 4228 as reported out by the Committee on Appropriations, entitled:

“AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DEPED AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

On motion of Rep. Juliennne “Jam” L. Baronda, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the Department of Education (DepEd) and its attached agencies.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this juncture, Representative Baronda acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the DepEd family headed by Secretary Leonor M. Briones; and on her further motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Corazon T. Nuñez-Malanyaon, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, for her sponsorship remarks.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE NUÑEZ-MALANYAON

Representative Nuñez-Malanyaon cited the proposed budget of the DepEd at ₱551.7 billion for fiscal year 2020, saying it was anchored on expanding access to basic education and improving its quality and relevance and in modernizing education management and governance.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Recognized by the Chair upon motion of Representative Baronda, Rep. France L. Castro initially sought clarification on the seeming disparity in the data provided to her by the DepEd.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 1:18 p.m. upon Representative Castro’s motion.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:20 p.m.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.) (Continuation)

Representative Castro then asked about the rationale behind the creation of new teaching and

non-teaching positions despite the significant number of current items that remained unfilled; and pointed out that the funds for the same could instead be used to increase teachers' benefits and improve the quality of education. She also asked about the agency's intervention for the promotion of teachers and for the filling up of non-teaching or administrative positions.

Subsequently, Representatives Castro and Nuñez-Malanyaon discussed the shortage of classrooms and nondelivery of Science and Math kits in public schools. They also analyzed the reduction in the budgets for various DepEd programs such as educational policy and development, national literacy, and human resource development; for the senior high school program in state colleges and universities; and for the medical examination of public school teachers. Furthermore, they talked about the anomalies in the Government Assistance to Students and Teachers in Private Education (GASTPE).

Representative Castro said she will introduce pertinent amendments at the proper time, while Representative Nuñez-Malanyaon agreed to increase the DepEd's budget and promised to provide all the data requested by her colleague.

As she thereafter asked about the role of the DepEd in the implementation of the programs of the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC), Representative Castro urged the DepEd to investigate cases of profiling and red-tagging of teachers and expressed hope that the task force will not be used to close the schools of indigenous peoples (IPs). Representative Nuñez-Malanyaon promised to submit pertinent data and concurred with the request for an investigation.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Rep. David "Jay-Jay" C. Suarez acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Rep. Eric Go Yap.

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Suarez, the Chair recognized Rep. Eufemia "Ka Femia" C. Cullamat for a manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CULLAMAT

Representative Cullamat relayed the importance of education especially to Lumad children who were affected by the suspension of 55 *salugpungan*

schools in the Davao Region. She stressed that the allegations that the schools were being used as training grounds for rebellion, were baseless and unwarranted. Adverting to the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, she emphasized that the IPs wanted to be free to establish and manage their own educational system and institutions based on their cultural ways of teaching and learning, as well as to exercise their right to self-determination.

She then called for an end to martial law in Mindanao and to the "whole-of-nation" approach to end insurgency as these were not the answers to the problems of the IPs.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CABATBAT

Recognized by the Chair upon motion of Representative Suarez (D.), Rep. Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat initially asked on the action taken by DepEd to improve its utilization rate in view of its unused appropriations for 2017.

At this point, Representative Nuñez-Malanyaon assured Representative Cabatbat that she will furnish him with data on the unused appropriations for 2017 and on the agency's compliance with the recommendations of the Commission on Audit thereon.

To Representative Cabatbat's succeeding questions, the Sponsor also promised to provide proposals on the use of artificial intelligence and on the integration of agriculture into the school curriculum.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DEPED AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration of the proposed budgets of the DepEd and its attached agencies.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Palma then acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of the Makabayan Bloc from Germany, including former Congressman Antonio L. Tinio.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE COA

On motion of Rep. Marlyn “Len” B. Alonte, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Commission on Audit (COA).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Alonte subsequently acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the COA family headed by Chairperson Michael G. Aguinaldo; and on her motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Elenita Milagros “Eileen” Ermita-Buhain, senior vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor said budget.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session at 2:27 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 2:33 p.m.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE PALMA

With the permission of the Chair, Representative Palma requested the people in the Plenary Hall to observe silence during the interpellations.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

On motion of Representative Alonte, the Chair then recognized Rep. Ferdinand R. Gaité who asked for the financial reasons behind the hiring of job order and contractual workers.

Representative Gaité subsequently observed that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Civil Service Commission (CSC), and the COA were all conduits for contractualization and called on them for the regularization of contractual workers and creation of more regular positions. The Sponsor concurred therewith.

Finally, Representative Gaité sought clarification on the auditing of the Office of the President’s confidential and intelligence funds; and concluded that he will file measures to ensure transparency in the use of public funds.

On motion of Representative Alonte, the Chair recognized Rep. “Kuya” Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, and Rep. Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, to continue sponsorship of the proposed COA budget and to interpellate thereon, respectively.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DIMAPORO (M.K.)

Using a slide presentation, Representative Dimaporo initially showed a regional breakdown of funds for national projects.

Representatives Dimaporo and Sy-Alvarado discussed the commission’s jurisdiction over infrastructure projects in different regions in the country including the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM). The latter confirmed his colleague’s statement that it was illegal to realign funds from one region to another or to implement a certain region’s allocated projects in another region.

On motion of Representative Alonte, the Chair recognized Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Representatives Zarate and Sy-Alvarado tackled the special audit of the coconut levy funds which was marked by allegations of corruption. The sponsor assured the former that the audit will be fast, efficient, and truthful.

On motion of Representative Alonte, the Chair next recognized Rep. Solomon R. Chungalao for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CHUNGALAO

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Garcia (P.J.) relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Deogracias Victor “DV” B. Savellano.

Representative Chungalao requested a pre-audit of his local officials in the Cordillera Administrative Region so they could safely approve government projects. This, as he noted that majority of them were not really that educated. He cited the case of a mayor whose salaries were withheld as a result of a case that the COA had filed against him for a decision on a fertilizer program, but was later cleared by the Ombudsman.

Representative Sy-Alvarado assured his colleague that the pre-audit will be conducted by January of the following year.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE COA

There being no further interpellations, on joint motion of Minority Leader Bienvenido M. Abante Jr. and Representative Alonte, representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the COA.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 3:21 p.m. upon motion of Representative Alonte.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 3:24 p.m.

MOTION OF REPRESENTATIVE PALMA

Thereupon, Representative Palma moved for the resumption of consideration of the proposed budgets of the DepEd including its attached agencies.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 3:24 p.m. upon motion of Representative Palma.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 3:33 p.m.

WITHDRAWAL OF REPRESENTATIVE PALMA'S MOTION

Upon resumption of session, Representative Palma withdrew his previous motion.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOT INCLUDING ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES/CORPORATIONS

On successive motions of Rep. Ria Christina G. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Body then considered the proposed budgets of the Department of Tourism (DOT) including its attached agencies and corporations; and the Chair recognized Rep. Michael John R. Duavit, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor the same.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Whereupon, Representative Fariñas acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of DOT officials led by Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat; and on her motion, the Chair recognized Representative Gaite for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

Representatives Duavit and Gaite focused their discussion on the actions taken by the DOT regarding its ₱60 million advertising contract with People's Television (PTV) 4 and the appropriate charges that were filed against those responsible for the same.

On motion of Representative Fariñas, the Chair next recognized Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Representative Atienza's initial queries centered on the painting of renowned national artist Carlos Modesto "Botong" V. Francisco, which was a declared national cultural treasure that was removed from the city hall of Manila and brought to the National Museum.

He sought the department's stand and cooperation on the issue as he stressed that the said mural painting belongs to the Manileños and should be restored to its former place in Manila City Hall.

Representative Atienza discussed with the sponsor the DOT's commitment to recommend to Manila-bound airlines that they should play Philippine music as a promotional tool to showcase the country's culture among tourists.

MOTION OF REPRESENTATIVE DUAVIT

At this point, Representative Duavit appealed to the people in the gallery to refrain from making noise as he and Representative Atienza could barely hear each other.

REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

The Chair requested the guests in the gallery as well as the House Members to maintain order in the plenary hall.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was then suspended at 3:52 p.m. upon motion of Representative Fariñas (R.C.).

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 3:53 p.m.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA (Continuation)

Continuing with his interpellation, Representative Atienza stated that the budget allocation for the Intramuros Administration was so minimal to improve, maintain, and hold cultural activities therein; and proposed to increase the same during the period of amendments.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Fariñas (R.C.) acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Rep. Lorna P. Bautista-Bandigan.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Fariñas, the Chair recognized Rep. Paolo Z. Duterte for his interpellation.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 3:59 p.m. upon motion of Representative Fariñas (R.C.).

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 4:00 p.m.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOT AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration of the proposed budgets of the DOT and its attached agencies and corporations.

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DEPED AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

On further motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration of the proposed budgets of the DepEd and its attached agencies.

On motion of Representative Baronda, the Chair recognized Representative Nuñez-Malanyaon for her sponsorship and Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Representative Elago acknowledged certain data submitted to her by the DepEd and asked anew about the agency's action on the case of textbooks and instructional materials that contained erroneous entries. After the sponsor assured her that the problem will be addressed, she voiced concern over the lack of facilities for special education (SPED) students and of sports and arts facilities for senior high school students.

Representative Elago subsequently discussed with Representative Nuñez-Malanyaon about the basis of the DepEd in recommending tracks or programs that schools should offer or students should take, under the senior high school program. They also tackled information on employment assistance for senior high school graduates and on the continuation of the senior high school voucher program.

Thereafter, Representative Elago said she will file a resolution to clarify the role of the Private Education Assistance Committee in view of alleged irregularities in its implementation of the GASTPE and tertiary education subsidy program despite the huge payments that the DepEd had paid for its services.

At this point, Representative Nuñez-Malanyaon said that the DepEd will support and abide by whatever laws the House will pass.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Savellano relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Garcia (P.J.).

Thereupon, Representative Elago asked for the position of the DepEd on the introduction of mandatory Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) Program in Grades 11 and 12.

Deputy Speaker Garcia (P.J.) relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Savellano.

Representative Nuñez-Malanyaon assured her colleague that the DepEd observes the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child

on the involvement of children in armed conflict; and will issue an order on the Citizenship Training Program (CTP), a refined version of the Citizens Army Training (CAT) Program, before the end of the year.

Representative Elago then urged the Department to review the K-12 Program and the implementation of the National Service Training Program before deliberating on new ones such as the ROTC program. The sponsor said that the DepEd is open to coordinating with all stakeholders after the plenary budget deliberations.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE NUÑEZ-MALANYAON

At this point, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, Representative Nuñez-Malanyaon read into the records a policy statement on the terms of reference that will form part of the current proceedings, which resulted from a dialogue between Deputy Speaker Rodante D. Marcoleta and DepEd officials and which the House leadership supported.

On motion of Representative Baronda, the Chair then recognized Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. to interpellate the Sponsor.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Representative Atienza asked for the DepEd's explanation on the non-replacement of old Marcos-era school buildings in Nueva Ecija despite the allocation of funds for the same.

Representative Atienza also asked the DepEd to give importance to the free Alternative Learning System (ALS) Program which helps out-of-school youth and drug addicts who want to develop basic literacy skills. Representative Nuñez-Malanyaon assured him that despite a smaller budget, the ALS will be supported by the local government units.

Thereafter, Representatives Atienza and Nuñez-Malanyaon looked into the corrupt practices in the purchase and pricing of books. The latter averred that the DepEd will furnish her colleague a report thereon by the following Monday.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Savellano relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Mujiv S. Hataman.

On motion of Representative Suarez (D.), the Chair recognized Rep. Enrico A. Pineda for a manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE PINEDA

Representative Pineda manifested that the DepEd should address the accreditation of financial institutions which automatically deduct loan payments from the payroll of teachers for as long as 36 months. Saying that public school teachers receive only ₱15,000 monthly, he pointed out that such practice goes against the 2019 GAA provision that public employees must have a minimum monthly take home pay of ₱5,000.

On motion of Representative Suarez (D.), the Chair recognized Rep. Sergio C. Dagooc for a manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DAGOOC

Representative Dagooc voiced out his concern on whether part of the fund for the house-wiring materials of school buildings and classrooms can be used for those which do not have electrical line extensions.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE NUÑEZ-MALANYAON

Representative Nuñez-Malanyaon assured her colleague that the DepEd would coordinate with the National Electrification Administration so that the latter would be able to identify the sites, and provide the necessary budget thereof under the special provisions.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DEPED AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Rep. Irene Gay F. Saulog on the part of the Minority and Representative Suarez (D.) on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the Department of Education and its attached agencies.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Rep. Alyssa Sheena P.Tan, CPA acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Representatives Baronda and Fariñas (R.C.).

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Tan (A.S.), the Chair suspended the session at 5:23 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

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

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOT AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Fariñas (R.C.), there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration of the proposed budgets of the DOT and its attached agencies and corporations.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Palma, the Chair suspended the session at 5:26 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:34 p.m., the session was resumed.

Upon motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Representative Duavit for his sponsorship and Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr. for his interpellation on the proposed budgets of the DOT and its attached agencies and corporations.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BORDADO

Initially, Representative Bordado exchanged views with Representative Duavit on the current and planned development activities for Intramuros; the refreshed Philippine tourism brand campaign and its difference from the previous DOT campaigns; and the plans of the department to protect, rehabilitate, and maintain tourist destinations as well as to train tourist guides and ensure the accuracy of information they share with tourists.

Representative Duavit explained that relevant programs, as well as coordination efforts, were in place to ensure the quality of tourist destinations and the safety of tourists. He added that the department has the Tourism Industry Skills Program (TISP) for training tourist guides and has employed local historians to further advance the country's history.

Thereafter, the Members talked about the COA findings regarding the unliquidated funds of DOT regional offices. Representative Duavit said that the DOT had been looking into the issue and that

necessary adjustments in the budgets of the regional offices had been made.

On motion of Representative Suarez (D.), the Chair recognized Rep. Sol Aragones for her manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ARAGONES

Representative Aragones initially inquired from the sponsor on the plans of the department to improve the Duty Free Philippines stores and make its products affordable. Representative Duavit stated that the Duty Free Philippines would shift in focus from the usual imported luxury goods to local products.

Thereupon, both Members expressed belief that Duty Free Philippines should be selling more local products.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Suarez (D.), the Chair recognized Minority Leader Abante for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

Minority Leader Abante and Representative Duavit discussed the status and actions taken regarding the illegal payments made for the "Buhay Carinderia" project, the ₱60 million advertising agreement with PTV 4, and the response of the DOT on the adverse COA audit findings on certain DOT expenses.

Minority Leader Abante thereafter clarified that while the Minority did not have any reason not to support the proposed 2020 budget of the DOT, they should look into such issues that could discredit the performance of the DOT.

Whereupon, on motion of Representative Suarez (D.), the Chair recognized Representative Cabatbat for his manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CABATBAT

Representative Cabatbat requested the DOT to submit a report on its savings and augmentation from 2017 up to the present, to which the sponsor assured that said report would be available by Friday.

**TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD
OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE
ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS
OF THE DOT AND ITS ATTACHED
AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS**

There being no further interpellations, on joint motion of Representatives Cabatbat and Suarez (D.), representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DOT and its attached agencies and corporations.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session at 6:09 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 6:13 p.m. with Deputy Speaker Michael L. Romero, PhD presiding.

**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON
SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228**

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228.

**BUSINESS FOR THE DAY:
COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 20
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 4611**

Whereupon, on successive motions of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 4611 contained in Committee Report No. 20 as submitted by the Committee on Transportation, designating the third Sunday of November every year as the National Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims, Survivors, and their Families, ensuring its meaningful observance; dispensed with the reading of the text of the measure without prejudice to its insertion into the records of the House, as copies thereof had been previously distributed to the Members; adopted the Explanatory Note of the bill as the sponsorship remarks on the measure, upon motion of one of its main authors, Rep. Manuel F. Zubiri; terminated the period of sponsorship and debate in the absence of interpellations; terminated the period of amendments in the absence of committee and individual amendments; and approved House Bill No. 4611 on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting.

**RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION ON
SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228 contained in Committee Report No. 8 as reported out by the Committee on Appropriations, entitled:

“AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS
FOR THE OPERATION OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY
ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE,
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

**CONSIDERATION OF THE
PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE COMELEC**

Thereafter, on successive motions of Rep. Ma. Theresa V. Collantes, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Commission on Elections (Comelec), and the Chair recognized Rep. Francisco Jose “Bingo” F. Matugas II, CPA, CESO, LLB, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor the measure.

**SPONSORSHIP REMARKS
OF REPRESENTATIVE MATUGAS**

Representative Matugas informed the Body that he was ready to defend the proposed ₱9.8 billion budget of the Comelec.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Collantes acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of officials of the Comelec led by Chairperson Sheriff M. Abas.

REMINDER FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair requested the guests in the Session Hall to observe proper decorum. Thereafter, he recognized Representative Castro (F.L.) for her interpellation.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)**

At the outset, Representative Castro expressed gratitude to the Comelec for clarifying matters regarding the qualifications of the teachers who served during the last elections. She then sought

clarification from the sponsor why the Board of Election Inspectors (BEIs) had to pay for the documentary stamps of their Oath of Office document in the recent election even if this should have already been paid for under the Election Service Reform Act (ESRA).

Representatives Castro and Matugas thereafter discussed the issue on the reimbursement for medical services and legal assistance for the BEIs under the same law.

On a subsequent matter, Representative Castro asked if the Comelec had done an assessment of the recent elections particularly on the case of election fraud, and asked for a report thereon once available. She then suggested for the Comelec to explore the possible implementation of a hybrid mode of election in the future.

On motion of Representative Collantes, the Chair recognized Representative Dimaporo (M.K.) for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DIMAPORO (M.K.)

Representative Dimaporo first congratulated the Comelec family for the successful implementation of the 2019 local elections and asked if there was a budget appropriated for the parliamentary election under the Bangsamoro Organic Law (BOL).

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Matugas, the Chair suspended the session at 6:37 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 6:38 p.m.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DIMAPORO (M.K.) (Continuation)

Representatives Dimaporo and Matugas subsequently discussed the funding and creation of the the Bangsamoro Electoral Office and the Bangsamoro Electoral Code which would serve as basis of the Comelec in determining the budget for the parliamentary elections under the BOL.

When asked about the timeline for the enactment of the Bangsamoro Electoral Code, Rep. Matugas answered that the timeline is 2021. Representative Dimaporo hoped that the timeline would not delay the said parliamentary elections.

On motion of Representative Collantes, the Chair recognized Representative Elago for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Representative Elago inquired on the success of the use of the voter registration verification machines (VRVMs); and asked the Comelec to look into how the academic calendar shift had affected voters' turnout among students.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED COMELEC BUDGET

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Rep. Stella Luz A. Quimbo and Representative Collantes representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the Comelec.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Collantes, the session was suspended at 6:48 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 6:51 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE MMDA

On motion of Representative Tan (A.S.), there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA), and the Chair recognized Rep. Alfred Vargas, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to deliver his sponsorship remarks.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE VARGAS

Representative Vargas said that he was honored to defend the MMDA budget for 2020 amounting to ₱4.1 billion.

At this point, Representative Tan (A.S.) acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the MMDA family headed by Chairperson Danilo Delapuz Lim, and thereafter moved for the recognition of Rep. Bayani F. Fernando for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE FERNANDO

Representative Fernando, after asking whether the MMDA is under the Office of the President, sought clarification on the agency's services, and its 2018 and 2019 budget utilization, as well as the 2020 budget which he noted was smaller than that of the previous years. He thereafter moved to increase the 2020 MMDA budget because of its huge task of addressing the current traffic and flooding crisis in Metro Manila.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Recognized by the Chair on motion of Representative Tan (A.S.), Representative Castro asked Representative Vargas to elaborate on the role of the MMDA chairperson in the National Capital Region Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NCRTF-ELCAC). She then requested for a copy of the documents on its role in said Task Force, which the sponsor promised to submit.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Romero relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Ferdinand L. Hernandez.

After clarifying that the MMDA had no allocation for the said Task Force, Representative Castro discussed with the Sponsor the powers of the MMDA under Republic Act (R.A.) No. 7924 or the MMDA Charter, and argued that poverty alleviation is not part of the MMDA's mandate.

Thereupon, Deputy Speaker Hernandez relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Romero.

In conclusion, Representative Castro expressed belief that the local government units (LGUs) have satisfactorily performed their functions in terms of the delivery of social services, and thus do not need the MMDA's assistance. She then proposed that the MMDA review its role and basic functions.

On motion of Representative Tan (A.S.), the Chair recognized Rep. Arlene D. Brosas for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Representative Brosas discussed with Representative Vargas the issues on the traffic conditions in Metro Manila such as the increase in the volume of vehicles plying EDSA and the new regulations and traffic schemes that the MMDA had introduced.

At this point, Deputy Speaker Romero relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Raneo "Ranie" E. Abu.

As regards researches on traffic management, Representative Brosas queried if the MMDA had coordinated with various research institutions to come up with specific and immediate solutions to the worsening traffic problem.

Representative Brosas then raised the issue of, and expressed strong objection to the deployment of female officers of the Philippine National Police-Highway Patrol Group to intimidate traffic violators. She believed that the traffic problem is too serious to be indulging to sexism and experimental solutions.

Representative Vargas committed, in his capacity as sponsor of the DILG budget, to get a copy of the status report on the ongoing clearing operations for Representative Brosas' perusal.

Lastly, Representative Brosas expressed concern about the relocation of displaced vendors due to the 60-day clearing operations in Metro Manila, and stressed the need to find solutions to the root cause of the traffic problem. She averred that the stance of the MMDA and the LGUs on this matter should not be anti-poor.

On motion of Representative Tan (A.S.), the Chair recognized Minority Leader Abante for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

Minority Leader Abante discussed with Representative Vargas his concerns regarding the cut in the MMDA's budget, and the number of employees of the agency and their employment status and salaries and benefits.

As he noted that most MMDA employees are employed under the job order scheme, Minority Leader Abante surmised that the low wages of traffic enforcers may be one of the reasons why some of them become corrupt. However, he commended those who had kept their values and continued to follow the law.

Minority Leader Abante thereafter stated that an amendment should be done to increase the budget of the MMDA to augment the salaries of job order employees, and to even provide them with plantilla positions. He added that as much as the government wants to do away with contractualization, it is sad to note that, it is also the government that is guilty of such practice.

In closing, Minority Leader Abante believed that to put a stop on corruption in traffic management, low-income employees should be compensated adequately for them to be able to support their families.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED MMDA BUDGET

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Minority Leader Abante and Representative Tan (A.S.) representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the MMDA.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Tan (A.S.), the Chair suspended the session at 7:53 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 7:56 p.m.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

Likewise, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the Additional Reference of Business.

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

RESOLUTION

House Resolution No. 347, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEATH OF HONORABLE JESUS MARINO 'RENE' G. ESPINA, A GREAT FILIPINO PUBLIC SERVANT WHO WAS A FORMER SENATOR (1970-1973), GOVERNOR OF THE PROVINCE OF CEBU (1963-1969), SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS, TRANSPORTATION AND

COMMUNICATIONS, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM”

By Representatives Cayetano (Alan Peter), Romualdez (Ferdinand), Abante and Garcia (Pablo John)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILLS UNDER THE BUSINESS FOR THE DAY

Thereafter, on successive motions of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading the following House bills calendared under the Business for the Day contained in various committee reports and submitted by the committees indicated hereunder, dispensed with the reading of the texts of the measures without prejudice to their insertion into the records of the House, as copies thereof had been distributed to the Members; adopted the Explanatory Notes of the bills as the sponsorship remarks on the measures; terminated the period of sponsorship and debate in the absence of interpellations; terminated the period of amendments in the absence of committee and individual amendments; and approved the measures on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting:

Submitted by the Committee on Higher and Technical Education and sponsored by Rep. Allan Benedict S. Reyes:

1. House Bill No. 4466 as contained in Committee Report No. 10, integrating labor education into the social science subjects in the higher education curriculum;

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair suspended the session at 7:58 p.m. upon Representative Palma's motion.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 7:59 p.m.

APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILLS UNDER THE BUSINESS FOR THE DAY

(Continuation)

Submitted by the Committee on Legislative Franchises and sponsored by its chairperson, Rep. Franz “Chicoy” E. Alvarez:

2. House Bill No. 4581 as contained in Committee Report No. 11, renewing for

another 25 years the franchise granted to Golden Broadcast Professional, Inc. under R.A. No. 8025;

3. House Bill No. 4583 as contained in Committee Report No. 13, renewing for another 25 years the franchise granted to Broadcast Enterprises and Affiliated Media, Inc. under R.A. No. 8098; and
4. House Bill No. 4584 as contained in Committee Report No. 14, renewing for another 25 years the franchise granted to Crusaders Broadcasting System, Inc., under R.A. No. 8091.

OMNIBUS APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILLS UNDER THE BUSINESS FOR THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

Thereafter, on an omnibus motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading the following House bills calendared under the Business for Thursday and Friday contained in various committee reports and submitted by the Committee on Legislative Franchises, dispensed with the reading of the texts of the measures without prejudice to their insertion into the records of the House, as copies thereof had been previously distributed to the Members; adopted the Explanatory Notes of the bills as the sponsorship remarks on the measures; terminated the period of sponsorship and debate in the absence of interpellations; terminated the period of amendments in the absence of committee and individual amendments; and approved the measures on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting:

1. House Bill No. 4436 as contained in Committee Report No. 6, granting the Lanao del Norte Electric Cooperative a franchise to construct, operate and maintain a distribution system for the conveyance of electric power to the end-users in all the municipalities of the Province of Lanao del Norte;
2. House Bill No. 4437 as contained in Committee Report No. 7, granting the Bicol Light and Power Corporation a franchise to construct, install, establish, operate, own, manage, and maintain a power distribution system for the conveyance of electric power to the end users in the towns of Baao, Balatan, Bato, Buhi, Bula Nabua, and the City of Iriga, Province of Camarines Sur; and

3. House Bill No. 4582 as contained in Committee Report No. 12, renewing for another 25 years the franchise granted to Gold Label Broadcasting System, Inc. under R.A. No. 8087.

ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved to include as additional coauthors of House Bills No. 4228, 4436, 4437, 4463, 4581, 4582, 4583, 4584, 4466, and 4611 the names of the Members contained in the list to be submitted by the Committee on Rules.

CHANGE OF REFERRAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4351

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body changed the referral of House Bill No. 4351, from the Committee on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development to the Committee on Banks and Financial Intermediaries.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE NIETO

At this point, Rep. John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto manifested his desire to be included as coauthor of House Bill No. 4611.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read a Committee Report which was referred to the appropriate committee indicated hereunder:

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Committee on Government Reorganization, the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 21), re H.B. No. 4664, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTING REFORMS IN REAL PROPERTY VALUATION AND ASSESSMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES, REORGANIZING THE BUREAU OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR” recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 305, 343, 815, 1616, 1782, 1908, 2085, 2400, 3358, 3368, 3566 and 3668

Sponsors: Representatives Mariño, Salceda and
Ungab
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

**ELECTION OF MAJORITY MEMBERS
TO VARIOUS COMMITTEES**

On successive motions of Representative Suarez
(D.), there being no objection, the Body elected
the following Members from the Majority to the
committees specified hereunder:

Committee on Human Rights

(as vice chairperson)

Rep. Anthony Peter “Onyx” D. Crisologo

(as members)

Rep. Amihilda J. Sangcopan
Rep. Ma. Bernardita “Ditas” Ramos
Rep. Angelina “Helen” D.L. Tan, MD

Committee on Higher and Technical Education

(as vice chairperson)

Rep. Ann K. Hofer

(as members)

Rep. Estrellita B. Suansing
Rep. Amihilda J. Sangcopan

Committee on Visayas Development

(as member)

Rep. Florencio G. Noel

Committee on Banks and Financial Intermediaries

(as members)

Rep. Enrico A. Pineda
Rep. Henry R. Villarica
Rep. Marisol C. Panotes
Rep. Josefina B. Tallado
Rep. Alan I B. Ecleo
Rep. Gerardo “Gerryboy” J. Espina Jr.
Rep. Jumel Anthony I. Espino
Rep. Jonathan Keith T. Flores
Rep. Nestor B. Fongwan
Rep. Wilton “Tonton” T. Kho
Rep. Jake Vincent Villa

Special Committee on Sustainable Development Goals

(as member)

Rep. Amihilda J. Sangcopan

Committee on Poverty Alleviation

(as members)

Rep. Rolando M. Valeriano
Rep. Florencio G. Noel
Rep. Anthony Peter “Onyx” D. Crisologo
Rep. Romulo “Kid” Peña Jr.

Committee on Housing and Urban Development

(as vice chairperson)

Rep. Florida “Rida” P. Robes

(as members)

Rep. Allan Benedict S. Reyes
Rep. Rosanna “Ria” Vergara

Committee on Labor and Employment

(as members)

Rep. Alfredo A. Garbin Jr.
Rep. Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla
Rep. Dahlia A. Loyola
Rep. Manuel Luis “Manny” T. Lopez
Rep. Leonardo L. Babasa Jr.
Rep. Datu Roonie Q. Sinsuat Sr.

Committee on Natural Resources

(as members)

Rep. Amihilda J. Sangcopan
Rep. Presley C. De Jesus
Rep. Alfredo A. Garbin Jr.
Rep. Princess Rihan M. Sakaluran
Rep. Christian S. Unabia

Committee on Energy

(as vice chairperson)

Rep. Hector S. Sanchez

Committee on Science and Technology

(as members)

Rep. Michael John R. Duavit
Rep. Carlito S. Marquez
Rep. Ciriaco B. Gato Jr.
Rep. Jumel Anthony I. Espino
Rep. Ria Christina G. Fariñas
Rep. Jonathan Keith T. Flores
Rep. Nestor B. Fongwan
Rep. Wilton “Tonton” T. Kho
Rep. Joseph “Jojo” L. Lara

Rep. Esmael G. Mangudadatu
Rep. Teodorico T. Haresco Jr.

Committee on Information
and Communications Technology

(as vice chairperson)

Rep. Micaela S. Violago

(as members)

Rep. Enrico A. Pineda
Rep. Carlos O. Cojuangco

Committee on Public Works and Highways

(as vice chairperson)

Rep. Adriano A. Ebcas

(as members)

Rep. Tyrone D. Agabas
Rep. Erico Aristotle C. Aumentado
Rep. Elias C. Bulut Jr.
Rep. Carlos O. Cojuangco
Rep. Greg G. Gasataya
Rep. Ciriaco B. Gato Jr.
Rep. Ma. Bernardita “Ditas” Ramos
Rep. Carlito S. Marquez
Rep. Manuel T. Sagarbarria
Rep. Marissa Andaya
Rep. Faustino Michael Carlos T. Dy III
Rep. Solomon R. Chungalao
Rep. Genaro M. Alvarez Jr.
Rep. Leonardo L. Babasa Jr.
Rep. Carl Nicolas C. Cari
Rep. Joseph “Jojo” L. Lara
Rep. Ann K. Hofer
Rep. John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto
Rep. Alan “Aldu” R. Dujali
Rep. Gerardo “Gerryboy” J. Espina Jr.
Rep. Wilton “Tonton” T. Kho
Rep. Jose Enrique “Joet” S. Garcia III
Rep. Datu Roonie Q. Sinsuat Sr.
Rep. Presley C. De Jesus

Committee on National Defense and Security

(as members)

Rep. Hector S. Sanchez
Rep. Manuel DG. Cabochan III

Committee on Veterans Affairs and Welfare

(as vice chairperson)

Rep. Manuel DG. Cabochan III

(as members)

Rep. Hector S. Sanchez
Rep. Leonardo L. Babasa Jr.
Rep. Christian S. Unabia
Rep. Rodolfo B. Albano
Rep. Pablo C. Ortega

Committee on Social Services

(as member)

Rep. Hector S. Sanchez

Committee on Welfare of Children

(as vice chairpersons)

Rep. Paz C. Radaza
Rep. Michael T. Defensor
Rep. Anna Marie Villaraza-Suarez

(as members)

Rep. Resurreccion M. Acop
Rep. Maria Fe R. Abunda
Rep. Ma. Lourdes T. Arroyo
Rep. Naealla Bainto Aguinaldo
Rep. Raymond Democrito C. Mendoza
Rep. Manuel Jose “Mannix” M. Dalipe
Rep. Joy Myra S. Tambunting
Rep. Diego “Nonoy” C. Ty
Rep. Janice Z. Salimbangon

Committee on Inter-Parliamentary
Relations and Diplomacy

(as vice chairperson)

Rep. Ann K. Hofer

(as members)

Rep. Princess Rihan M. Sakaluran
Rep. Solomon R. Chungalao
Rep. Wilton “Tonton” T. Kho
Rep. Joseph “Jojo” L. Lara
Rep. Esmael G. Mangudadatu
Rep. Datu Roonie Q. Sinsuat Sr.
Rep. Jesus “Bong” C. Suntay
Rep. Samier A. Tan
Rep. Henry R. Villarica
Rep. Marisol C. Panotes
Rep. Josefina B. Tallado

Rep. Rosanna “Ria” Vergara
Rep. Julianne “Jam” L. Baronda

Committee on Local Government

(as vice chairpersons)

Rep. Leonardo L. Babasa Jr.
Rep. Luis N. Campos Jr.

(as members)

Rep. Solomon R. Chungalao
Rep. Arnie B. Fuentebella
Rep. Greg G. Gasataya
Rep. Dahlia A. Loyola
Rep. Elias C. Bulut Jr.
Rep. Manuel T. Sagarbarria
Rep. Gerardo P. Valmayor Jr.
Rep. Michael John R. Duavit
Rep. Teodorico T. Haresco Jr.
Rep. Maria Laarni Cayetano
Rep. Manuel DG. Cabochan III
Rep. Hector S. Sanchez

Committee on Public Order and Safety

(as vice chairperson)

Rep. Michael Edgar Y. Aglipay

(as members)

Rep. Wilfrido Mark M. Enverga
Rep. Dahlia A. Loyola
Rep. Erico Aristotle C. Aumentado
Rep. Manuel Jose “Mannix” M. Dalipe
Rep. John Reynald M. Tiangco
Rep. Arnie B. Fuentebella
Rep. Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alba
Rep. Princess Rihan M. Sakaluran
Rep. Adriano A. Ebcas
Rep. Presley C. De Jesus
Rep. Manuel DG. Cabochan III

Committee on Disaster Management

(as members)

Rep. Amihilda J. Sangcopan
Rep. Micaela S. Violago

Committee on Health

(as vice chairperson)

Rep. Maricel G. Natividad-Nagaño, MD

(as members)

Rep. Cyrille “Beng” F. Abueg-Zaldivar
Rep. Solomon R. Chungalao

Rep. Arnold “Noli” D. Celeste
Rep. Estrellita B. Suansing
Rep. Princess Rihan M. Sakaluran
Rep. Adriano A. Ebcas
Rep. Presley C. De Jesus
Rep. Alberto “Bobby” D. Pacquiao
Rep. Ann K. Hofer
Rep. Hector S. Sanchez

Committee on Transportation

(as vice chairperson)

Rep. Jose Gay G. Padiernos

(as members)

Rep. Alfel M. Bascug
Rep. Luisa Lloren Cuaresma
Rep. Hector S. Sanchez

Committee on Foreign Affairs

(as vice chairperson)

Rep. Cyrille “Beng” F. Abueg-Zaldivar

(as members)

Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez
Rep. Rosanna “Ria” Vergara
Rep. Alberto “Bobby” D. Pacquiao
Rep. Julianne “Jam” L. Baronda

Committee on Agriculture and Food

(as vice chairperson)

Rep. Joseph “Jojo” L. Lara

(as members)

Rep. Kristine Singson-Meehan
Rep. Solomon R. Chungalao
Rep. Arnie B. Fuentebella
Rep. Faustino Michael Carlos T. Dy III
Rep. Ian Paul L. Dy
Rep. Abdullah D. Dimaporo
Rep. Dahlia A. Loyola
Rep. Amihilda J. Sangcopan

Committee on Ecology

(as members)

Rep. Allan Benedict S. Reyes
Rep. Leonardo L. Babasa Jr.
Rep. Christian S. Unabia
Rep. Jake Vincent Villa

Committee on Trade and Industry

(as vice chairpersons)

Rep. Emmarie “Lolypop” Ouano-Dizon
Rep. Jesus “Bong” C. Suntay

(as members)

Rep. Rodolfo B. Albano
Rep. Alfredo A. Garbin Jr.
Rep. Christian S. Unabia
Rep. Jake Vincent Villa

Committee on Basic Education and Culture

(as vice chairperson)

Rep. Allan Benedict S. Reyes

(as members)

Rep. Ruth Mariano-Hernandez
Rep. Princess Rihan M. Sakaluran
Rep. Rosanna “Ria” Vergara
Rep. Florida “Rida” P. Robes

Committee on Good Government
and Public Accountability

(as chairperson)

Rep. “Kuya” Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado

(as vice chairpersons)

Rep. Jesus Crispin C. Remulla
Rep. Michael T. Defensor

(as members)

Rep. Narciso R. Bravo Jr.
Rep. Romeo M. Jalosjos Jr.
Rep. Sol Aragon
Rep. Mario Vittorio “Marvey” A. Mariño
Rep. Antonio “Tony” T. Albano
Rep. Lorna C. Silverio
Rep. Samantha Louise Vargas Alfonso
Rep. Cyrille “Beng” F. Abueg-Zaldivar
Rep. Jorge Antonio P. Bustos
Rep. Ed Christopher S. Go
Rep. Vincent Franco “Duke” D. Frasco
Rep. Emmarie “Lolypop” Ouano-Dizon
Rep. Cesar “Jawo” L. Jimenez Jr.
Rep. Eric Go Yap
Rep. Claudine Diana D. Bautista
Rep. Sandro L. Gonzalez
Rep. Raul “Boboy” C. Tupas

Special Committee on Reforestation

(as chairperson)

Rep. Elias C. Bulut Jr.

(as vice chairpersons)

Rep. Solomon R. Chungalao
Rep. Maximo Y. Dalog Jr.
Rep. Christian S. Unabia
Rep. Cyrille “Beng” F. Abueg-Zaldivar

(as members)

Rep. Munir M. Arbison
Rep. Ansaruddin Abdul Malik A. Adiong
Rep. Faustino Michael Carlos T. Dy III
Rep. Tyrone D. Agabas
Rep. Alfonso V. Umali Jr.
Rep. Paz C. Radaza
Rep. Ron P. Salo

Special Committee on Land Use

(as chairperson)

Rep. Eduardo “Eddie” R. Gullas

(as vice chairperson)

Rep. Teodorico T. Haresco Jr.

(as members)

Rep. Samantha Louise Vargas Alfonso
Rep. Ramon C. Nolasco Jr.
Rep. Adriano A. Ebcas
Rep. Jocelyn P. Tulfo

Committee on Cooperatives Development

(as chairperson)

Rep. Sabiniano S. Canama

(as vice chairpersons)

Rep. Jose “Jun” L. Ong Jr.
Rep. Jose Gay G. Padiernos
Rep. Virgilio S. Lacson
Rep. Adriano A. Ebcas

(as members)

Rep. Rico B. Geron
Rep. Presley C. De Jesus
Rep. Wilfredo “Willy” S. Caminero
Rep. Diego “Nonoy” C. Ty
Rep. Fernando T. Cabredo
Rep. Janice Z. Salimbangon

Rep. Rashidin H. Matba
Rep. Teodorico T. Haresco Jr.

Committee on Dangerous Drugs

(as chairperson)

Rep. Robert Ace S. Barbers

(as vice chairpersons)

Rep. Narciso R. Bravo Jr.
Rep. Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento
Rep. Alan I B. Ecleo
Rep. Pablo C. Ortega
Rep. Jorge Antonio P. Bustos

(as members)

Rep. Frederick W. Siao
Rep. Romeo M. Jalosjos Jr.
Rep. Samantha Louise Vargas Alfonso
Rep. Rashidin H. Matba
Rep. Fernando T. Cabredo
Rep. Elpidio F. Barzaga Jr.
Rep. Eddiebong G. Plaza
Rep. Strike B. Revilla
Rep. John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto
Rep. Horacio P. Suansing Jr.
Rep. Rolando M. Valeriano
Rep. Lorna P. Bautista-Bandigan
Rep. Manuel Luis “Manny” T. Lopez
Rep. Edward Vera Perez Maceda
Rep. Precious Hipolito Castelo
Rep. Luis N. Campos Jr.
Rep. Josephine Ramirez-Sato
Rep. Nestor B. Fongwan
Rep. Romulo “Kid” Peña Jr.
Rep. Wilton “Tonton” T. Kho
Rep. Joseph “Jojo” L. Lara
Rep. Esmael G. Mangudadatu
Rep. Emmarie “Lolypop” Ouano-Dizon
Rep. Joselito “Joel” S. Sacdalan
Rep. Datu Roonie Q. Sinsuat Sr.
Rep. Jesus “Bong” C. Suntay
Rep. Samier A. Tan
Rep. Henry R. Villarica
Rep. Josefina B. Tallado
Rep. Alfredo A. Garbin Jr.
Rep. Manuel DG. Cabochan III

Committee on Micro, Small, and Medium
Enterprise Development

(as chairperson)

Rep. Virgilio S. Lacson

(as vice chairpersons)

Rep. Camille A. Villar
Rep. Juliet Marie de Leon Ferrer
Rep. Ma. Lucille L. Nava, MD
Rep. Adriano A. Ebcas

(as members)

Rep. Ferdinand L. Hernandez
Rep. Alan “Aldu” R. Dujali
Rep. Leonardo L. Babasa Jr.
Rep. Ria Christina G. Fariñas
Rep. Jonathan Keith T. Flores
Rep. Christian S. Unabia
Rep. Braeden John Q. Biron
Rep. Allan Benedict S. Reyes
Rep. Naealla Bainto Aguinaldo
Rep. Lorna C. Silverio
Rep. Elpidio F. Barzaga Jr.
Rep. Fernando T. Cabredo
Rep. Janice Z. Salimbangon
Rep. Princess Rihan M. Sakaluran
Rep. Niña Taduran
Rep. Jose “Jun” L. Ong Jr.
Rep. Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento
Rep. Romulo “Kid” Peña Jr.

ADOPTION OF HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 347

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the consideration of House Resolution No. 347, entitled: “A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEATH OF HONORABLE JESUS MARINO 'RENE' G. ESPINA, A GREAT FILIPINO PUBLIC SERVANT WHO WAS A FORMER SENATOR (1970-1973), GOVERNOR OF THE PROVINCE OF CEBU (1963-1969), SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS, TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM”; dispensed with the reading of the text of the measure without prejudice to its insertion into the records of the House; and unanimously adopted the same.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the session was suspended until one o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday, September 18, 2019.

It was 8:33 p.m. of Tuesday, September 17, 2019.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:00 p.m. of Wednesday, September 18, 2019 with Deputy Speaker Ferdinand L. Hernandez presiding.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GUEST

Thereupon, Rep. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of former House Deputy Speaker Romero “Miro” S. Quimbo.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read on First Reading the titles of the following Bills and Resolutions, including the Communication, which were referred to the appropriate Committees indicated hereunder:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 4598, entitled:

“AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE MAGNA CARTA FOR BARANGAYS”

By Representative Roman
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4604, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE 7TH OF NOVEMBER OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CUENCA, PROVINCE OF BATANGAS IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY TO BE KNOWN AS 'CUENCA FOUNDATION DAY' ”

By Representative Collantes
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4605, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PHILIPPINE SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL CAMPUS IN UBAY, BOHOL AS PART OF THE CENTRAL VISAYAS CAMPUS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Aumentado
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 4606, entitled:

“AN ACT RESETTling THE MAY 2020 BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANg KABATAAN ELECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9164, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACTS NUMBERED 9340, 10632, 10656, 10923 AND 10952, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Oaminal
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

House Bill No. 4607, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE HONORARIA OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS AT THE MINIMUM WAGE LEVELS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991”

By Representative Abueg-Zaldivar
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4608, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR REPRESENTATION IN ALL LEVELS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT FOR SENIOR CITIZENS, CREATING THE SANGGUNIANg SENIOR CITIZENS, THE KATIPUNAN NG SENIOR CITIZENS, PROVIDING THEIR POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991' ”

By Representative Abueg-Zaldivar
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4609, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN CITIES IN THE CITY OF MALAYBALAY, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980,' AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Flores
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4610, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) REGULAR DISTRICT OFFICE IN THE 1ST DISTRICT OF ILOCOS SUR IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN ILDEFONSO AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Savellano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4612, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AND RESPONSIVE CIVIL REGISTRATION AND VITAL STATISTICS SYSTEM, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Peña
TO THE COMMITTEE ON POPULATION AND FAMILY RELATIONS

House Bill No. 4613, entitled:

“AN ACT REVIVING GOOD MANNERS AND RIGHT CONDUCT (GMRC) AS A SEPARATE SUBJECT IN THE BASIC EDUCATION CURRICULUM”

By Representative Peña
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4614, entitled:

“AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE MAGNA CARTA FOR BARANGAYS”

By Representative Peña
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4615, entitled:

“AN ACT ALLOWING AND REGULATING THE USE OF MOTORCYCLES AS PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLES, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4136 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LAND TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC CODE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Peña
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4616, entitled:

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

By Representative Peña
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD SECURITY

House Bill No. 4617, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN BARANGAY SANTA CRUZ, MAKATI CITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Peña
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4618, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE INCLUSION OF ELECTED AND APPOINTED BARANGAY OFFICIALS AS COMPULSORY MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE, PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1146, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'REVISED GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE ACT OF 1977' ”

By Representative Peña
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 4619, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS, GOVERNMENT OFFICES, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PARKS, SCHOOLS, STREETS, ALLEYS AND OTHER PLACES OF PUBLIC CONGREGATION TO INSTALL CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION CAMERAS AS A MEANS TO DETER CRIME”

By Representative Peña
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

House Bill No. 4620, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING MENTAL HEALTH WELLNESS LEAVE TO ALL EMPLOYEES AND INTEGRATING MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS IN THE CURRICULUM OF ALL SCHOOLS”

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

House Bill No. 4621, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING HOSPITALS TO WAIVE PARKING FEES FOR THEIR

PATIENTS AND PRESCRIBING
PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF”

By Representative Peña
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 4622, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING RURAL BANKS
IN THE PHILIPPINES AMENDING
FURTHER FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7353 OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE RURAL BANKS ACT
OF 1992, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Hernandez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL
INTERMEDIARIES

House Bill No. 4623, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COASTAL
AQUACULTURE CENTER IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF LALA, PROVINCE
OF LANA O DEL NORTE AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Dimaporo (Abdullah) and
Dimaporo (Khalid)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND
FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4624, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING THE CITY
GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY
OF DASMARIÑAS, CAVITE A
FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT,
INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE,
AND MAINTAIN COMMERCIAL FM
AND AM RADIO AND TELEVISION
BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE
CITY OF DASMARIÑAS, CAVITE”

By Representative Barzaga
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 4625, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING RICE RETAILERS
TO IDENTIFY LOCALLY PRODUCED
RICE AS PRODUCED BY FILIPINO
FARMERS, AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Roman
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4626, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE
DINALUPIHAN RICE DEVELOPMENT
CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY
OF DINALUPIHAN, PROVINCE OF

BATAAN, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR”

By Representative Roman
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4627, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING MULTIPURPOSE
FISH AND SHRIMP HATCHERIES IN
ALL SUITABLE AREAS IN THE FIRST
DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF
BATAAN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR”

By Representative Roman
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND
FISHERIES RESOURCES

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 334, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH AND DEPARTMENT
OF FINANCE TO COME UP WITH A
COMPREHENSIVE IMPLEMENTING
RULES AND REGULATIONS OR
IRR THAT WOULD PRIORITIZE
THE TOBACCO FARMERS AS
BENEFICIARIES TO THE UNIVERSAL
HEALTH CARE PROGRAM”

By Representative Savellano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Resolution No. 335, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE
COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION
AND CULTURE TO CONDUCT AN
INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON
THE STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10533 OR THE
'ENHANCED BASIC EDUCATION ACT'
IN ORDER TO REVIEW AND EVALUATE
THE PROGRESS OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION IN MEETING THE
STANDARDS PROVIDED BY LAW”

By Representative Romulo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 336, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
AND FOOD OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES FOR AN
IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION, IN
AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE

**STATUS OF AFRICAN SWINE FEVER
PROLIFERATION IN THE COUNTRY”**

By Representative Cabatbat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 337, entitled:

“RESOLUTION FOR THE APPROPRIATE HOUSE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION ON THE ALLEGATIONS OF UNREGISTERED FOREIGN WORKERS, NON-PAYMENT OF INCOME TAXES, RELATIVE TO PHILIPPINE OFFSHORE GAMING OPERATORS (POGO) INDUSTRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, AND RELATED ISSUES ON THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SECTION 25 OF 1997 NIRC ON NON-RESIDENT ALIENS, IMMIGRATION RULES AND REGULATIONS AND THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, WITH THE VIEW OF AMENDING EXISTING LAWS RELATIVE TO EFFECTIVE REVENUE COLLECTION FROM FOREIGN WORKERS AND EFFECTIVELY REGULATE THE POGO INDUSTRY WITHOUT DETRIMENT TO THE FILIPINO PEOPLE”

By Representatives Abante, Villanueva (Eduardo), Biazon and Lopez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 338, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE DELAYS OF THE TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENTERPRISE ZONE AUTHORITY (TIEZA) IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN THE 2ND DISTRICT OF CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY”

By Representative Rodriguez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 339, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CREATING A STANDING COMMITTEE ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND SPECIAL NEEDS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES”

By Representatives Romualdez (Ferdinand) and Romualdez (Yedda)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

COMMUNICATION

Letter dated 11 September 2019 of Marissa M. Reyes, Acting Deputy Director, Office of the General Counsel and Legal Services, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), furnishing the House of Representatives with a duly certified and authenticated copy of BSP Circular No. 1048 dated 6 September 2019.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

**RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION
ON SECOND READING
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228**

On motion of Representative Romualdo, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228 embodied in Committee Report No. 8 as reported out by the Committee on Appropriations, entitled:

“AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Representative Romualdo then stated that the parliamentary status was that the measure was in the period of sponsorship and debate.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED
BUDGETS OF THE DA AND ITS
ATTACHED AGENCIES/CORPORATIONS**

On successive motions of Representative Romualdo, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the consideration of the proposed budgets of the Department of Agriculture (DA) and its attached agencies/corporations; and the Chair recognized Rep. Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor the same.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Thereupon, Representative Romualdo acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the DA officials led by Secretary William Dar; and on his motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CABATBAT

Adverting to the provisions of the Rice Tariffication Law which removes the monopoly of the National Food Authority (NFA) to purchase palay from farmers, Representative Cabatbat sought clarification on the current policy of the DA to allow the NFA and encourage local government units (LGUs) to continue doing the same.

Representative Cabatbat also asked about the status of the rice industry roadmap in accordance with the aforesaid law.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DA AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES/CORPORATIONS

On motion of Rep. Juan Miguel Macapagal Arroyo, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration of the proposed budgets of the DA and its attached agencies/corporations.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

On motion of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the consideration of the proposed budget of the Office of the Vice President (OVP).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Thereupon, Rep. Christopher V. P. de Venecia acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the OVP officials led by Vice President Maria Leonor G. Robredo; and on his motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Paul Ruiz Daza for his sponsorship remarks.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE DAZA

Representative Daza said that the proposed budget for fiscal year 2020 of the OVP, which Vice President Robredo had transformed from an office merely performing ceremonial functions to one leading advocacies for marginalized sectors, amounted to ₱673 million.

On motion of Representative de Venecia, the Body recognized Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr. for his manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BORDADO

Representative Bordado lauded and thanked the OVP family for its exemplary performance in the implementation of various outreach projects despite a measly budget. He expressed his support for increasing its budget as manifested by his colleague Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez during the budget hearings.

On motion of Representative de Venecia, the Chair next recognized Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago for her manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Representative Elago expressed her commitment to augment the budget of the Office of the Vice President in support of its “Istorya ng Pag-asa” project, which provided the needed inspiration for the youth to realize their significant role in nation building.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DAZA

Recognized by the Chair, Representative Daza expressed his gratitude to Representatives Bordado and Elago for their support for the OVP budget.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT

There being no interpellations, on a joint motion of Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte and Representative de Venecia representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the OVP.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative de Venecia, the Chair suspended the session at 1:27 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:33 p.m.

**RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION
OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS
OF THE DA AND ITS ATTACHED
AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS**

Thereafter, on successive motions of Representative Romualdo, there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration of the proposed budgets of the DA and its attached agencies and corporations; and the Chair recognized Representatives Cuaresma and Cabatbat to continue with their sponsorship and interpellation, respectively.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE CABATBAT**
(Continuation)

After Representative Cuaresma discussed certain innovations introduced by the new DA Secretary under the rice industry roadmap to revitalize the rice industry, Representative Cabatbat asked for a copy of said roadmap. The sponsor agreed therewith.

Then expressing hope that the price of rice and palay will return to normal, Representative Cabatbat asked whether the DA's innovations could really stabilize said prices and whether its budget was enough to address the needs of the farmers. He also asked about the NFA rules and regulations on rice buffer stocks and mechanical dryers; the problem of farmers who do not have the means to transport their palay to NFA buying stations; and the reliability of the Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA).

Representative Cuaresma committed to give a report on the improvement of the RSBSA and on the department's procurement of mechanical dryers.

At this point, Representative Cabatbat cited the decreasing income of farmers as a result of the low buying price of palay, the continuous conversion of rice lands, and the increasing population of the country; and contrasted this with rice importation and the lack of support for agriculture. He appealed to Congress to help increase the budget of the DA and the farmers sector.

**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION
OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS
OF THE DA AND ITS ATTACHED
AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS**

On motion of Representative Romualdo, there being no objection, the Body suspended the

consideration of the proposed budgets of the DA and its attached agencies and corporations.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED
BUDGETS OF EXECUTIVE OFFICES**

On successive motions of Representative Romualdo, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the following executive offices: Presidential Management Staff (PMS), Presidential Legislative Liaison Office (PLLO), and Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA); and the Chair recognized Rep. Isidro T. Ungab, chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor said budgets.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Rep. Manuel F. Zubiri then acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the employees and officials of said offices led by ARTA Director General Jeremiah B. Belgica, PMS Undersecretary Ferdinand B. Cui Jr., and PLLO Secretary Adelino B. Sitoy.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)**

Upon Representative Zubiri's motion, the Chair recognized Rep. France L. Castro who sought the explanation of the sponsor on the non-receipt by some Department of Education (DepEd) personnel and teachers from Cebu and Eastern Samar, of the second tranche of the PMS financial assistance for Typhoon Yolanda victims.

Thereupon, Representative Castro asked for a written report on the matter. Representative Ungab replied that he had asked the PMS to submit a written update on his colleague's concern.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO**

Next recognized by the Chair on motion of Representative Zubiri, Representative Elago asked the sponsor to give her a report on the actions taken by the ARTA on issues concerning the transportation network vehicle services (TNVS) industry. She asked questions on cases that the agency had filed in this regard against several Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) officials. She also asked about the recommendation to remove the bank conformity requirement for TNVS

applications and expressed hope for a dialogue on the other concerns of the TNVS community.

**TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD
OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE
ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS
OF THE PLLO AND THE PMS**

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Senior Deputy Minority Leader Janette L. Garin and Representative Romualdo, representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the PLLO and the PMS.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE GARIN (J.)**

Then recognized by the Chair to ask questions about the ARTA, Representative Garin asked for the agency's commitment to continue addressing the backlog of cases in the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the removal of wrongdoers especially in its legal department. After the sponsor relayed the ARTA's assurance thereon, she asked the agency to similarly investigate other government offices.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Hernandez relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Prospero A. Pichay Jr.

On motion of Representative Romualdo, the Chair then recognized Minority Leader Bienvenido M. Abante Jr. for his manifestation.

**MANIFESTATION OF
MINORITY LEADER ABANTE**

Minority Leader Abante commended President Rodrigo Roa Duterte for the creation of the ARTA as he opined that through said agency, fixers and delayed transactions could be removed and more businesses would come into the country.

**TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD
OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE
ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE ARTA**

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Representative Zubiri on the part of the Majority and Minority Leader Abante on the part of the Minority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the ARTA.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

At 2:36 p.m., the session was suspended.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 2:47 p.m. with Deputy Speaker Hernandez presiding.

**RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION
OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS
OF THE DA AND ITS ATTACHED
AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS**

On motion of Representative Romualdo, there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration of the proposed budgets of the DA and its attached agencies and corporations.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED
BUDGETARY SUPPORT TO THE NIA**

With leave of the House, on further motion of Representative Romualdo, there being no objection, the Body also considered the proposed budgetary support to the National Irrigation Administration (NIA).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Romualdo then acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the NIA officials led by Administrator Ricardo Visaya; and on his motion, the Chair recognized Representative Cuaresma to sponsor said budgets and Rep. Noel L. Villanueva for his interpellation.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE VILLANUEVA (N.)**

Representative Villanueva initially discussed with Representative Cuaresma the farming modernization innovations of the department and the accreditation of farmers' associations and cooperatives as beneficiaries thereof.

Turning to another matter, they then discussed the rationale behind the importation of rice despite its excess supply.

After Representative Cuaresma promised to submit a list of rice traders who had been issued with import permits as per Representative Villanueva's request, she also relayed the DA's commitment, subject to additional funding, to modernize rice

farming in six years in response to his colleague's appeal.

Subsequently, the two Members agreed about the exemption of farm inputs like fertilizers and pesticides from value-added tax (VAT) in order to lower the production cost of rice; and of the removal of the quota for sugar imports to the United States.

To the succeeding questions of Representative Villanueva, Representative Cuaresma affirmed that the DA had no plans about sugar tariffication; the DA will propose an amendment to increase the mandatory appropriation for sugar industry development and will provide her colleague with a copy of an action plan thereon; and the NIA will complete the Balog-Balog Multipurpose Irrigation Project in Tarlac by 2022.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE ROMUALDO

Upon recognition of the Chair, Representative Romualdo reminded the Members as well as the guests in the gallery to maintain order and silence.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE QUIMBO

On motion of Representative Romualdo, the Chair next recognized Rep. Stella Luz A. Quimbo who raised her concern about the big leap in rice importation and its effect on the plight of farmers. She asked whether the same involved a balancing act of addressing the interest of consumers and of farmers; and whether the revenues from tariffs should be properly used to address the adverse effects of rice tariffication.

Thereupon, Representative Quimbo requested a written explanation from the sponsor on the DA secretary's decision to impose a general safeguard measure instead of a special safeguard measure that could reduce rice importation. She also inquired about the effect of rice importation on rice smuggling and the rationale behind the NFA's plan to flood the local market with rice which could result in price stabilization, although the latter was not part of its new mandate.

Representative Quimbo further asked about the NFA's rice procurement plan and the cash transfers that it had already given to farmers out of the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (RCEF), to which the sponsor gave a commitment to provide pertinent data.

Furthermore, Representative Quimbo sought information on the implementation of the Kadiwa market system where farmers can directly sell agricultural products and avoid abusive traders; and on the DA's monitoring methods on the prices of rice and palay.

Ending her interpellation, Representative Quimbo said that she wanted to submit amendments to help the DA implement the Rice Tariffication Law. She asked the Members to work together to bring down the price of rice but not at the expense of the farmers who feed the nation.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative de Venecia, the Chair recognized Representative Bordado for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BORDADO

Representative Bordado first sought clarification on the plans and programs of the DA to improve Philippine aquaculture including the opening of new fishing areas; and on the action taken by the DA to address the entry of African swine flu in the hog industry. The sponsor assured him that the DA will provide the necessary data.

Thereafter, Representatives Bordado and Cuaresma discussed the report of the Commission on Audit (COA) on incomplete irrigation projects and the findings of the Philippine Institute for Development Studies on the poor performance of the NIA. They agreed that the NIA's budget had to be increased.

On motion of Representative de Venecia, the Chair next recognized Rep. Eufemia "Ka Femia" C. Cullamat for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CULLAMAT

Representative Cullamat raised her concern about the liberalization of sugar imports, stressing that it will damage the local sugar industry; displace sugar workers; and affect the livelihood of sugarcane growers largely composed of small farmers and agrarian reform beneficiaries.

She also expressed support for a bigger allocation for aquaculture to help very poor fishermen with their livelihood. The sponsor relayed the DA's affirmation of the need to support this sector.

Representative Cullamat opined that the government's "Build, Build, Build" program which includes dam projects have led to the displacement of the indigenous peoples, which for them did not only mean loss of land, home and livelihood, but also of their human rights through military operations. She asked her colleagues to prevent the destruction of farmlands and other natural resources, and to protect the rights of the cultural minorities.

On motion of Representative de Venecia, the Chair recognized Rep. Solomon R. Chungalao for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CHUNGALAO

After thanking the NIA for giving him a report on the Magat River Integrated Irrigation System (MARIIS), Representative Chungalao asked the Sponsor to confirm whether the MARIIS Reservoir Optimization Project was the same as the Magat Hydroelectric Power Plant Pump Project that was undertaken and funded by the SN Aboitiz Power Group.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 4:28 p.m., on motion of Representative de Venecia.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 4:35 p.m.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CHUNGALAO (Continuation)

Upon request of Representative Chungalao, Representative Cuaresma committed to provide a copy of the program of work and background study of the MARIIS Reservoir Optimization Project.

Representative Chungalao then related his queries to the issue of unpaid farmers in Ifugao who had not yet received any compensation from the expropriation of their farmlands for the said project.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DA AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS, INCLUDING THE NIA

On motion of Representative de Venecia, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of the proposed budgets of the DA and its attached agencies and corporations, including the proposed budgetary support to the NIA.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETARY SUPPORT TO THE DAP AND THE PHLPOST

On successive motions of Representative Niña Taduran, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgetary support to the Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP), and the Philippine Postal Corporation (PHLPost).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Taduran acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests from the DAP and the PHLPost families headed by President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Engelbert Caronan, and Postmaster General and CEO Joel Otarra, respectively.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE UNGAB

Recognized by the Chair on motion of Representative Taduran, Representative Ungab cited the proposed budgetary support to the DAP and the PHLPost; and said that he was ready to answer questions from the Members.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETARY SUPPORT TO THE DAP AND THE PHLPOST

In the absence of interpellations, on a joint motion of Representatives Belmonte and Taduran representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgetary support to the DAP and the PHLPost.

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DA AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS, INCLUDING THE NIA

On motion of Representative de Venecia, there being no objection, the Body resumed the joint consideration on the proposed budgets of the DA and its attached agencies and corporations, including the proposed budgetary support to the NIA.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, the Chair suspended the session at 4:44 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 4:49 p.m. with Deputy Speaker Evelina G. Escudero presiding.

On motion of Representative de Venecia, the Chair recognized Representative Cuaresma to continue with her sponsorship and Rep. Arlene D. Brosas for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Representative Brosas asked the sponsor of the measures that the DA had undertaken to adapt to climate change and address its impact on agriculture. She likewise requested for a copy of the latest report of the DA on climate change, to which Representative Cuaresma yielded.

The Members then discussed the automatic approval of the sanitary and phytosanitary (SPS) clearance which was required to facilitate private sector importation upon a seven-day lapse from completion of requirements. Representative Brosas then asked how many SPS clearance were released, to which the Sponsor committed to provide the list of traders with SPS clearance.

On another matter, Representative Brosas asked for the list of the country's top ten rice importers and the top sources of rice imports, as well as the agency responsible for the accounting and monitoring of the market selling prices of imported rice.

Representative Brosas expressed concern on the effects of the Rice Tariffication Law especially since the market price of rice had remained high despite the drop in farmgate prices of palay which had badly affected local farmers. Consequently, the Members deliberated on the DA's intervention programs for farmers such as the Agricultural Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (ACEF), the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (RCEF), and the Survival and Recovery Assistance Program for Rice Farmers (SURE Aid).

In closing, Representative Brosas called on her colleagues to support the immediate passage of a joint resolution seeking for a ₱15 billion supplemental budget for the NFA.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DA AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS, INCLUDING THE NIA

Thereafter, on motion of Representative de Venecia, the Body suspended the consideration of the proposed

budgets of the DA and its attached agencies and corporations, including the proposed budgetary support to the NIA.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative de Venecia acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Rep. Jose Enrique "Joet" S. Garcia III.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative de Venecia, the Chair suspended the session at 5:24 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:27 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE CHR AND THE HRVVMC

On motion of Rep. Anthony Peter "Onyx" D. Crisologo, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the consideration of the proposed budgets of the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) and the Human Rights Violations Victims' Memorial Commission (HRVVMC).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Crisologo then acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the CHR and HRVVMC officials headed by Chairperson Jose Luis Martin C. Gascon and Executive Director Carmelo Victor Crisanto, respectively; and on the former's motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Michael John R. Duavit, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor said budget.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Recognized by the Chair upon motion of Representative Crisologo, Representative Brosas commented on the big cut in the CHR budget when the government should prioritize the protection of human rights. She said that at the proper time, she would propose an amendment to augment the budget of the CHR particularly for its financial assistance to human rights victims and their families and for its maintenance and other operating expenses (MOOE), among others. Representative Duavit agreed thereto.

On motion of Representative Crisologo, the Chair next recognized Representative Elago for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Representatives Elago and Duavit discussed the number of cases related to human rights violations that were filed before the CHR, those that were resolved, as well as those currently under investigation. She thereafter requested for a detailed report on these cases and called on her colleagues to support the increase in the CHR's budget and to strengthen its congressional oversight considering the numerous House resolutions on human rights that were filed in the 18th Congress.

Representative Elago thanked the Commission for its quick and reliable response to threats, harassment and intimidation against the youth and the students.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE CHR AND THE HRVVMC

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Representative Zarate on the part of the Minority and Representative Crisologo on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the CHR and the HRVVMC.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Crisologo acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Speaker Alan Peter "Compañero" S. Cayetano.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

At 5:42 p.m., the Chair suspended the session upon motion of Representative Crisologo.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:44 p.m., the session resumed.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUEST

Thereupon, Representative Macapagal Arroyo acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of former Speaker Feliciano "Sonny" Belmonte Jr.

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DA AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS, INCLUDING THE NIA

Thereafter, on motion of Representative de Venecia, there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration of the proposed budgets of the DA

and its attached agencies and corporations, including the proposed budgetary support to the NIA.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Upon Representative de Venecia's motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. who initially expressed his concern on the fishermen's deteriorating economic condition despite the abundance of the country's marine resources. He asked if the new DA secretary would accept the challenge and help the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) improve the fisheries sector and the conditions of the fisherfolks.

Although the department was underbudgeted, Representative Atienza emphasized the importance of the DA's commitment in helping the fisherfolks, especially with today's much bigger problems in the fishing sector. Thereafter, he cited the case of Laguna de Bay which he said was benefitting the private sector more than the fisherfolks in nearby provinces.

Representative Atienza asked the department to look into the problems besetting the fisheries sector and inquired on the programs of the department meant to improve the condition of the country's bodies of water. In response, Representative Cuaresma said Secretary Dar would attend to the problems discussed by Representative Atienza.

On further motion of Representative de Venecia, the Chair recognized Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Representative Zarate emphasized the need to prioritize the agriculture sector in order to ensure a strong economy and the food security of the country. The Members then discussed the 2019 and 2020 budgets of the DA.

Thereafter, Representatives Zarate and Cuaresma looked into the threats to local producers and farmers brought about by the liberalization of agricultural imports, with the former inquiring as to how the DA had been addressing the said problem.

Noting the meager allocation for the DA and its attached agencies, Representative Zarate questioned the government's prioritization of the agriculture sector especially with the current problem on the liberalization of agricultural imports.

In closing, Representative Zarate asked Congress to look into the implementation of the Rice Tariffication Law which he said was slowly killing the agricultural sector.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative de Venecia, the Chair recognized Rep. Ferdinand R. Gaité for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

Representative Gaité sought clarification on the status of the security of tenure of the workforce of the NFA in light of the proposal to reorganize and rationalize the said agency due to the impact of the liberalization of imported rice.

He also discussed with Representative Cuaresma the implication of rice cartels on the prices of rice. Lastly, he mentioned a proposed resolution allocating a bigger budget for the NFA for the procurement of more rice and palay for the benefit of farmers and consumers.

On motion of Representative de Venecia, the Chair next recognized Representative Elago for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Representative Elago focused her interpellation on the coconut industry, the dwindling price of copra in the market, and the current condition of coconut farmers and plantation workers. She asked the sponsor about the measures undertaken by the DA to address these concerns. The Members then looked into the reasons why traders were no longer interested to invest in the coconut industry and export coconut oil, considering this was one of the top dollar earners that brought millions of revenues to the Philippine economy.

After Representative Elago got an assurance that the data she requested would be submitted to her, she reiterated that the DA should exhaust all means to help the coconut industry and its workers, such as price regulation and allocation of funds for research.

Thereafter, she conveyed her support to the initiative to shift to the use of renewable energy sources.

Subsequently, on motion of Representative de Venecia, the Chair recognized Minority Leader Abante for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

Minority Leader Abante initially thanked the NIA for replying to his query pertaining to the 2018 COA report on the 299 uncompleted irrigation projects and for submitting the list of all their accredited contractors he had previously requested.

Subsequently, the Minority Leader and Representative Cuaresma delved into the status of notices of suspension and disallowances issued by the COA in 2017 and 2018 and the status of the said uncompleted irrigation projects.

Minority Leader Abante stated that poor documentation and record-keeping had been consistently raised in past COA audit reports. He cited COA findings on contracts involving construction companies which were terminated without corresponding sanctions.

While he had raised irregularities in the activities of the NIA, Minority Leader Abante explained that it is the duty of Congress to scrutinize the budget which comes from the people. In this regard, he said that the NIA could then be abolished if it could not perform its mandate well.

Lastly, Minority Leader Abante and the sponsor talked about the irrigable lands that the NIA had budgeted in the previous year, and the status of implementation of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 10969 or the Free Irrigation Service Act.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DA AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS, INCLUDING THE NIA

Thereafter, on joint motion of Minority Leader Abante and Representative de Venecia representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DA and its attached agencies and corporations, including the proposed budgetary support to the NIA.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative de Venecia, the session was suspended at 7:16 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 7:21 p.m., with Deputy Speaker Conrado M. Estrella III presiding.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF DDB AND THE PDEA

On motion of Rep. Claudine Diana D. Bautista, there being no objection, the Body jointly considered the proposed budgets of the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) and the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Bautista acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of guests from the DDB family headed by Secretary Catalino S. Cuy, and the PDEA family headed by Director General Aaron N. Aquino.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE BIAZON

On motion of Representative Bautista, the Chair recognized Rep. Rozzano Rufino B. Biazon, vice chairperson of the sponsoring committee, who presented the proposed budgets of the DDB and the PDEA by citing a decrease in the former and an increase in the latter. He then stated that he was ready to answer questions from his colleagues.

The Chair then recognized Representative Castro (F.L.) to interpellate the sponsor.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Representative Castro commented on the minuscule budget of the PDEA and said there could be less casualties in the government's antidrug war if a higher budget is granted to the agency. She proceeded to discuss with Representative Biazon on the role of the PDEA as a frontline agency, as well as the mandate of the DDB in crafting strategies to fight illegal drugs.

Considering the said functions, Representative Castro questioned the role of the Philippine National Police (PNP), which she noted seemed to have been leading the antidrug campaign.

The Members then talked about the procedural handling of filed drug-related cases, and thereafter,

Representative Castro posed questions regarding the reported recycling of seized illegal drugs, the proper inventory and custody of confiscated drugs, whether there had been filed cases against the PDEA personnel regarding recycled illegal drugs, and the removal of the PDEA and the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency (NICA) from the Bureau of Corrections (BuCor) operations during the leadership of then PNP chief, now Senator Ronald "Bato" Dela Rosa.

The Sponsor committed to request from the PNP relevant data as requested by Representative Castro.

At this point, Deputy Speaker Estrella relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Deogracias Victor "DV" B. Savellano.

Finally, Representative Castro expressed hope that the PDEA and the DDB would assert their functions as the mandated agencies for resolving the illegal drug problem.

On motion of Representative Bautista, the Chair recognized Representative Elago to next interpellate the Sponsor.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Representative Elago sought the comment of the PDEA and the DDB on the recent release of convicted drug lords in the advent of the good conduct time allowance (GCTA) controversy. She inquired into the accomplishments of the antidrug war and the PDEA's official death toll, especially among the youth, due to the relentless war on drugs of the Duterte administration.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Savellano relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Estrella.

On Representative Elago's other concerns, especially on collateral casualties and mistaken identities involving youth victims, Representative Biazon explained that, as far as the PDEA was concerned, it had been performing the task that is expected of them, and its watch list is subject to validation. Meanwhile, he said that the DDB has a policy that is geared towards protecting children; and complies with what the Dangerous Drug Law says with regard to the conduct of random drug testing in schools.

Representative Biazon assured Representative Elago that the PDEA had conducted itself properly

since the start of the antidrug campaign and that it would commit not to tarnish the credibility of the agency.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DDB AND THE PDEA

There being no further interpellations, on joint motion of Rep. Ma. Victoria V. Umali on the part of the Minority and Representative Macapagal Arroyo on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DDB and the PDEA.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

After advising the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) officials that they would be scheduled next for budget defense, on motion of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, the Chair suspended the session at 8:20 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 8:24 p.m., the session resumed.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DSWD AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

On motion of Rep. Cristal L. Bagatsing, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the consideration of the proposed budgets of the DSWD and its attached agencies.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Bagatsing acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the DSWD family headed by Secretary Rolando Joselito Bautista, and all the heads of the attached agencies; and on her motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to defend the proposed budgets.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE LIMKAICHONG

Representative Limkaichong said that the total proposed budgets of the DSWD and its seven attached

agencies amounted to ₱158.6 billion, and said that her fellow vice chairpersons from the Committee on Appropriations, Reps. Junie E. Cua and Peter John D. Calderon, would be defending the proposed budgets of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples and the rest of the attached agencies, respectively.

On motion of Rep. Precious Hipolito Castelo, the Body recognized Representative Castro (F.L.) for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Adverting to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the DSWD and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) on August 28, 2019, Representative Castro questioned the capacity and involvement of the AFP in implementing the DSWD's assistance programs.

The sponsor denied the direct intervention of the AFP and explained that the MOU between the DSWD and the AFP was designed to improve and synchronize government's efforts especially in areas stricken by calamity and armed conflict. Representative Castro, on the other hand, expressed her concern about keeping the integrity of the DSWD as a civilian agency with the AFP's involvement in the implementation of DSWD programs.

Further on the MOU between the DSWD and the AFP, Representatives Castro and Limkaichong tackled the possible leakage of private information by sharing the list of DSWD beneficiaries with the AFP, and the assurance that the military would not influence the DSWD's verification of qualified program beneficiaries.

At this point Representative Castro then asked why there was a large budget increase for the Office of the DSWD Secretary, to which the sponsor explained that this was due to the programs lodged under the said office, which includes the institutionalization of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps).

Representative Castro also inquired if there was any evaluation done on the department's poverty alleviation programs, requested that a report on such be submitted to her, and subsequently,

discussed with Representative Limkaichong the alleged anomalies reported by the COA on the implementation of the 4Ps.

At this point, Representative Castro pointed out that the allocation for the 4Ps program was very huge as compared to those of other DSWD programs that were sustainable and were not in the nature of dole-outs. She then expressed hope that the agency will be true to its mandate of poverty alleviation.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Castelo, the Chair recognized Representative Chungalao for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CHUNGALAO

Representative Chungalao inquired on the requirements of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) for claims on ancestral domain.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 9:03 p.m. upon motion of Representative Limkaichong.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 9:04 p.m.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Castelo, the Chair recognized Rep. Junie E. Cua, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations and to whom Representative Limkaichong yielded the floor, to sponsor the NCIP budget.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CHUNGALAO (Continuation)

Representative Cua then explained the requirements on the claims of ancestral domain and assured Representative Chungalao that the Committee would furnish him with documents thereon, including the definition of the term “ancestral domain.”

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Bagatsing, the Chair recognized Representative Garin (J.) for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GARIN (J.)

As she stated that the DSWD was one of the most abused government agencies, Representative Garin discussed with Representative Limkaichong the former’s concern about DSWD officials who had been wrongfully blamed for ghost projects and anomalous transactions. She stressed the need for financial and legal assistance for those facing criminal and administrative charges and asked the Members for donations therefor.

Subsequently, Representative Garin and Rep. Peter John D. Calderon, to whom Representative Limkaichong yielded the sponsorship of the proposed DSWD budget, then delved into the mandate and source of funds of the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC). The former asked the DSWD secretary to call the attention of the CWC executive director for lobbying in Congress for budget augmentation to the prejudice of other DSWD programs; suggested that such matters be settled in the Department of Budget and Management; and pointed out that audit findings showed that the CWC had misused its funds in the past.

Whereupon, Representatives Garin and Calderon discussed the construction of rehabilitation centers and the former asked for more funds for their completion.

On motion of Representative Bagatsing, the Chair next recognized Representative Cullamat for her manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CULLAMAT

Representative Cullamat asked what the NCIP was doing to protect and promote the rights of the indigenous peoples or IPs, including their rights to ancestral domain and self-determination. She cited the harassment, extrajudicial killings, closure of Lumad schools, human rights violations, and other activities that favored giant businesses instead of the IPs. She likewise stated that the IPs had suffered in the hands of the police and the military.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DSWD AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

At this point, the Body suspended the consideration of the proposed budgets of the DSWD and its attached agencies.

CHANGE OF REFERRAL OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4553

On motion of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, there being no objection, the Body changed the referral of House Bill No. 4553 from the Committee on Revision of Laws to the Committee on Justice.

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DSWD AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

On successive motions of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, there being no objection, the Body then resumed the consideration of the proposed budgets of the DSWD and its attached agencies; and the Chair recognized Reps. Limkaichong and Brosas for sponsorship and interpellation, respectively.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

After getting Representative Limkaichong's assurance that the Code 25 labelling scheme under the 4Ps had already been recalled, Representative Brosas sought clarification from the sponsor on the possible use of unconditional cash transfers for rice subsidy.

Thereupon, Representative Brosas asked for data on projects under the PAYapa at MAsaganang Pamayanan (PAMANA) fund and copies of loan contracts which she had requested earlier. The sponsor committed to give the same.

On motion of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, the Chair next recognized Minority Leader Abante for a manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

Minority Leader Abante manifested his support for the inclusion in the proposed DSWD budget of

the allocations for the Peace and Development Fund and the DSWD/LGU-led Livelihood Fund. He said that these funds are necessary to achieve lasting peace in the country.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session at 9:49 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 9:52 p.m.

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, the Chair recognized Representative Gaite for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

Representative Gaite sought the commitment of the DSWD on the grant of permanent positions to its numerous contractual employees. After the sponsor assured him that the DSWD will continue to request additional plantilla positions, he expressed hope that the agency will take concrete steps for the security of tenure of its workers.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DSWD AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Minority Leader Abante and Representative Macapagal Arroyo representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DSWD and its attached agencies.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Whereupon, on motion of Representative Macapagal Arroyo, there being no objection, the session was suspended until one o'clock in the afternoon of Thursday, September 19, 2019.

It was 9:59 p.m. of Wednesday, September 18, 2019.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:00 p.m. of Thursday, September 19, 2019 with Deputy Speaker Prospero A. Pichay Jr. presiding.

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

On motion of Rep. Lianda B. Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228 as reported out by the Committee on Appropriations, entitled:

“AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Rep. Alfred C. Delos Santos, the Chair suspended the session at 1:01 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:01 p.m.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read on First Reading the titles of the following Bills and Resolutions, including the Message from the President and Committee Report, which were referred to the appropriate committees indicated hereunder:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 4628, entitled:

“AN ACT RATIONALIZING THE GRANT OF GOOD CONDUCT ALLOWANCES,

AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 29, 97 AND 99 OF ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE”

By Representative Veloso
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4629, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING INCLUSIVE EDUCATION THROUGH INNOVATION AND RESPONSIVE 21ST CENTURY EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR ALL FILIPINO LEARNERS”

By Representatives Dimaporo (Abdullah) and Dimaporo (Khalid)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4630, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY CASIKLAN IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LAS NIEVES, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL NORTE”

By Representatives Fortun and Amante-Matba
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4631, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING AN EXTENSION OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN VIGAN CITY, ILOCOS SUR AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Savellano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 4632, entitled:

“FALLEN HEROES SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE YOUTH ACT 'THE CARING ACT OF 2019' ”

By Representative Cari
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4633, entitled:

“AN ACT MAKING THE HANGING OF RELIGIOUS MEMENTOS, SUCH AS CRUCIFIXES, IN HOSPITAL SUITES OPTIONAL”

By Representative Marcoleta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4634, entitled:

“AN ACT CRIMINALIZING NEGLIGENCE OF CONTRACTORS AND SUBCONTRACTORS OF GOVERNMENT PROJECTS WHOSE QUALITY OF WORK IS BELOW PRESCRIBED STANDARDS”

By Representative Marcoleta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4635, entitled:

“AN ACT BRIDGING THE GAP IN CIVIL SERVICE DURING TRANSITIONS FROM ONE CONGRESS TO ANOTHER”

By Representative Marcoleta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 4636, entitled:

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

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

House Bill No. 4637, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PANQUI TARLAC ECO-FARM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Marcoleta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4638, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING FIRE SAFETY AWARENESS AMONG ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Marcoleta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4639, entitled:

“AN ACT CALIBRATING ASYLUMS AND PSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTIONS IN THE COUNTRY IN SUCH MANNER AS TO

SIMULATE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Marcoleta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4640, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING COMPENSATION TO VICTIMS OF COLLATERAL DAMAGE DURING LAW ENFORCEMENT AND MILITARY OPERATIONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Marcoleta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY AND THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 4641, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PANQUI TARLAC TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING CENTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Marcoleta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4642, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING FREE NATIONAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (NBI) CLEARANCE AND HEALTH INSURANCE TO SUCCESSFUL JOB APPLICANTS IN COMPANIES REQUIRING THE SAME AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Marcoleta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 4643, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONDUCT OF HYBRID NATIONAL, LOCAL AND ARMM ELECTIONS, THROUGH MANUAL VOTING AND COUNTING AT THE PRECINCT LEVEL, AND AUTOMATED TRANSMISSION AND CANVASSING, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Sarmiento
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

House Bill No. 4644, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE USE, MANUFACTURE, IMPORTATION AND

DISPOSAL OF SINGLE-USE PLASTICS,
AND PROVIDING PENALTIES,
INCENTIVES AND LEVIES THEREFOR”

By Representatives Fariñas (Ria) and Fariñas
(Rudys Caesar)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 4645, entitled:

“AN ACT TRANSFERRING TO THE
BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT
AND PENOLOGY THE AUTHORITY
TO EXERCISE SUPERVISION AND
CONTROL OVER PROVINCIAL
JAILS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4646, entitled:

“AN ACT EXPANDING THE MANDATE
OF COTABATO SANITARIUM IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF SULTAN KUDARAT,
1ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT,
PROVINCE OF MAGUINDANAO IN
THE BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS
REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO AND
INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY TO
AT LEAST TWO HUNDRED FIFTY
(250) AND TO BE KNOWN AS THE
SULTAN KUDARAT MEMORIAL
MEDICAL CENTER (SKMMC) AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE”

By Representative Sinsuat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4647, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION
ON THE BASIS OF ETHNICITY,
RACE, RELIGION OR BELIEF,
SEX, LANGUAGE, DISABILITY,
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND
OTHER FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION
AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE
PURPOSE”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

House Bill No. 4648, entitled:

“AN ACT INCORPORATING THE VALUE
OF RESPONSIBLE, FAIR AND
TRUTHFUL USAGE AND ENJOYMENT
OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN SCHOOLS AND
UNIVERSITIES, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND
CULTURE AND THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER
AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4649, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING A FRAMEWORK FOR
THE RIGHT TO ADEQUATE FOOD”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

House Bill No. 4650, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A UNIVERSAL
SOCIAL PENSION FOR SENIOR
CITIZENS, FURTHER AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE R.A. NO 7432,
AS AMENDED BY R.A. NO. 9994,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
'EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS ACT
OF 2010' ”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS

House Bill No. 4651, entitled:

“AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH)
TO SET AND APPROVE THE BED
CAPACITY OF ALL DOH HOSPITALS”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4652, entitled:

“AN ACT ALLOWING AND REGULATING
THE USE OF MOTORCYCLES
AS PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLES,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4136, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE 'LAND
TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC
CODE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES' ”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4653, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA
CARTA FOR TRICYCLE DRIVERS AND
OPERATORS, INSTITUTIONALIZING
MECHANISMS FOR ITS
IMPLEMENTATION AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4654, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER, IRRIGATION, SEWAGE AND SANITATION RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4655, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A DETENTION PROGRAM AND FACILITY FOR HIGH-LEVEL DRUG OFFENDERS WITHIN THE NATIONAL PENITENTIARY SYSTEM UNDER THE BUREAU OF CORRECTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4656, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 4657, entitled:

“AN ACT UPGRADING THE MINIMUM SALARY GRADE LEVEL OF TEACHERS FROM SALARY GRADE 11 TO 19”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 4658, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF MULTIPURPOSE GYM IN ALL MUNICIPALITIES AND CITIES TO SERVE AS EVACUATION CENTER DURING TIMES OF CALAMITY OR DISASTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT

House Bill No. 4659, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIPS IN STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES TO

QUALIFIED STUDENTS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4660, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF CLAIMS THAT MAY BE APPROVED AND GRANTED BY THE BOARD OF CLAIMS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7309, AN ACT CREATING THE BOARD OF CLAIMS UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF UNJUST IMPRISONMENT OR DETENTION AND VICTIMS OF VIOLENT CRIMES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Campos
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4661, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING A NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT DAY”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 4662, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MANDATORY INSTALLATION OF DASHBOARD CAMERAS OR ‘DASHCAM’ SYSTEMS IN VEHICLES OPERATED FOR PUBLIC UTILITY”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4663, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF MIGRATION AND OVERSEAS FILIPINOS, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, RATIONALIZING THE ORGANIZATION AND FUNCTIONS OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES RELATED TO MIGRATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Espino
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 4665, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING ALL UTILITY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES TO COMPLY WITH THE REGULATIONS

ON THE USE OF UTILITY POLES AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Crisologo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 4666, entitled:

“AN ACT ENSURING THE AVAILABILITY,
ADEQUACY, ACCESSIBILITY AND
SAFETY OF FOOD TO EVERY FILIPINO”

By Representative Dy (Faustino Inno)
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD SECURITY

House Bill No. 4667, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTING INCLUSIVE
EDUCATION AND THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF INCLUSIVE
EDUCATION LEARNING RESOURCE
CENTERS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH
WITH SPECIAL NEEDS IN ALL PUBLIC
SCHOOLS DIVISIONS, PROVIDING FOR
STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Dy (Faustino Inno)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND
CULTURE

House Bill No. 4668, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING DISCOUNTS ON
BASIC AND EDUCATION SERVICES
TO UNDERPRIVILEGED STUDENTS
IN ALL LEVELS, INCLUDING
THOSE ENROLLED IN TECHNICAL-
VOCATIONAL (TECH-VOC)
INSTITUTIONS”

By Representative Dy (Faustino Inno)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND
CULTURE AND THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER
AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4669, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE MONTHLY
SOCIAL PENSION OF SENIOR CITIZENS
AND EXPANDING THE COVERAGE
THEREOF”

By Representative Dy (Faustino Inno)
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS

House Bill No. 4670, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE
PROTECTION AND SAFETY OF
PEDESTRIANS, FURTHER AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 4136, AS AMENDED,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LAND

TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC
CODE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Garcia (Jose Enrique)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4671, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING FEBRUARY
1 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL
NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE
PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE
REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9090 ENTITLED 'AN
ACT DECLARING FEBRUARY FIRST
OF EVERY YEAR AS “JOSE MARIA C.
PANGANIBAN DAY” AND A SPECIAL
WORKING PUBLIC HOLIDAY IN THE
PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE' ”

By Representative Tallado
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4672, entitled:

“AN ACT LIMITING THE OWNERSHIP AND
OPERATION OF THE NATIONAL GRID
CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES
(NGCP) EXCLUSIVELY TO FILIPINOS”

By Representative Suarez (Aleta)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Bill No. 4673, entitled:

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

By Representative Nieto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

House Bill No. 4674, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE OFFICE
OF COMMUTER AFFAIRS IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,
DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS AND
RESPONSIBILITIES, AND PROVIDING
FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Nieto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4675, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 24 OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8491, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE FLAG AND HERALDIC
CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Nieto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND
CULTURE

House Bill No. 4676, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM, REVISING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10410, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘EARLY YEARS ACT OF 2013’, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Nieto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

House Bill No. 4677, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE IMPOSITION OF INTEREST AND/OR PENALTY CHARGES ON UNPAID HOSPITAL BILLS AND MEDICAL EXPENSES OF PATIENTS WHO EARN AN INCOME OF THE MINIMUM WAGE OR LESS”

By Representative Nieto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4678, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A BILL OF RIGHTS OF AIR PASSENGERS”

By Representative Mariño
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4679, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE RIGHTS OF PASSENGERS AND OBLIGATIONS OF DOMESTIC SHIPOWNERS/OPERATORS IN CASE OF CANCELLED, DELAYED AND UNFINISHED/UNCOMPLETED VOYAGES”

By Representative Mariño
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 4680, entitled:

“AN ACT DIRECTING THE ELECTRONIC RECORDING OF CUSTODIAL INTERROGATIONS TO PROTECT THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF THE ACCUSED DURING CUSTODIAL INVESTIGATIONS”

By Representative Mariño
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4681, entitled:

“AN ACT MAKING A SEPARATE COURSE ON ETHICS COMPULSORY AT ALL LEVELS OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION, AND IN EVERY DEGREE COURSE IN ALL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES”

By Representative Mariño

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

House Bill No. 4682, entitled:

“AN ACT POSTPONING THE MAY 2020 BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN ELECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9164, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9340, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10632, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10656, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10923, AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10952, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Romualdez (Yedda) and Romualdez (Ferdinand)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

House Bill No. 4683, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SEPARATE FACILITY FOR PRISONERS CONVICTED OF HEINOUS CRIMES”

By Representative Romualdez (Ferdinand)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4684, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING UNLAWFUL, ACTS AND CONDUCT OF DISCRIMINATION BASED ON SEX, GENDER IDENTITY, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, RACE, COLOR, DESCENT, NATIONAL OR ETHNIC ORIGIN, RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION OR BELIEFS, AND HEALTH STATUS AND PENALIZING THE SAME”

By Representative Romualdez (Ferdinand)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 340, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SUPPORT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FILIPINO YOUTHS’ PARTICIPATION IN THE INTERGENERATIONAL CLIMATE STRIKE ON 20-24 SEPTEMBER 2019 AND ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION, THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND CIVIL SOCIETY TO PARTICIPATE AS WELL

AS TO ACTIVELY ENGAGE IN FURTHER ACTIVITIES THAT WILL RAISE AWARENESS AND EMBOLDEN ACTION TOWARDS CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND CARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT”

By Representative Chatto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 341, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION TO REVOLUTIONIZE CIVIL SERVICE IN THE PHILIPPINES BY DEVISING A MEANINGFUL REWARD SYSTEM TO PROMOTE EFFICIENCY, INTEGRITY, RESPONSIVENESS, AND COURTESY AMONG CIVIL SERVANTS AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFICIENT DETERRENT TO CURB THE BANE HOUNDING THE CIVIL SERVICE, WHICH COMMONLY, TAKES THE FORM OF GRAFT AND CORRUPTION”

By Representative Marcoleta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Resolution No. 342, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF CHARACTER-BASED VIDEO GAMES ON CHILDREN AND PRESCRIBE COUNTERMEASURES TO CURB, IF NOT DISCOURAGE YOUNGSTERS FROM ENGAGING IN SUCH CHARACTER-BASED VIDEO GAMES”

By Representative Marcoleta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 343, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH) TO CONDUCT AN AGGRESSIVE AND MASSIVE INFORMATION DRIVE ON THE ILL EFFECTS OF HIGH-FRUCTOSE CORN SYRUP (HFCS) ON HEALTH IN ORDER TO KEEP IN CHECK INCIDENTS OF METABOLIC SYNDROME THAT RENDERS PEOPLE PRONE TO HEART DISEASES, STROKE, DIABETES, OBESITY, HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE,

HIGH BLOOD TRIGLYCERIDES, LOW LEVELS OF HDL CHOLESTEROL, AND INSULIN RESISTANCE”

By Representative Marcoleta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Resolution No. 344, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON METRO MANILA DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, ECOLOGY, POPULATION AND FAMILY RELATIONS, AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO FORMULATE AN INTEGRATED MASTER PLAN FOR A FLOOD CONTROL PROGRAM IN METRO MANILA”

By Representative Marcoleta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 345, entitled:

“RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING YOUNG FILIPINO INVENTORS TO CONTINUE BRINGING INTO BEING INNOVATIVE PRODUCTS AND IDEAS IN ORDER TO HELP BOOST THE NATIONAL ECONOMY BY PROVIDING THEM WITH MEANINGFUL AND REWARDING INCENTIVES INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ACADEMIC CITATIONS, FINANCIAL AID, SCHOLARSHIPS AND GUARANTEED GOVERNMENT POSTS”

By Representative Marcoleta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 346, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CALLING ON MULTI-SECTORAL COUNTER MEASURES TO EFFICIENTLY CURB THE RISE OF DENGUE CASES IN THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Marcoleta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Joint Resolution No. 17, entitled:

“JOINT RESOLUTION IMMEDIATELY CONSTRUCTING ADDITIONAL DETENTION FACILITIES IN AREAS TO BE DESIGNATED BY THE GOVERNMENT IN ORDER TO ADDRESS THE CURRENT ABJECT OVERCROWDING IN THE PHILIPPINE JAIL SYSTEM”

By Representative Marcoleta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

SEP 17 2019

SPEAKER ALAN PETER S. CAYETANO

Speaker of the House
House of Representatives
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

Mr. Speaker:

Pursuant to the provisions of Article VI, Section 26 (2) of the 1987 Constitution, I hereby certify to the necessity of the immediate enactment of **House Bill No. 4228**, entitled:

"AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,"

in order to address the need to maintain continuous government operations following the end of the current fiscal year (FY), to expedite the funding of various programs, projects, and activities for FY 2020, and to ensure budgetary preparedness that will enable the government to effectively perform its Constitutional mandate.

Best regards.

Very truly yours,



Copy furnished:

Sen. Vicente C. Sotto III
Senate President
The Philippine Senate
Pasay City

Sec. Adelino B. Sitoy
Head
Presidential Legislative Liaison Office
2/F New Executive Bldg.
Malacañang, Manila



TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education (Committee Report No. 22), re H.B. No. 4696, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE INTEGRATION OF THE NATIONAL BUILDING CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6541 ENTITLED 'AN ACT TO ORDAIN AND INSTITUTE A NATIONAL BUILDING CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES' AS A MAJOR SUBJECT IN THE CURRICULUM OF THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAMS IN CIVIL ENGINEERING, MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, SANITARY ENGINEERING, ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING, AND ARCHITECTURE, AND ITS INCLUSION AS A TOPIC IN THE LICENSURE EXAMINATIONS FOR THESE PROFESSIONS”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 823

Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark) and Gonzales (Aurelio)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOE AND ITS ATTACHED CORPORATIONS

On successive motions of Representative Delos Santos, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the consideration of the proposed budgets of the Department of Energy (DOE) and its attached corporations.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Delos Santos acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the DOE family headed by Secretary Alfonso Cusi; and on his motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Manuel Jose “Mannix” M. Dalipe, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, for his sponsorship remarks.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE DALIPE

Representative Dalipe presented the ₱2.3 billion budget of the DOE which he said he had the honor to sponsor, including its attached agencies, as follows:

National Electrification Administration (NEA), National Power Corporation (Napocor), Philippine National Oil Company (PNOC), PNOC Exploration Corporation, PNOC Renewables Corporation, Power Sectors Assets and Liabilities Management (PSALM) Corporation, and National Transmission Commission (TransCo).

On motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair then recognized Rep. Sergio C. Dagooc for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DAGOOC

Representative Dagooc initially stressed the importance of electricity as much as other basic human needs. He then cited pertinent provisions of the 1987 Constitution and the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (EPIRA) as well as the mandate of the NEA and policy of the DOE on the acceleration and financing of electrification especially rural electrification.

Whereupon, Representative Dalipe cited and affirmed the House Speaker’s recent pronouncement of support for a bigger budget for rural electrification.

On motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair next recognized Rep. Wilton “Tonton” T. Kho for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE KHO (W.)

Representative Kho’s main concern was to give priority to the electrification of barangays rather than sitios because there were more households in the former. He thus proposed to increase the budget of the NEA to enable it to achieve the total electrification of the country. Representative Dalipe took note of said concerns.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair recognized Rep. Godofredo N. Guya for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GUYA

Representative Guya cited the partnership between the NEA and electric cooperatives, with the former being reliable lenders and with the latter being good creditors as regards loans for capital

expenditures and maintenance expenses. He then requested the retention of the NEA's authority to get new funding sources so that it can continue to provide such loans, and the sponsor agreed therewith.

On another concern, Representative Guya then called on the TransCo to look into the possibility of a sudden shutdown of the entire transmission system in the country, pointing out that the same was currently manned by Chinese engineers and their local counterparts still needed to be trained.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE EBCAS

On motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair recognized Rep. Adriano A. Ebcas who initially asked for a review of the Qualified Third Party (QTP) program because only a few areas waived by electric cooperatives were taken by QTP investors. He then discussed with the sponsor the role and achievements of the PSALM Corporation and commended it for assisting electric cooperatives. He also called on the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) and the electric cooperatives to consider the best interest of electricity consumers; and his colleagues, to provide the needs of the energy sector so it can continue to energize all households in the country.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BORDADO

On motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair next recognized Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr. who delved into the utilization of the DOE budget by major program.

Representatives Bordado and Dalipe then discussed the reason behind the unobligated funds for the DOE Renewable Energy Development Program, which was the shift from the household electrification program to the total electrification program.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session at 2:26 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 2:27 p.m.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BORDADO (Continuation)

Upon resumption of session, Representatives Bordado and Dalipe analyzed why the delivery of electric vehicles under the department's e-Trikes Project had been delayed.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DE JESUS

On subsequent motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair next recognized Rep. Presley C. De Jesus who exchanged views with Representative Dalipe regarding the DOE programs which aimed to ensure an available and reliable supply of power in the country; the Luzon power plants commissioned under the incumbent secretary; and the power service contracts that had been awarded to private entities which were not yet implemented.

Representative De Jesus urged the Chamber to come up with clearer policies on power supply and to consider giving electric cooperatives the right of first refusal to develop potential energy resources as well as to challenge existing service contracts. For his part, the sponsor committed to provide data on the aforementioned power plants and service contracts.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Delos Santos acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of guests of Majority Leader Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez and Reps. Yedda Marie K. Romualdez, and Gerardo "Gerryboy" J. Espina Jr.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair recognized Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Representative Zarate sought clarification on the removal of an independent third party in the bidding process for power supply agreements, whereas there were no complaints about the original selective competition process. He raised his concern that distribution utilities could thus control and dictate the bidding process and the terms of reference of said agreements, citing an example the bidding for the

Greenfield Project of the Manila Electric Company (Meralco).

The sponsor assured his colleague that the DOE will review the issue and submit a report thereon.

Thereafter, Representatives Zarate and Dalipe discussed the unbundling of fuel prices by oil companies in terms of the total volume of diesel sold, transportation cost, and advertisement cost; and predatory pricing. The sponsor agreed to provide Representative Zarate with more information thereon; and to the latter's request for the promulgation of a DOE circular on said unbundling, he said that the same had already been issued but was currently subject to a case.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Pichay relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Roberto V. Puno.

Representative Zarate subsequently asked about the identity of the so-called "white stations" allegedly involved in the smuggling of fuel.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Delos Santos acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Reps. Alfel M. Bascug and Eddiebong G. Plaza.

On further motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair next recognized Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE RODRIGUEZ

To Representative Rodriguez' questions about the possible China-Philippines joint oil exploration project in the West Philippine Sea and his reference to the Permanent Court of Arbitration's ruling in 2016 about the Philippines' rights therein, Representative Dalipe relayed the DOE's assurance that the law and the Constitution will be followed.

At this point, Representative Rodriguez asked questions about joint oil ventures with China; and Representative Dalipe relayed the DOE's commitment to present any contract thereon to Congress. He also asked about the DOE's programs in relation to the Philippines' commitment to the UN

Framework Convention on Climate Change; and on the agency's policy regarding coal plants.

Thereupon, Representative Rodriguez appealed to the Body to approve and at the same time increase the budget of the DOE.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair suspended the session at 3:50 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 3:51 p.m.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DAGOOC

Next recognized by the Chair upon motion of Representative Delos Santos, Representative Dagooc requested data on the PSALM Corporation's expenses since the commencement of its operations; the proceeds from the privatization of the Napocor assets; the liabilities of the Napocor; the subsidy for the construction of a new transmission line and upgrading of a substation; and the collections from universal charges and remittances of the same by electric cooperatives.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOE AND ITS ATTACHED CORPORATIONS

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Representatives Dagooc and Delos Santos representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DOE and its attached corporations.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session at 3:53 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 3:54 p.m. with Deputy Speaker Michael L. Romero, PhD presiding.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE ERC

On motion of Rep. Josephine Veronique R. Lacson-Noel, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC).

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Lacson-Noel acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the ERC family headed by Chairperson and CEO Agnes Devanadera; and on her motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Juan Miguel Macapagal Arroyo, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, and Representative Dagooc for sponsorship and interpellation, respectively.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DAGOOC*

In view of the ERC's exclusive authority in the promulgation of a National Grid Code and a Distribution Code, Representative Dagooc subsequently sought the agency's commitment to investigate electric cooperatives violating the allowable range of voltage magnitude; and to revisit the existing Grid Code as well as open access rules for grid operators in order to include penal provisions. As he manifested support for the restoration of the ERC budget, he also proposed to insert in the 2020 General Appropriations Act a special provision that would allow the ERC to use its internally generated funds. Representative Macapagal-Arroyo relayed the agency's cooperation and support for Representative Dagooc's advocacies.

On motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, the Chair subsequently recognized Representative Ebcas for his manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE EBCAS

Representative Ebcas initially cited the Philippine Energy Plan. On behalf of the party-list representatives of PHILRECA, APEC, and RECOBODA, all from the electric cooperatives sector, he requested the ERC to facilitate pending applications for capital expenditure projects involving distribution lines and the rehabilitation of distribution systems. He also asked for a detailed inventory of pending cases involving electric cooperatives.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Lacson-Noel acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Rep. Jose "Bong" J. Teves Jr.; and on her further motion, the Chair then recognized Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Representative Atienza expressed his concern about the effects to the country of the problem in fuel production in the Middle East. Representative Macapagal Arroyo assured him that the DOE and the ERC were preparing for any eventuality when fuel prices will get out of hand especially with regard to electricity.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Subsequently, on motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, the Chair recognized Representative Zarate who tackled with Representative Macapagal Arroyo the status of power supply agreements of distribution utilities which were pending in the ERC, and the roles of the ERC and the DOE regarding the competitive selection process of said contracts. The sponsor said that he will ask the two agencies to submit the data thereon to his colleague.

The Chair thereafter recognized Representative De Jesus for his interpellation upon motion of Representative Lacson-Noel.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DE JESUS

Representative De Jesus relayed his concern on the ERC's delayed approval of the capital expenditures (CapEx) applications of electric cooperatives, which the sponsor attributed to the voluminous applications received by, but with limited manpower of the ERC. Representative Macapagal Arroyo also said that applications which are urgent or emergency in nature would be prioritized.

Representative De Jesus emphasized the importance of the timely approval of CapEx applications because it affects the efficient delivery of services, and then suggested the automatic approval of CapEx application if the processing thereof

*Amended on September 25, 2019 per *Journal No. 20*.

goes beyond the 60- or 90-day period. The sponsor however said that instead, he would look into the possibility of Congress passing a law imposing strict adherence to timeliness of the delivery of services.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DE JESUS

With the permission of the Chair, Representative De Jesus' manifestation commended former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo for championing the rural electrification program, and for signing Executive Order No. 119. He then enjoined his colleagues to support former President Macapagal Arroyo, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte and House Speaker Alan Peter "Compañero" S. Cayetano in realizing total electrification of the country, and for the regulatory agencies to recognize the role of electric cooperatives as partners in the electrification of the countryside. Lastly, he expressed support for the increase in the 2020 budget for electrification.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GUYA

On motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, the Chair recognized Representative Guya whose questions focused on the prices based from the wholesale electricity spot market (WESM). He noted that in some instances, determination of market-clearing was ineffective in safeguarding the market prices from volatility.

In relation to this, he discussed with the sponsor the recurring price hikes that could possibly be due to problems in WESM rules and uncompetitive market behavior.

Upon assurance from Representative Macapagal Arroyo that he would coordinate with stakeholders and partners in the industry to improve these rules, Representative Guya then joined Representatives De Jesus, Dagooc, and Ebcas in honoring the contributions and dedication of former President Macapagal Arroyo to the country's rural electrification program.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED ERC BUDGET

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Representative Guya on the part of the

Minority and Representative Lacson-Noel on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the ERC.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Delos Santos acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Deputy Speaker Evelina G. Escudero.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Upon recognition by the Chair, Representative Castro rose on a parliamentary inquiry and sought confirmation on whether President Duterte had certified House Bill No. 4228 or the fiscal year 2020 General Appropriations Bill (GAB) as urgent.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair suspended the session at 4:57 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:12 p.m., the session resumed with Deputy Speaker Loren Legarda presiding.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BONDOC

With the permission of the Chair, and for the information of the Body, Rep. Juan Pablo "Rimpy" P. Bondoc read a letter from President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, dated September 17, 2019, certifying to the necessity of the immediate enactment of House Bill No. 4228.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.) (Continuation)

Representative Castro sought recognition from the Chair to inquire about the implication of the measure being certified as urgent by President Duterte on the proposed amendments of Members during the plenary deliberations.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE BONDOK

Representative Bondok stated that similar to an occurrence in 2015, the approval on Second and Third reading would be scheduled the next day, September 20, 2019, after a small committee, composed of the Majority and Minority to accept amendments, have convened. He then disclosed the assurance of the House leadership that all amendments would be judiciously considered and possibly adopted.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Bondok, the Chair suspended the session at 5:16 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:19 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE PRRC

With the permission of the Chair, on successive motions of Representative Lacson-Noel, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC) and thereafter, the Chair recognized Rep. Manuel T. Sagarbarria, vice chairperson of the sponsoring committee, for his sponsorship remarks.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE SAGARBARRIA

As he presented to the Body the proposed 2020 budget of the PRRC, Representative Sagarbarria stated that the agency shall continue to implement rehabilitation and development programs for the Pasig River. He then submitted to the Body the budget of the PRRC for its consideration and approval.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED PRRC BUDGET

In the absence of interpellations, on motion of Senior Deputy Minority Leader Janette L. Garin on the part of the Minority and Representative Lacson-Noel on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the PRRC.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Thereafter, the session was suspended at 5:22 p.m. upon motion of Representative Lacson-Noel.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:23 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DPWH AND ITS ATTACHED CORPORATION

On motion of Representative Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the consideration of the proposed budgets of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and its attached corporation.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Thereupon, Representative Bolilia acknowledged the presence in the session of the DPWH officials led by Secretary Mark A. Villar and on her motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Romeo S. Momo Sr., vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor the measure and Representative Castro (F.L.) for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Representative Castro brought up the alleged anomalies on the DPWH's flood control projects, including the questionable insertion of ₱14.4 billion worth of projects in the 2019 General Appropriations Act and asked if the said projects did not adhere to existing rules and regulations stipulated under Department Order No. 23. In reply, Representative Momo explained that the DPWH had conducted pertinent feasibility studies.

In relation to the proposed DPWH budgets, she sought information on, and asked for a list regarding the status of the improvement and maintenance of esteros and creeks in the National Capital Region (NCR); the funds allotted for the department's participation in the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ECLAC); and the backlogs in terms of construction of school buildings and classrooms.

On motion of Representative Bolilia, the Chair recognized Rep. Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DIMAPORO (M.K.)

Representative Dimaporo raised his concern regarding the 2020 DPWH proposed budget for the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) which had been lodged in the budgets for Regions IX, X, and XII. He and Representative Momo then discussed the jurisdiction of the DPWH in terms of implementing projects in the BARMM, after which he cautioned against possible Commission on Audit (COA) disallowances that might result from the said budgeting.

Subsequently, Representative Dimaporo asked about the planning process of the DPWH, and argued about the roles of the national government and the Bangsamoro government in public works within the BARMM based on the Bangsamoro Organic Law. He stressed that projects for BARMM would come from the Bangsamoro government rather than dictated by the DPWH. He then asked for a national road inventory within the BARMM which was currently being conducted by the DPWH and discussed the scope of funding of the national government on public works.

Representative Dimaporo thereafter thanked the DPWH secretary and the sponsor for providing him with the requested documents, and expressed hope that his concerns with the DPWH projects in Regions IX, X, and XII would be rectified for the achievement of ultimate peace in Mindanao.

On motion of Representative Bolilia, the Chair recognized Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Representative Atienza discussed with Representative Momo the flood control projects in the Fifth District of Manila, and asked for a status report on the matter; the status of a particular sink hole project; and the DPWH's action regarding contractors who leave their projects unfinished.

Representative Atienza then proceeded to ask about a suggestion to create another highway on top of EDSA to ease the traffic therein; the timeline for Skyway Stage 3; and the pending construction of the LRT Extension to Cavite with the contractors already earning upon the signing of their contract with the government. The sponsor agreed to relay Representative Atienza's concerns to the DPWH secretary.

On motion of Representative Bolilia, the Chair thereafter recognized Rep. Arlene D. Brosas to ask questions on the proposed DPWH budget.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Representatives Brosas inquired into the construction of the C-6 Expressway despite the absence of a right-of-way as provided for in Republic Act (R.A.) No. 10752 or Right-of-Way Act and asked that the residents therein be transferred to relocation sites located in the city.

To Representative Brosas' succeeding questions, Representative Momo said that he would provide a list of intended projects for the proposed allocation for future right-of-way payments and a copy of the blueprint of the C-6 project covering all sections thereof.

Thereupon, the two Members analyzed the delay or non-implementation since 2012 of various infrastructure projects especially farm-to-market roads and the need to conduct a feasibility study for any such project.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Brosas, the Chair suspended the session at 6:41 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:43 p.m., the session resumed with Deputy Speaker Aurelio "Dong" D. Gonzales presiding.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS (Continuation)

Upon resumption of session, Representative Brosas asked for the Sponsor's explanation as she

continued to scrutinize the discrepancy in the total DPWH budget per region and how such errors can be rectified in the NEP.

**TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD
OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE
ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DPWH
AND ITS ATTACHED CORPORATION**

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Representatives Garin (J.) and Bolilia on the part of the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DPWH and its attached corporation.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session at 6:49 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:55 p.m., the session resumed with Deputy Speaker Legarda presiding.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE
PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE HGC**

Thereupon, on successive motions of Rep. Kristine Singson-Meehan, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Home Guaranty Corporation (HGC) and thereafter, the Chair recognized Rep. Vincent Franco “Duke” D. Frasco, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor the same.

**TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD
OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE
ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE HGC**

In the absence of interpellations, on a joint motion of Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte for the Minority and Representative Singson-Meehan for the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the HGC.

**CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED
BUDGETS OF THE DHSUD AND ITS
ATTACHED AGENCY AND CORPORATIONS**

On subsequent motion of Representative Delos Santos, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD) and its attached agency and corporations.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Delos Santos, the session was suspended at 6:58 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 7:00 p.m.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Delos Santos acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the DHSUD family headed by Chairperson Eduardo Del Rosario.

The Chair then recognized Rep. Paul Ruiz Daza, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, for the sponsorship of said agency upon motion of Representative Delos Santos.

**SPONSORSHIP REMARKS
OF REPRESENTATIVE DAZA**

Representative Daza stated that the creation of the new DHSUD focuses mainly on housing and urban development and said that he was privileged to sponsor the newest department, of which role is to steer the nation towards total human development.

REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

The Chair reminded the Members to minimize group discussions on the floor for orderly proceedings and thereafter, on motion of Representative Delos Santos, recognized Representative Brosas to interpellate Representative Daza.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Representative Brosas discussed with Representative Daza if the department could meet the targeted housing units of 101,000 with the budget allocated to them. The Members then tackled the COA findings on the dormant assets of the National Housing Authority (NHA), sources of fund of the department aside from its annual budget allocation, and the possible backlogs in housing projects by 2022.

Representative Brosas pointed out the lack of affordable housing units despite NHA's billions of idle funds. The sponsor said that these funds had been set aside for future obligations, and emphasized that a national agenda to prioritize funding for housing was needed.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Legarda relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Gonzales (A.D.).

Representatives Brosas discussed the issues related to affordable housing and suggested that the NHA look into the realistic amount and practical payment scheme for the people. She also asked the sponsor about the houses which had not been awarded yet, and discussed the bottlenecks to fast processing of housing applications.

On her last concern, Representative Brosas focused on a Social Housing Finance Corporation (SHFC) housing project which she said remained idle despite its completion in 2017. Representative Daza agreed to provide the requested 2017 master list of pre-qualified housing beneficiaries and assured Representative Brosas that there would be no discrimination in the prioritization of housing beneficiaries. He also said that the department would expedite the grant of housing units in Pandi, Bulacan.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE RODRIGUEZ

Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez, whom the Chair recognized upon Representative Delos Santos' motion, initially inquired on the backlog of 5.7 million

housing units and the 22 million housing backlog projection for the next 20 years of the department. He then urged his colleagues to support the necessary amendments to increase the budgets of the DHSUD and its attached agency and corporations.

Thereafter, on another motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair recognized Representative Atienza for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Representative Atienza said that he supports the creation of the department, although he doubted that the budget allocation thereto would be enough to complete the estimated housing units. Representative Daza said that there would be about 136,000 housing units for 2020, which might be accomplished with the support of the SHFC and the Pag-IBIG Fund.

Representative Atienza stressed that with the participation of the private sector, there was already a functioning system under the NHA prior to the creation of the DHSUD. With much need for affordable housing, he then urged his colleagues to support the production of houses by increasing the proposed budget of the NHA, while at the same time funding the ongoing organization of the new department.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair recognized Representative Castro (F.L.) for her interpellation.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Gonzales (A.D.) relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Johnny Ty Pimentel.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Representative Castro's interpellation focused on the rationale behind the creation of the DHSUD and the latter's prioritization of policy making and urban development rather than housing. As she stressed the importance of the latter, she and the sponsor analyzed the breakdown of the agency's budget by program.

As regards the program to address professional squatters, Representative Castro then asked Representative Daza to (1) submit a report thereon and (2) correct the reference to *Kalipunan ng Damayang Mahihirap* (Kadamay) members who had occupied certain housing units as illegal occupants, because President Duterte had already given the same to them. The Sponsor agreed therewith.

**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION
OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS
OF THE DHSUD AND ITS ATTACHED
AGENCY AND CORPORATIONS**

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Bondoc, there being no objection, the Body suspended the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DHSUD, including its attached agency and corporations.

**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION
ON SECOND READING
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228**

On motion of Representative Bondoc, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228.

On motion of Representative Bondoc, the Chair recognized Rep. Paolo Z. Duterte for his manifestation.

**MANIFESTATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE DUTERTE**

Representative Duterte informed the Body that after hearing of several complaints about the Department of Tourism (DOT) secretary's management style in the approval of DOT contracts and projects, he planned to raise questions thereon in the plenary sessions. He said he was however then advised by the Speaker to follow the established House procedure of clarifying issues in the pre-plenary budget conferences with executive agencies.

Accordingly, he said, and because he believed it was his right as a Member to do so and to interpellate any Member, he sat down with the Speaker and the DOT secretary to discuss said issue. He remarked that he would have been remiss in performing his

duty as the Representative of the First District of Davao if he had turned a deaf ear to the complaints and grievances of his constituents.

Representative Duterte however expressed disappointment over the fact that despite said conference with the DOT secretary and his hope that it would have positive results, the latter reported about him as well as made false accusations against him. He stressed that he thus needed to speak about what happened so that his countrymen will know of the DOT secretary's real character.

**RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION
ON SECOND READING
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228**

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Bondoc, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228 contained in Committee Report No. 8 as reported out by the Committee on Appropriations, entitled:

“AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS
FOR THE OPERATION OF THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY
ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE,
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

**RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION
OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS
OF THE DHSUD AND ITS ATTACHED
AGENCY AND CORPORATIONS**

On successive motions of Representative Delos Santos, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration of the proposed budgets of the DHSUD and its attached agency and corporations; and the Chair recognized Representative Daza, vice chairperson of the Committee on Accounts, to continue with his sponsorship and Representative Zarate for his interpellation.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE**

With a PowerPoint presentation, Representative Zarate's interpellation centered on the Smokey

Mountain rehabilitation project which the NHA paid not only with a full cash payment but also with the conveyance of a five-hectare property. He asked where the agency will get funds for the additional payment if it did not even have sufficient funds for the housing needs of the poor.

Representative Daza said he could give his colleague a copy of the opinion of the Office of the Government Corporate Council which gave the Home Guaranty Corporation the authority to decide on said transfer.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair next recognized Representative Gaite for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

Citing NHA data on the target number of housing units as against the actual number of units that had been built, Representative Gaite then asked how the DHSUD will fulfill its mandate to address this backlog with its meager budget. He also discussed with the sponsor the provision under R.A. No. 11201 on the power of the DHSUD to partner with private developers in building socialized housing; and asked whether this was the solution to the housing problem even if the primary intent of said developers was to earn profit.

Thereupon, Representative Gaite asked about the timeframe to meet the DHSUD's staff requirements and the regularization of "emergency hirees" which he opined should be given top priority.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Next recognized by the Chair upon motion of Representative Delos Santos, Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago initially reiterated her request for a copy of the terms of reference of the DHSUD's role in the Manila Bay Task Force. She then asked the agency for intervention on the reported demolition of houses and stores resulting from road clearing operations.

As she referred to the housing target of the Duterte administration in its Philippine Development Plan, Representative Elago next inquired into the status of the identification of idle government land that could be used for socialized housing.

She also stressed the need to provide decent and human resettlement programs which included education and health projects; and to guide informal settlers who had their own people's development plans.

On motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair recognized Minority Leader Abante for a manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

Minority Leader Abante believed that the proposed budget of the new DHSUD should be increased considering the enormous job that it has to do and so that it can address the insurmountable housing problem. He stated that there is no problem that cannot be solved as long as there is proper accountability, integrity in the use of the people's funds, and a pro-poor advocacy.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DHSUD AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCY AND CORPORATIONS

Thereafter, on joint motion of Minority Leader Abante and Representative Delos Santos representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DHSUD and its attached agency and corporations.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

On further motion of Representative Delos Santos, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Delos Santos, there being no objection, the Chair suspended the session until one o'clock in the afternoon of Friday, September 20, 2019.

It was 9:44 p.m. of Thursday, September 19, 2019.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 1:00 p.m. of Friday, September 20, 2019 with Deputy Speaker Johnny Ty Pimentel presiding.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

On motion of Rep. Wilter “Sharky” Wee Palma II, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the Additional Reference of Business.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read on First Reading the titles of the following Bills and Resolutions, including the Communications, which were referred to the appropriate committees indicated hereunder:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 4685, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTING THE MAGNA CARTA OF FILIPINO SEAFARERS”

By Representative Mendoza

TO THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 4686, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE CABUGAO SCHOOL OF HANDICRAFT AND COTTAGE INDUSTRIES (CSHCI) – CABUGAO CAMPUS LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BATO, CATANDUANES INTO A TESDA-SUPERVISED SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS THE CATANDUANES POLYTECHNIC SKILLS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Teves (Jose)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4687, entitled:

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

By Representative Chipeco

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

House Bill No. 4688, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA FOR BARANGAYS”

By Representative Chipeco

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4689, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE STRATEGIC FUEL RESERVE SYSTEM OF THE PHILIPPINES, TO STABILIZE SPIKES IN FUEL PRICES, DEFINING ITS PURPOSES, PRIORITIES, AND FEATURES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero

TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Bill No. 4690, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FREE INSURANCE FOR COVERED APPLICANTS OF OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT CERTIFICATES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Yap (Victor)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 4691, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS HOSPITAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Yap (Victor)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4692, entitled:

“AN ACT TO DEVELOP AND PROMOTE THE CREATIVE INDUSTRIES OF THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Yap (Victor)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 4693, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AS THE INDEPENDENT ECONOMIC AND PLANNING AGENCY OF THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT, DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 230 SERIES OF 1987, ALSO KNOWN

AS THE REORGANIZATION ACT OF
THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY”

By Representative Yap (Victor)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 4694, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR
COMPREHENSIVE ATOMIC
REGULATION, CREATING FOR THE
PURPOSE, THE PHILIPPINE ATOMIC
REGULATORY COMMISSION, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Lacson
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 4695, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO.
8794, ENTITLED 'AN ACT IMPOSING
A MOTOR VEHICLE USER'S CHARGE
ON OWNERS OF ALL TYPES OF
MOTOR VEHICLES AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES', AS AMENDED BY
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11239”

By Representative Salceda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND
HIGHWAYS

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 348, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES (HRep) TO
CONSTRUCT A SEPARATE BUILDING
FROM THE MAIN BUILDINGS OF
THE HRep WITHIN THE BATASANG
PAMBANSA COMPLEX THAT WOULD
HOUSE DESK OFFICES AND THE
LEGISLATIVE LIAISON OFFICERS
FROM ALL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES”

By Representative Savellano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS

House Resolution No. 349, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
TO ESTABLISH THE PHILIPPINES
STRATEGIC FUEL RESERVES AND
EXPAND THE PANTAWID PASADA
CASH GRANTS PROGRAM, USING THE
MALAMPAYA FUND”

By Representative Romero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Resolution No. 350, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE MEMBERS OF
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO
SUPPORT THE YOUTH FOR CLIMATE
STRIKE'S NATIONAL DEMANDS”

By Representative Elago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS
DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 351, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE
COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND
URBAN DEVELOPMENT TO PROBE
INTO THE SLOW DISTRIBUTION OF
LAND TITLES FOR HOMEOWNERS
IN RIDGEVIEW PARK AND OTHER
NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY
PABAHAY PROJECTS”

By Representatives Gaité, Zarate and Cullamat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 352, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING SPEAKER ALAN
PETER CAYETANO THROUGH THE
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
TO RESTORE THE FISCAL YEAR 2020
PROPOSED SUBSIDY FROM THE
NATIONAL GOVERNMENT OF PHP
6.146 BILLION FOR THE NATIONAL
ELECTRIFICATION ADMINISTRATION
REDUCED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF
BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT TO
PHP 1.531 BILLION PESOS”

By Representatives Dagooc, De Jesus, Ebcas
and Guya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Resolution No. 353, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE
CREATION OF A TRAFFIC CRISIS
INTER-AGENCY MANAGEMENT
COUNCIL FOR THE PURPOSE OF
CONSOLIDATING AND HARMONIZING
ALL TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC
POLICIES TO ADDRESS THE URGENT
TRAFFIC CRISIS IN METRO MANILA
AND IN THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Sarmiento
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter dated 8 August 2019 of Maria Anthonette C.
Velasco-Allones, CESO I, Executive Director,
Career Executive Service Board (CESB),

furnishing the House of Representatives a copy of the CESB's 2018 Annual Report themed "Leading the Way to the Future".

TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

Letter dated August 22, 2019 of Caesar R. Dulay, Commissioner, Bureau of Internal Revenue, Department of Finance, forwarding to the House of Representatives the following Budget and Financial Accountability Reports (BFARs) as of June 30, 2019:

1. Statement of Appropriations, Allotments, Obligations, Disbursements and Balances (SAAODB) – FAR No. 1;
2. Summary of Appropriations, Allotments, Obligations, Disbursements and Balances by Object of Expenditures – FAR No. 1-A; and
3. List of Allotments and Sub-Allotments – FAR No. 1-B.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated August 30, 2019 of Sylvanna O. Reusora, RSW, MSWDO and Leonardo L. Uy, Jr., Municipal Mayor, Municipality of Libertad, Province of Misamis Oriental, submitting to the House of Representatives the Full Liquidation of LGSF FY 2018 with ADA No. RO10-ALGU-9918120109 value dated 12/10/2018 from January 10, 2019 to August 30, 2019 of said municipality.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Reports of Receipts and Disbursements as of August 28, 2019 of the Municipality of Alubijid, Province of Misamis Oriental, noted by Emmanuel L. Jamis, DVM, Municipal Mayor.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated 3 September 2019 of Rogelio Francisco M. Bantayan, Jr., Executive Director, Office of the President, National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP), providing the House of Representatives a copy of NCIP's CY 2018 Annual Accomplishment Report.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON INDIGENOUS CULTURAL COMMUNITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Letter dated September 5, 2019 of Maria Gleda E. Lim, State Auditor V, Supervising Auditor, Audit Groups CGS I & II – Water Districts and Other CGS Stand Alone Agencies, Regional Office No. VI, Commission on Audit, furnishing the

House of Representatives a copy of the Annual Audit Report on the Metro Iloilo Water District, Iloilo City for the year ended December 31, 2018.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228 contained in Committee Report No. 8 as submitted by the Committee on Appropriations, entitled:

“AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Representative Palma stated that the parliamentary status was that the bill was in the period of sponsorship and debate.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DICT AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

On motion of Rep. Marlyn “Len” B. Alonte, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), including its attached agencies.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Alonte then acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the DICT family headed by Secretary Gregorio Honasan II; and upon motion of Representative Alonte, the Chair recognized Rep. Luis N. Campos Jr., vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor the DICT budget and Rep. France L. Castro to interpellate thereon.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

Representative Castro asked about the position of the National Privacy Commission (NPC) on the profiling of members of the Alliance of Concerned Teachers, and data gathering and espionage in

universities and among the general public and local government units (LGUs), by the Philippine National Police (PNP) and other executive agencies. Representative Campos assured her that the NPC will investigate the matter and update his colleague thereon.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE FERNANDO

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Alonte, the Chair recognized Rep. Bayani F. Fernando who discussed with the Sponsor the DICT's plan for a shared government information system among all government agencies and LGUs; as well as its capacity to implement the same despite its low fiscal performance in previous years.

In view of the DICT's small budget and its vital contribution to the implementation of social programs and services and to national security, he recommended that other agencies give part of their operations budgets to the DICT so that it can perform its mandate effectively.

On another motion of Representative Alonte, the Chair recognized Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Representatives Zarate and Campos discussed the nature, scope, policies, funding, and safeguards in the implementation of the national ID system. The former expressed his concern about the possible violation of human rights, data sharing, and infringement on individual rights as well as technical and logistics issues, behind the execution of the same.

The Sponsor assured his colleague that the DICT, through the NPC, will closely monitor the program as well as the strict implementation of the Data Privacy Act.

Thereafter, on motion of Rep. David "Jay-Jay" C. Suarez, the Chair recognized Rep. Sergio C. Dagooc for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DAGOOC

To the concerns of Representative Dagooc, Representative Campos affirmed the agency's

ongoing discussion with the National Electrification Administration on the utilization of the power lines of electric cooperatives for the implementation of DICT projects.

On motion of Representative Suarez (D.), the Chair recognized Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE RODRIGUEZ

Representatives Rodriguez and Campos discussed the DICT's jurisdiction over the installation of communications equipment and facilities in military camps and reservations such as those of the Dito Telecommunity Corporation by virtue of the latter's agreement with the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). He pointed out that said company was China-owned and the Philippines had a conflict with China as regards the West Philippine Sea.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 2:08 p.m. upon motion of Representative Campos.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 2:10 p.m., the session resumed with Deputy Speaker Rodante D. Marcoleta presiding.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Thereafter, the Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session at 2:11 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 2:12 p.m., the session resumed.

On motion of Representative Suarez (D.), the Chair recognized Representative Rodriguez to continue with his interpellation of Representative Campos.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE RODRIGUEZ (Continuation)

After Representative Rodriguez and Campos examined the impact of the Dito-AFP agreement to national security, they then discussed the new telecommunications company's operational timeline; and the DICT's policy on a common

telecommunications tower to be constructed by the three telcos, namely, Globe Telecommunications, Inc., Smart Communications, Inc. and Dito.

Ending his interpellation, Representative Rodriguez manifested his support for the DICT budget.

On motion of Representative Suarez (D.), the Chair next recognized Minority Leader Bienvenido M. Abante Jr. for a manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

Minority Leader Abante manifested that the DICT budget was inadequate for the improvements needed by the ICT infrastructure in the country. He recommended the increase in the allocation for specific operations such as digital literacy, connectivity, and access in order to enable the country to level up with developing nations; achieve economic progress; and enhance the delivery of basic services.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DICT AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Minority Leader Abante and Representative Suarez (D.) representing the Minority and Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DICT and its attached agencies.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Suarez (D.), the session was suspended at 2:33 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 2:35 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES

On successive motions of Rep. Ma. Theresa V. Collantes, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Congress of the Philippines; and the Chair recognized Rep.

Isidro T. Ungab, chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor the same.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE UNGAB

Representative Ungab stated that the proposed budget of the Congress of the Philippines covered the allocations for the Senate of the Philippines, Senate Electoral Tribunal, Commission on Appointments, House of Representatives, and House of Representatives Electoral Tribunal.

On motion of Representative Collantes, the Chair thereafter recognized Rep. Abraham “Bambol” N. Tolentino for his manifestation regarding the proposed budget of the House of Representatives.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE TOLENTINO

Representative Tolentino stated that the House of Representatives was not able to prepare its budget because in the previous year, the Members had been busy with the campaign for the May elections and with the election of the new Speaker of the House thereafter. He remarked that it was the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) that submitted the National Expenditure Program (NEP) to the House two weeks after President Rodrigo Roa Duterte’s State of the Nation Address.

Representative Tolentino subsequently explained that the House did not expect its additional deputy speakers, committees, employees, and equipment and offices, in view of which he appealed for an additional budget of about ₱1.6 billion for 2020.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Minority Leader Abante and Representative Collantes representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the Congress of the Philippines.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session at 2:43 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 2:45 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOTR AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES/CORPORATIONS

On motion of Rep. Julianne “Jam” L. Baronda, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budgets of the Department of Transportation (DOTr) and its attached agencies/corporations.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Baronda then acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the officials of the DOTr headed by Secretary Arthur Tugade; and upon her motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Micaela S. Violago, vice chairperson of the sponsoring committee, to defend the proposed budgets and Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado to interpellate thereon.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BORDADO

Representative Bordado asked for the rationale in the huge increase in the budget of the railway system by 111.9 percent before asking about his main concern, which was the Manila-Bicol Railway System and its completion timeline, cost and loan interest rates, and funding support from the Chinese government.

Then referring to the sizeable increase in the budget for the Metro Rail Transit (MRT)-3 Rehabilitation Project, Representative Bordado relayed his expectations for significant improvements in its operations.

On motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Rep. Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento for his manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE SARMIENTO

Representative Sarmiento initially related the country’s economic losses due to its poor mass transportation system and stressed that if the government intends to modernize the system, the DOTr budget should not have been reduced. He then appealed for additional funding for the DOTr, pointing out that no allocations had been given for 2020 for the Philippine National Railways, Light Rail

Transit, and the Public Utility Vehicle Modernization Program. He informed the Body that he had been working closely with the DOTr on a roadmap for aviation, maritime, rails, and roads.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CABATBAT

Recognized by the Chair upon Representative Palma’s motion, Rep. Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat stressed that the proposed allocation for the improvement, rehabilitation, and construction of small ports was not enough.

Then requesting a review of the information technology (IT) infrastructure project for road transportation which was delayed according to a Commission on Audit report, Representative Sarmiento opined that the DOTr should fund excellent projects and not this project. He then said his queries aimed to uncover spare funds that could be used to help the agriculture sector.

On motion of Representative Baronda, the Chair subsequently recognized Representative Zarate to interpellate the Sponsor.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Representative Zarate first asked about the payments made for the integrated transport terminal system projects under the DOTr’s multi-year obligational authority; and Representative Violago promised to submit information thereon.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Marcoleta relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Deogracias Victor “DV” B. Savellano.

The two Members then discussed the petition of thousands of informal settlers and private landowners that will be affected by the NLEX-SLEX Connector Road and North-South Commuter Railway. To Representative Zarate’s request, Representative Violago said she will submit information on the consultations held with the stakeholders and on the funds for resettlement programs; and relayed the DOTr’s commitment that the houses of said settlers will not be demolished pending a final resettlement program.

Thereafter focusing on the budget for the MRT-3, they discussed the non-payment for trains supplied by the CRRC Dalian Company, Ltd. which could

not be used because they were incompatible with the railway; and the company's accountability for the same.

Representative Zarate thereupon asked for a copy of the supplementary agreement between the DOTr and the Sumitomo-Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd., the main maintenance provider of MRT-3, and for the latter to include said Dalian trains in its original contract. The sponsor committed to submit the same.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE SUNTAY

On motion of Representative Baronda, the Chair next recognized Rep. Jesus "Bong" C. Suntay whose initial queries also focused on the unused Dalian trains. He asked whether anyone was held liable for the same and why the subsidy for the MRT-3 was increased due to lower ridership revenues resulting from the failure of the operation of said trains.

Turning to another matter, Representative Suntay inquired about the utilization of the budget for information technology of the Land Transportation Office (LTO). Representative Violago said that she will provide full details thereon.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr., whom the Chair thereafter recognized upon Representative Baronda's motion, discussed with the Sponsor the ongoing testing and resolution of technical issues of the mass transportation project developed by the Department of Science and Technology. Saying that such testing was not done with the Dalian trains for the metro rail transport system in the country, he stressed that those responsible for the purchase of such incompatible trains should be held accountable.

Representative Atienza then asked about the delays and terms of agreement of the MRT Line 7, the Skyway connecting the southern and northern parts of Manila, Light Rail Transit (LRT) 1 Cavite Extension, and the MRT-LRT common station. The Sponsor promised to give details thereon and copies of the pertinent contracts.

After further asking about the planned closure of provincial bus terminals along EDSA, about which Representative Violago expressed agreement, Representative Atienza urged the DOTr to expedite the projects that he earlier cited.

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Baronda, the Chair recognized Rep. Ferdinand L. Gaité for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

Representative Gaité sought clarification on the conflicting provisions of the Public Utility Vehicle Modernization Program and Vehicle Use Life Program. He and the sponsor discussed the intervention measures of the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) to soften the impact thereof such as subsidies, scholarship and livelihood programs, and assistance in the submission of requirements.

Representative Gaité also sought clarification on the terms of China's contract for the Philippine National Railways South Long-Haul Project. Representative Violago, confirming that the contract did not have any provision on the waiving of the country's sovereign immunity and collateralization of patrimonial assets, promised to give a copy of the same.

Subsequently, Representative Gaité asked whether the DOTr considered the impact of the proposed construction of the New Manila International Airport in Bulacan, on the environment and fish production, flooding, and the livelihood of the residents therein. The sponsor assured his colleague of a copy of the project's master plan.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Baronda acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Rep. Francisco "Kiko" P. Benitez as well as her guests from Korea.

On motion of Representative Baronda, the Chair then recognized Representative Rodriguez for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE RODRIGUEZ

After thanking Secretary Tugade for his support for transportation projects in his district and in Mindanao, Representative Rodriguez sought information on the coverage, locations, construction, and funding of the Mindanao Railway Project. Representative Violago relayed the Secretary's assurance of an additional budget for the second phase of the project.

Representative Rodriguez then discussed with the sponsor the situation in the comfort rooms of the Laguindingan International Airport; his request to change said airport's name to Emmanuel N. Pelaez International Airport; and the opening of a second gate at the Cagayan de Oro Port to ease traffic.

At this point, Deputy Speaker Savellano relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Rose Marie "Baby" J. Arenas.

After the sponsor said that the DOTr will start the process of the aforementioned name change, Representative Rodriguez expressed support for the budgets of the DOTr and its attached agencies and corporations. He also said he will propose an increase for the same during the period of amendments.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE DOTr AND ITS ATTACHED AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Representatives Fernando and Baronda representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the DOTr and its attached agencies and corporations.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Baronda, the Chair suspended the session at 5:21 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:22 p.m.

CONTINUATION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE NICA AND THE NSC

On motion of Rep. Alyssa Sheena P. Tan, CPA, there being no objection, the Body continued its consideration of the proposed budgets of the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency (NICA) and the National Security Council (NSC); and on her subsequent motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Rozzano Rufino B. Biazon, vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor the said budgets.

Thereupon, Representative Tan acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the NICA officials headed by Deputy Director General Virgilio Hernandez, and the NSC officials headed by Director General Hermogenes Esperon Jr.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Recognized by the Chair on motion of Representative Tan (A.S.), Rep. Arlene D. Brosas asked about the source and the budget item from where the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC) was charged. Thereupon, she highlighted the attacks of the said task force against members of the Gabriela Women's Party; and opined that the budget for the NTF-ELCAC should have been allocated instead for the improvement of basic services.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Tan (A.S.), the Chair recognized Representative Zarate who confirmed with Representative Biazon whether Mr. Rolando Asuncion, the NICA regional director for Central Luzon was involved in the red-tagging of Ms. Sonia Soto, the General Manager of a television station in San Fernando, Pampanga. He asked the commitment of the sponsor that this incident would be investigated.

Further, Representative Zarate discussed the report concerning threats at the West Philippine Sea, in particular the presence of Chinese maritime militia therein. He also inquired about the agency's stand and action on national security issues involving China, particularly the alleged deal of the Philippine government with Chinese corporations on the Fuga Island in Northern Luzon, and the establishment of Philippine gaming offshore operators or POGO hubs manned by Chinese nationals in the country.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGETS OF THE NICA AND THE NSC

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Representative Tan (A.S.) and Rep. Joseph Stephen "Caraps" S. Paduano, on the part of the Majority and the Minority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period

of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budgets of the NICA and NSC.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

At 5:47 p.m., the session was suspended upon motion of Representative Tan (A.S.).

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:50 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE DBM AND THE PROVISIONS FOR THE LUMP SUM FUNDS

Thereupon, on successive motions of Representative Collantes, there being no objection, the Body considered the proposed budget of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) as well as the provisions for the Lump Sum Funds; and thereafter, the Chair recognized Representative Ungab and Rep. Corazon T. Nuñez-Malanyaon, chairperson and vice chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, to sponsor the said budgets, respectively.

Representative Collantes then recognized the presence in the Session Hall of the officials of the DBM led by Secretary Wendel Avisado.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE UNGAB

Representative Ungab presented the proposed DBM budget amounting to ₱2.331 billion.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GARIN (J.)

Recognized by the Chair on Representative Collantes' motion, Senior Deputy Minority Leader Janette L. Garin presented and compared the annual budget allocations of different government agencies, and discussed the basis for such, particularly the budget utilization rate of the agencies. She then asked the sponsor if budget utilization rate would be a just basis for determining the budgets, and recommended thereafter the use of a "whole-of-government" approach so as not to sacrifice the welfare of Filipinos in cases of ineffective management in certain agencies.

Citing the San Joaquin Community Hospital in her district in Iloilo and the National Center for Geriatric Health in Manila, she raised the issue

of the lack in health human resource and plantilla positions thereof. She also explained that the creation of the Public Attorney's Office or PAO Forensic Laboratory, which she said was a duplication of the PNP crime and the NBI forensic laboratories, was beyond the PAO's mandate, and hence no plantilla positions could be granted for such. She then suggested that the created plantilla positions for the said laboratory, and the allocation for travel and MOOE be transferred to the NBI which has the legal mandate for forensic investigation.

Representative Ungab assured Representative Garin that they would expedite and get the legal opinion from the Office of the Secretary with regard to the creation of the PAO Forensic Lab.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE TY

Recognized by the Chair, Rep. Diego "Nonoy" C. Ty pointed out that the 2020 budget allocations for government offices related to improving socioeconomic conditions had decreased despite the government's thrust to alleviate poverty.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Arenas relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Neptali M. Gonzales II.

While he commended the budget increase for the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps), he said that budgetary support for human capital development had declined, and thus stressed that overcoming poverty is not just a mere gesture of charity but the protection of a dignified and decent quality of life.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BORDADO

On motion of Representative Alonte, the Chair recognized Representative Bordado who initially cited a news article that tagged the 2020 proposed budget as the biggest in the history, then proceeded to ask about DBM's justification for such.

Representatives Bordado and Ungab then discussed the DBM's basis for prioritization of funds, where the sponsor cited the Philippine Development Plan and the agency's absorptive capacity, among others. Subsequently, they tackled the impact of the shift from obligation-based to cash-based budgeting, in which Representative Ungab said that the latter had improved efficiency within the government and its budget utilization rate.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE PACQUIAO (R.)

On motion of Representative Alonte, the Chair recognized Rep. Rogelio “Ruel” D. Pacquiao who inquired about the frequent delays in the release of the Special Allotment Release Order (SARO) and its causes, as well as the institutional reforms being implemented by the DBM to speed up the process.

Representative Ungab explained that the general appropriations act (GAA) is already the allotment order that authorizes agencies to obligate according to its provisions and subject to applicable exceptions. With regard to institutional reforms, he said that one of the steps undertaken was the early conduct of procurement activities to improve government spending and thereby boost the economy.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Alonte acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guest of Rep. Weslie T. Gatchalian.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)

On motion of Representative Alonte, the Chair recognized Representative Castro who wanted to be clarified on the guidelines for the government’s annual budgeting.

Representatives Castro and Ungab discussed the limits to the President’s veto power, where the former subsequently asked about the 2019 conditional implementation of the grant of free medical examination of public school teachers and the transportation and teaching aid allowances for Alternative Learning System (ALS) mobile teachers, district coordinators and literacy volunteers.

While Representative Castro pointed out that the said allowances and benefits are legally mandated, Representative Ungab explained that the said free medical examination would be covered by the Universal Health Care Act, the implementing rules and regulations of which is being finalized; and that the provision of transportation allowance for the ALS human resource had to be reviewed due to possible double compensation in relation to the grant of the Special Hardship Allowance under the Magna Carta for Public School Teachers.

In ending, Representative Castro recommended a review of the discussed guidelines and asked for reconsideration of the budget cuts on social services.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Recognized by the Chair, Representative Zarate asked whether Congress should have control over debt servicing which constituted more than one-fourth of the 2020 national budget and in this regard, suggested the review of the Budget Reform Law of 1977 in order to return to Congress the power thereon. Representative Ungab said that a law created by Congress can be amended by Congress.

On motion of Rep. Ria Cristina G. Fariñas, the Chair recognized Representative Cabatbat for a manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CABATBAT

Representative Cabatbat manifested his intent to consult the DBM Secretary about the nonreporting by some agencies of their continuing appropriations and the return of a chapter in the NEP about savings. He also voiced his objection to the reduction of the budget of the Department of Agriculture and stressed the need to increase the same. He pointed out that the agriculture sector had been neglected for decades. He also emphasized that the Rice Tariffication Law and land conversion have adversely affected the farmers’ sector and rice productivity.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Next recognized by the Chair upon motion of Representative Fariñas (R.C.), Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago initially said that she and some Members are planning to file a resolution calling on the Committee on Appropriations to restore the budget cuts of state universities and colleges. She committed to work for a progressive and democratic access to higher education and to improve the performance of higher education institutions.

Representative Elago subsequently reiterated her request in the budget hearings for the DBM to explain the removal of funds for the PhilHealth coverage

of Sangguniang Kabataan officials. She asked her colleagues to ensure that the same be restored.

On subsequent motion of Representative Fariñas, the Chair recognized Representative Gaité to interpellate the sponsor.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

Thereupon, Representatives Gaité and Ungab tackled the proposed budget allocation for the increase in the salaries of government workers under the new Salary Standardization Law (SSL 5); and the persisting contractualization within the government despite the unfilled positions in various agencies. He pointed out that while high-level officials and uniformed personnel had benefitted more from the salary adjustments, the salary increase among civilian rank and file employees had remained insufficient.

Representative Gaité then asked for the sponsor's assurance that the DBM will provide concrete actions to address his concerns.

MANIFESTATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

Recognized by the Chair upon Representative Fariñas' (R.C.) motion, Minority Leader Abante manifested the need to corporatize the National Center for Geriatric Health and proposed to increase the budget of the same by ₱25 million to ₱30 million, stressing the importance of providing care for the elderly.

Thereafter, he yielded the floor to Rep. Stella Luz A. Quimbo.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET OF THE DBM

There being no further interpellations, on a joint motion of Representative Quimbo on the part of the Minority and Representative Fariñas (R.C.) on the part of the Majority, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the proposed budget of the DBM.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON THE PROVISIONS FOR THE LUMP SUM FUNDS

Likewise, in the absence of further interpellations, on a joint motion of Representative Quimbo and Representative Fariñas (R.C.), representing the Minority and the Majority, respectively, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on the provisions for the Lump Sum Funds.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Fariñas (R.C.), the session was suspended at 7:28 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 7:28 p.m.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

At this point, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on House Bill No. 4228.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Palma, the Chair suspended the session at 7:29 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 7:32 p.m.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228.

ROLL CALL

Upon Representative Palma's subsequent motion, the Chair directed the Secretary General to call the Roll and the following Members were present:

Abante	Cabochan	Espina	Malapitan
Abaya	Cabredo	Estrella	Mangaoang
Abueg-Zaldivar	Cagas	Fariñas (R.C.)	Mangudadatu
Abunda	Calderon	Fariñas I (R.C.)	Marcoleta
Acop	Calixto	Fernandez	Mariano-Hernandez
Acosta	Caminero	Fernando	Mariño
Acosta-Alba	Campos	Ferrer (J.M.)	Marquez
Adiong	Caoagdan	Flores	Martinez
Advincula	Cari	Fongwan	Matba
Agabas	Castelo	Fortun	Matugas
Agarao	Castro (F.L.)	Fortuno	Mendoza
Aguinaldo	Castro (F.H.)	Frasco	Momo
Albano (A.)	Cayetano (A.P.)	Fuentebella	Natividad-Nagaño
Almario	Cayetano (M.L.)	Gaite	Nava
Alonte	Celeste	Garcia (J.E.)	Nieto
Alvarez (F.)	Chatto	Garcia (P.J.)	Noel
Alvarez (G.)	Chipeco	Garin (J.)	Nogralas (J.F.F.)
Amante-Matba	Chungalao	Garin (S.)	Nolasco
Amatong	Co (A.N.)	Gatchalian	Nuñez-Malanyaon
Angara	Co (E.)	Gato	Oaminal
Aragones	Cojuangco	Geron	Olivarez
Arbison	Collantes	Go (E.C.)	Ong (J.)
Arenas	Crisologo	Go (M.)	Ong (R.)
Arroyo	Cua	Gonzaga	Ortega
Atienza	Cuaresma	Gonzales (A.)	Ouano-Dizon
Aumentado	Cueva	Gonzales (N.)	Pacquiao (A.)
Babasa	Cullamat	Gonzalez	Pacquiao (R.)
Bagatsing	Dagooc	Guico	Padiernos
Bagatsing	Dalipe	Gullas	Paduano
Balindong	Dalog	Guya	Palma
Barba	Daza	Haresco	Pancho
Baronda	De Jesus	Hataman	Panotes
Bascug	de Venecia	Herrera-Dy	Peña
Bautista	Defensor (L.)	Hofer	Pichay
Bautista-Bandigan	Del Mar	Jalosjos	Pimentel
Belmonte	Delos Santos	Javier	Pineda
Benitez	Deloso-Montalla	Jimenez	Plaza
Bernos	Dimaporo (A.)	Kho (W.)	Puno
Biazon	Dimaporo (M.K.)	Khonghun	Quimbo
Billones	Duavit	Labadlabad	Radaza
Biron	Duterte	Lacson	Ramirez-Sato
Bolilia	Dy (F.)	Lacson-Noel	Ramos
Bondoc	Dy (F.M.C.)	Lagman	Remulla
Bordado	Dy (I.P.)	Lagon	Revilla
Bravo	Ebcas	Lara	Reyes
Brosas	Ecleo	Lazatin	Rivera
Bulut	Elago	Leachon	Robes
Bustos	Enverga	Legarda	Rodriguez
Cabatbat	Erice	Lim	Roman
	Eriguel	Limkaichong	Romero
	Ermita-Buhain	Lopez	Romualdez (F.M.)
	Escudero	Loyola	Romualdez (Y.M.)
		Macapagal Arroyo	Romualdo
		Maceda	Romulo

Roque	Tiangco
Sacdalan	Tolentino
Sagarbarria	Torres-Gomez
Salceda	Tulfo
Salimbangon	Tupas
Salo	Tutor
Sanchez	Ty
Sangcopan	Umali (A.)
Santos-Recto	Umali (M.V.)
Sarmiento	Unabia
Saulog	Ungab
Savellano	Uy (J.)
Silverio	Uy (R.)
Singson	Valeriano
Singson-Meehan	Valmayor
Sinsuat	Vargas
Suansing (E.)	Vargas Alfonso
Suansing (H.)	Velasco
Suarez (A.)	Veloso
Suarez (D.)	Vergara
Suntay	Villa
Sy-Alvarado	Villanueva (N.)
Taduran	Villaraza-Suarez
Tallado	Villarica
Tambunting	Violago
Tan (A.S.)	Yap (E.)
Tan (A.)	Yap (V.)
Tan (S.)	Yu
Tan (S.A.)	Zamora (R.)
Tan-Tambut	Zamora (W.K.)
Tejada	Zarate
Teves (J.)	Zubiri

With 272 Members present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum. (See Appendix 3)

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4228 contained in Committee Report No. 8 as reported out by the Committee on Appropriations, entitled:

“AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

PERIOD OF *TURNO EN CONTRA*

On successive motions of Majority Leader Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, there being no objection, the Body proceeded with the period of *turno en contra* on House Bill No. 4228; and the Chair recognized Representative Garin (J.) to deliver her *turno en contra* speech.

***TURNO EN CONTRA* SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE GARIN (J.)**

Representative Garin emphasized the role of the Members in promoting and protecting the welfare of the people, and that the speed with which they debated on House Bill No. 4228 had not compromise the quality of the 2020 budget deliberations. With this, she thanked the Majority for understanding the Minority’s critical participation in the 2020 budget sessions. As the Minority had stood firm and persistent in introducing changes for the greater good, she enjoined her colleagues to focus on outputs regardless of political or family affiliations.

She thereafter expounded on the following provisions of the 2020 proposed national budget: (1) the significant allocation for debt payments; (2) the reduction in the DOH budget due to underutilization of funds and mismanagement of programs; (3) the significant decrease in the budgets of the CHED and the NHA; (5) the need to increase the DA budget; and (6) the sudden increase in the PAO budgetary allocation for a division that has no legal mandate. She however agreed to the increase in the DSWD budget given its difficult task of helping the poorest of the poor.

In closing, she underscored the Minority’s support by scrutinizing relevant measures and advancing government programs that would be effective and beneficial for the people.

***TURNO EN CONTRA* SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE**

Recognized by the Chair on motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), Representative Zarate raised his objection to the 2020 General Appropriations Bill (GAB), stressing that it contradicted its peace and progress theme. He said that funds for military and police agencies, confidential and intelligence funds, and funds to supposedly address illegal drugs, insurgency, and criminality were increased but those for social services, health services, and education

were decreased. He also decried the deliberations on the GAB and pointed out the lack of transparency, lack of time for the Members to review and scrutinize the budget, and continued presence of the pork barrel or patronage system.

Lastly, he expressed his wish that the limited budget of the government and the money of the people will be used for the interest of the people and the development of the country.

On motion of Majority Leader Romualdez, the Chair recognized Minority Leader Abante for his *turno en contra* speech.

TURNO EN CONTRA SPEECH OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

Initially, Minority Leader Abante acknowledged the role and performance of the Minority and the Majority in the budget deliberations as well as their mutual courtesy and respect. He also lauded some of the provisions of the GAB such as those providing for the establishment of the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development and for the allocations for housing.

He however stressed the need to cut unnecessary spending, do away with redundant offices, and explore the abolition of ill-performing agencies. He also emphasized the need to address the delayed implementation of programs such as universal health care; increase the personnel services allocations of some agencies to ensure the minimum wage and job security of their employees; and provide enough funds for digital infrastructure.

He then relayed the Minority bloc's commitment to protect the interests of the people and his wish for the government to use public funds with utmost care, transparency, and integrity.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF TURNO EN CONTRA

At this point, on motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of *turno en contra* on House Bill No. 4228.

PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

On motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the period of Committee amendments.

There being no Committee amendments, on motion of Majority Leader Romualdez, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of Committee amendments and proceeded to the period of individual amendments.

CREATION OF A SMALL COMMITTEE TO RECEIVE AND RESOLVE INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

Consistent with parliamentary precedence, on motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), there being no objection, the Body approved the creation of a small committee composed of the following Members to receive and resolve individual amendments to House Bill No. 4228:

For the Committee on Appropriations:

Chairperson Isidro T. Ungab
Senior Vice Chairperson Elenita Milagros
“Eileen” Ermita-Buhain
Vice Chairperson Joey Sarte Salceda
Vice Chairperson Junie E. Cua
Vice Chairperson Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong
Vice Chairperson Alfredo Vargas

For the Deputy Speakers:

Deputy Speaker Luis Raymund “LRay” F. Villafuerte Jr.
Deputy Speaker Neptali M. Gonzales II

For the Committee on Rules:

Majority Leader Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez
Senior Deputy Majority Leader Jesus Crispin C. Remulla

For the Minority:

Minority Leader Bienvenido M. Abante Jr.
Senior Deputy Minority Leader Janette L. Garin

For the Independent Members:

Rep. Edcel C. Lagman

Majority Leader Romualdez informed the Members that the deadline for submission of individual amendments is on Monday, September 23, 2019.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Upon recognition of the Chair on motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), Representative Zarate manifested that the President's certification of the 2020 GAB as urgent only allowed the House to dispense with the three-day rule but did not serve as a license to do away with the entire budgetary process.

He underscored that with the announced creation of a small committee, the House would skip not only the period of amendments but also the correct procedure of giving the Members a written and final version of the GAB before its transmittal to the Senate and subsequent approval on Second and Third Readings. He added that a precedent thereto was not in the same context as the Body still had a few more weeks to carefully examine the measure before the adjournment of session.

He thereafter stressed that for transparency, it was better to entertain individual amendments in the plenary sessions rather than in a small committee where only a few will decide on whether or not to accept proposed amendments.

The Chair took note of Representative Zarate's manifestation.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no further amendments, on motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of amendments.

APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

On motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), there being no objection, the Body approved on Second Reading, through *viva voce* voting, House Bill No. 4228, subject to the amendments to be approved by the aforecited small committee.

REMARKS OF MAJORITY LEADER ROMUALDEZ (F.M.)

Majority Leader Romualdez remarked that President Duterte, in his September 17, 2019 letter to

Speaker Alan Peter "Compañero" S. Cayetano, had certified to the necessity of the immediate enactment of House Bill No. 4228 in order to maintain continuous government operations following the end of the current fiscal year; to expedite the funding of various programs, projects, and activities for fiscal year 2020; and to ensure budgetary preparedness that will enable the government to effectively perform its constitutional mandate.

APPROVAL ON THIRD READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4228

On motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the approval on Third Reading of House Bill No. 4228, a certified urgent Bill, pursuant to Section 26 (2), Article VI of the Constitution and the Provisional Rules of the House.

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

"AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

The Chair then directed the Secretary General to call the Roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Provisional Rules of the House, a second Roll Call was made.

MANIFESTATIONS OF CERTAIN MEMBERS

During the voting, the following Members manifested their intent to explain their negative votes at the proper time: Representatives Brosas, Castro (F.L.), Eufemia "Ka Femia" C. Cullamat, Elago, and Gaite.

RESULT OF VOTING

The result of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative:

Abante
Abaya

Abueg-Zaldivar
Abunda

Acop	Chungalao	Gonzales (A.)	Ouano-Dizon
Acosta	Co (A.N.)	Gonzales (N.)	Pacquiao (A.)
Adiong	Co (E.)	Gonzalez	Pacquiao (R.)
Advincula	Cojuangco	Guico	Padiernos
Agabas	Collantes	Gullas	Paduano
Agarao	Crisologo	Guya	Palma
Aguinaldo	Cua	Haresco	Pancho
Albano (A.)	Cuaresma	Hataman	Panotes
Almario	Cueva	Herrera-Dy	Peña
Alonte	Dagooc	Hofer	Pichay
Alvarez (F.)	Dalipe	Jalosjos	Pimentel
Alvarez (G.)	Dalog	Javier	Pineda
Amante-Matba	Daza	Jimenez	Plaza
Amatong	De Jesus	Kho (W.)	Puno
Angara	de Venecia	Khonghun	Quimbo
Aragones	Defensor (L.)	Labadlabad	Radaza
Arbison	Del Mar	Lacson	Ramirez-Sato
Arenas	Delos Santos	Lacson-Noel	Ramos
Arroyo	Deloso-Montalla	Lagman	Remulla
Aumentado	Dimaporo (A.)	Lagon	Revilla
Babasa	Dimaporo (M.K.)	Lara	Reyes
Bagatsing	Duavit	Lazatin	Rivera
Balindong	Dy (F.)	Leachon	Robes
Barba	Dy (F.M.C.)	Legarda	Rodriguez
Baronda	Dy (I.P.)	Lim	Roman
Barzaga	Ebcas	Limkaichong	Romero
Bascug	Ecleo	Lopez	Romualdez (F.M.)
Bautista	Eriguel	Loyola	Romualdez (Y.M.)
Bautista-Bandigan	Ermita-Buhain	Macapagal Arroyo	Romualdo
Belmonte	Escudero	Maceda	Romulo
Benitez	Espina	Malapitan	Roque
Biazon	Espino	Mangaoang	Sacdalan
Bolilia	Estrella	Mangudadatu	Sagarbarria
Bondoc	Fariñas (R.C.)	Marcoleta	Salceda
Bordado	Fariñas I (R.C.)	Mariano-Hernandez	Salimbangon
Bravo	Fernandez	Mariño	Salo
Bulut	Fernando	Marquez	Sanchez
Bustos	Ferrer (J.M.)	Martinez	Sangcopan
Cabatbat	Ferrer (L.)	Matba	Santos-Recto
Cabochan	Flores	Matugas	Sarmiento
Cabredo	Fongwan	Mendoza	Saulog
Calderon	Fortun	Momo	Savellano
Calixto	Fortuno	Natividad-Nagaño	Silverio
Caminero	Frasco	Nava	Singson
Campos	Fuentebella	Nieto	Singson-Meehan
Caoagdan	Garcia (J.E.)	Noel	Sinsuat
Cari	Garcia (P.J.)	Nograles (J.F.F.)	Suansing (E.)
Castelo	Garin (J.)	Nolasco	Suansing (H.)
Castro (F.H.)	Garin (S.)	Núñez-Malanyaon	Suarez (A.)
Cayetano (A.P.)	Gatchalian	Oaminal	Suarez (D.)
Cayetano (M.L.)	Gato	Olivarez	Suntay
Celeste	Go (E.C.)	Ong (J.)	Sy-Alvarado
Chatto	Go (M.)	Ong (R.)	Taduran
Chipeco	Gonzaga	Ortega	Tallado

Tambunting	Uy (J.)
Tan (A.S.)	Uy (R.)
Tan (A.)	Valeriano
Tan (S.A.)	Valmayor
Tan-Tambut	Vargas
Tejada	Vargas Alfonso
Teves (A.)	Velasco
Teves (J.)	Veloso
Tiangco	Vergara
Tolentino	Villa
Torres-Gomez	Villanueva (N.)
Tulfo	Villaraza-Suarez
Tupas	Villarica
Tutor	Violago
Ty	Yap (V.)
Umali (A.)	Yu
Umali (M.V.)	Zamora (W.K.)
Unabia	Zubiri
Ungab	

Negative:

Brosas	Elago
Castro (F.L.)	Gaite
Cullamat	Zarate

Abstention:

None

With 257 affirmative votes, six negative votes, and zero abstentions, the Body approved on Third Reading House Bill No. 4228.

EXPLANATION OF VOTES

The following Members explained their votes:

1. In explaining her negative vote, Representative Brosas stated that peace and progress cannot be anchored on a national budget that spends huge sums of money on war machinery but leaves fragments thereof for food, health, decent housing, education, and other direct social services. She added that the budget allocations reflected the government's focus on curtailing human rights instead of addressing the root cause of poverty. Finally, Representative Brosas strongly reiterated her negative vote to an appropriations bill that funds a *de facto* dictatorship which systematically overturns the gains of those who previously fought

against martial rule and the reign of terror in the country.

MANIFESTATION OF MAJORITY LEADER ROMUALDEZ (F.M.)

At this point, Representative Romualdez enjoined his colleagues to remain in the Session Hall for the speech of Speaker Cayetano (A.P.) after the explanation of votes, as well as the photo opportunity upon the adjournment of session.

EXPLANATION OF VOTES (Continuation)

2. Representative Castro (F.L.) expressed her opposition to the proposed 2020 national budget for three reasons: (a) the significant budget cuts for social services; (b) the prioritization of funds for war and militarization, citing the creation of the NTF-ELCAC; and (c) the hastened deliberation process of the budget bill. If the budget was for peace and progress, she asserted that more funds should have been allotted for the poor and vulnerable sector. She highlighted that tax revenues sourced from the people were being used against them instead of ensuring their rights to basic services and solving armed conflict.
3. Representative Cullamat voted "No" to House Bill No. 4228 budget as it was, according to her, a budget more predisposed to militarization that would intensify threats to the minorities, than improve social services. She cited the 40 percent increase in the total budget for defense, and the provision of budgetary support for NTF-ELCAC, while decreasing the budget for health. Moreover, the 2020 budget greatly supports the Build, Build, Build Program which, she said, had been damaging to the livelihood of the people.
4. At the outset, Representative Elago questioned the voting process being done in the absence of the amended 2020 GAB, and its railroad passage that would sacrifice the opportunity of the Members to propose amendments in support of more funds for agriculture and other basic services. She said that the period of amendments was necessary to allow them to carefully reallocate lump

sum funds, such as the Office of the President's block budget, to programs for the youth and children. Representative Elago opined that the 2020 GAB runs contrary to its objectives and instead supports tyrannical measures. Finally, she called on the Body to assert its independence and uphold the system of checks and balances.

5. Representative Gaité voted in opposition to House Bill No. 4228 because the Bill focused on war against drugs, terrorism and criminality, while it had reduced the budgets for health, education, housing and agriculture, and insufficiently addresses low salaries of workers and contractualization in the government. Finally, he stated that the 2020 proposed budget would not lead to the government's 2040 vision of "matatag, maginhawa at panatag na buhay."

Thereafter, Representative Romualdez (F.M.) called on his colleagues to listen to Speaker Cayetano (A.P.) who delivered the following speech.

SPEECH OF SPEAKER CAYETANO (A.P.)

The Book of James tells us that, "Faith without action is dead." Today, the 18th Congress is very much alive. Our actions and our faith in our country, democratic process, in our House of Representatives, and in God Almighty, led us to this day where we were able to pass a quality people's budget in record time. Maraming, maraming salamat po.

The budget was submitted on August 20, and today, September 20, with 257 votes, it is now approved. Salamat sa ating Majority Leader, salamat sa ating Minority Leader, sa kanilang teams; salamat sa Committee on Appropriations, palakpakan po natin, Chairman Sid Ungab; sa atin pong Deputy Speakers, at sa atin pong Vice Chairmen ng Committee on Appropriations, and of course, sa inyong lahat, pumabor man o hindi sa ating 2020 budget.

Opo, mabilis po tayo pero hindi lang po sa budget. Our passing the budget in record time will give our standing and special committees more time to exercise their oversight functions especially over the 2019 budget and programs, platforms, and projects of our country. It will also give us enough time to pass urgent measures including revenue measures that will fund the budget next year and for the generations to come. Also, it will give us time to review the programs of health, education, and other social services which our people are constantly demanding for more and better services.

Next year's budget is the 2020 budget—2020 is a symbol of perfect vision. By no means, dear colleagues, is the 2020 budget, as we passed today, perfect. Many circumstances and events in the last few days, last few weeks, will also lead us to review parts of the budget. So let me join those who voted "No" in saying, let us continue to review, study, discuss, scrutinize, and even amend this budget so that we will have a 2020 budget that will fit the perfect vision of a safe and comfortable life for all Filipinos, for generations to come; so that our farmers, our overseas Filipino workers, young people, senior citizens, soldiers, teachers, workers toward peace, health workers, government employees, laborers, fishermen, and all Filipinos, businessmen and businesswomen, so that together we will have a budget that really fulfills the needs of the Filipino people.

I enjoin our colleagues to submit their amendments. And as we were gracious enough to talk to the secretaries about concerns regarding our districts, yet, ask policy questions, I ask you now today to also file your version of institutional amendments, just like what Deputy Speaker Loren Legarda has submitted to my office.

So far, there seems to be a consensus that we should add to the ₱7 billion na pambili ng palay to help our farmers. Sid Ungab has already found ₱3 billion to add to ₱10 billion but we would like to go higher than ₱10 billion. But, iyon pong dagdag sa pambili ng palay ay balewala din kung hindi po magiging komprehensibo ang ating approach sa family-size farming and making this kind of farming and agrarian reform effective in our country.

Education and health needs much more funds and fine tuning ng programa nila. Electrification -- ilang taon na natin naririnig iyong 100 percent electrification ng buong Pilipinas, ilang taon na rin tayong nakukuryente; so please submit your amendments regarding 100 percent electrification of our country.

Sports -- 2020 is a banner year. We will start out with the 2020 Para Games in January in the New Clark City. And then, we will have the Olympics in Tokyo.

For the AFP, PNP, and security forces, we also want to make some reforms to help them especially in the management and development of their camps.

And, of course, the gridlock that is affecting many Metro areas around the country, mainly, Metro Davao, Metro Cebu, Metro Manila traffic. The budget can also help to alleviate the sufferings of Filipinos from traffic.

So, with an open mind and with open ears, whether we voted "Yes" or "No," let us submit these amendments. Let us talk, let us criticize, yes, but let us come up with alternatives. Kahit anong ganda po ng criticism, kung wala pong alternatibo na maganda, wala ring mangyayari. So, that's why this 18th Congress, with open ears, with open minds, will accept and look at each and every amendment conscientiously.

Congress and governance is a team sport. Marami pong nagko-congratulate sa record natin today at sa ating mga revenues. Let me also thank Congressman Joey Salceda, Congresswoman Sharon Garin, Congresswoman Suansing, and Congressman Cua and lahat po na tumutulong sa Ways and Means Committee na humanap din ng pondo para sa atin.

By no means are these revenue bills also perfect. We have to continue to fine-tune them to make sure that we have a just and equitable system of taxation in our country. Governance is not an individual sport, it is a team sport. So, let us congratulate each other and not any one Member of Congress. Thank you, team Congress. Thank you for a people's budget. Salamat that there is no pork, no parking, and no delays in this budget.


And, since we are a team, let us also show that we are good spouses by all attending at 1:00 p.m., Monday, the first activity of the Congressional Spouses. I will see you there. God bless you all. Maraming, maraming salamat po.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

Whereupon, 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 Monday, September 23, 2019.

It was 9:28 p.m. of Friday, September 20, 2019.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.


JOSE LUIS G. MONTALES
Secretary General

Approved, as amended, on September 25 and October 1, 2019.

DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED

Printed copies of the following measures were distributed to the Members on the dates indicated hereunder:

September 10, 2019

1. House Bill No. 4157, entitled: "AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 4, 5, 20, 22, 27, 28, 34, 40, 50, 73, 112, 117, 204, 222, 237, 237-A, 255, 256, 257, 258, 261, 263, 264, 266, 275, 290, 291, 292 AND ADDING NEW SECTIONS 6-A, 282-A, 293, 294, 294-A, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, AND 316, ALL UNDER THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

September 17, 2019

2. House Bill No. 4599, entitled: "AN ACT SEPARATING SITIO PANACAN-2 FROM BARANGAY PANACAN IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NARRA, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN AND CONSTITUTING IT INTO A SEPARATE AND INDEPENDENT BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY PANACAN-2"
3. House Bill No. 4600, entitled: "AN ACT SEPARATING THE SITIOS OF ILEB, NEW COLAYO VILLAGE, KINAMA AND NAMBARAN DAYA FROM BARANGAY NAMBARAN, CITY OF TABUK, PROVINCE OF KALINGA AND CONSTITUTING THEM INTO A SEPARATE AND INDEPENDENT BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY NAMBARAN EAST"
4. House Bill No. 4601, entitled: "AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY NEW LOWER BICUTAN IN THE CITY OF TAGUIG, METROPOLITAN MANILA"
5. House Bill No. 4602, entitled: "AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY SAN MIGUEL IN THE CITY OF TAGUIG, METROPOLITAN MANILA"

6. House Bill No. 4603, entitled: "AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY NORTH DAANG HARI IN THE CITY OF TAGUIG, METROPOLITAN MANILA"
7. House Bill No. 4611, entitled: "AN ACT DESIGNATING THE THIRD SUNDAY OF NOVEMBER EVERY YEAR AS THE NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ROAD CRASH VICTIMS, SURVIVORS, AND THEIR FAMILIES, ENSURING ITS MEANINGFUL OBSERVANCE"

September 19, 2019

8. House Bill No. 4466, entitled: "AN ACT INTEGRATING LABOR EDUCATION INTO THE SOCIAL SCIENCE SUBJECTS IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION CURRICULUM"
9. House Bill No. 4581, entitled: "AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO GOLDEN BROADCAST PROFESSIONAL, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8025, ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING THE GOLDEN BROADCAST PROFESSIONAL, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE A STATION FOR FM RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING IN THE ISLAND OF MINDANAO', AND EXPANDING ITS COVERAGE TO THE ENTIRE PHILIPPINES"
10. House Bill No. 4583, entitled: "AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO BROADCAST ENTERPRISES AND AFFILIATED MEDIA, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8098 TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES"
11. House Bill No. 4584, entitled: "AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE

GRANTED TO CRUSADERS BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC., UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8091, ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING THE CRUSADERS BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, ESTABLISH, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN COMMERCIAL RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS WITHIN THE PHILIPPINES' "

12. House Bill No. 4436, entitled: "AN ACT GRANTING THE LANA DEL NORTE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN A DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF ELECTRIC POWER TO THE END USERS IN ALL THE MUNICIPALITIES OF THE PROVINCE OF LANA DEL NORTE"
13. House Bill No. 4437, entitled: "AN ACT GRANTING THE BICOL LIGHT AND POWER CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE, OWN, MANAGE, AND MAINTAIN A POWER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF ELECTRIC POWER TO THE END USERS IN THE TOWNS OF BAAO, BALATAN, BATO, BUHI, BULA, NABUA, AND THE CITY OF IRIGA, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"
14. House Bill No. 4582, entitled: "AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO GOLD LABEL BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8087, ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING TO THE GOLD LABEL BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC., A FRANCHISE TO ESTABLISH, MAINTAIN, AND OPERATE RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN DUMAGUETE CITY AND OTHER AREAS IN THE VISAYAS AND MINDANAO WHERE FREQUENCIES AND/OR CHANNELS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING' "

Congress of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Philippines

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE*Journal No. 18***Tuesday, September 10, 2019**

ABANTE	BORDADO	DY (F.)
ABAYA	BRAVO	DY (F.M.C.)
* ABELLANOSA	BROSAS	DY (I.P.)
ABU	BULUT	EBCAS
ABUEG-ZALDIVAR	BUSTOS	ECLEO
* ABUNDA	CABATBAT	* ELAGO
ACOP	CABOCHAN	* ENVERGA
ACOSTA	CABREDO	ERICE
ACOSTA-ALBA	CAGAS	ERIGUEL
* ADIONG	CALDERON	ERMITA-BUHAIN
* ADVINCULA	CALIXTO	ESCUDERO
AGABAS	* CAMINERO	ESPINA
** AGARAO	CAMPOS	ESPINO
AGLIPAY	CANAMA	ESTRELLA
* AGUINALDO	CAOAGDAN	FARIÑAS (R.C.)
ALBANO (A.)	CARI	FARIÑAS I (R.C.)
*** ALBANO (R.)	CASTELO	FERNANDEZ
ALMARIO	CASTRO (F.L.)	FERNANDO
ALONTE	CASTRO (F.H.)	FERRER (J.M.)
ALVAREZ (F.)	CAYETANO (A.P.)	** FERRER (L.)
ALVAREZ (G.)	CAYETANO (M.L.)	FLORES
* ALVAREZ (P.)	CELESTE	FONGWAN
AMANTE-MATBA	CHATTO	FORTUN
AMATONG	** CHIPECO	FORTUNO
*** ANDAYA	CHUNGALAO	FRASCO
ANGARA	CO (A.N.)	FUENTEBELLA
ARAGONES	CO (E.)	GAITE
* ARBISON	* COJUANGCO	GARBIN
ARENAS	COLLANTES	* GARCIA (J.E.)
ARROYO	CRISOLOGO	GARCIA (P.J.)
ATIENZA	CUA	* GARCIA (V.)
AUMENTADO	CUARESMA	GARIN (J.)
BABASA	CUEVA	GARIN (S.)
BAGATSING	CULLAMAT	GASATAYA
BALINDONG	DAGOOC	* GATCHALIAN
BARBA	DALIPE	GATO
**** BARBERS	DALOG	GERON
BARONDA	DAZA	* GO (E.C.)
BARZAGA	DE JESUS	GO (M.)
BASCUG	DE VENECIA	GONZAGA
** BAUTISTA	* DEFENSOR (L.)	GONZALES (A.)
* BAUTISTA-BANDIGAN	DEFENSOR (M.)	GONZALES (N.)
BELMONTE	DEL MAR	* GONZALEZ
BENITEZ	DELOS SANTOS	GORRICETA
* BERNOS	DELOSO-MONTALLA	GUICO
BIAZON	DIMAPORO (A.)	GULLAS
* BILLONES	DIMAPORO (M.K.)	GUYA
BIRON	DUAVIT	HARESCO
BOLILIA	DUJALI	HATAMAN
BONDOC	** DUTERTE	* HERNANDEZ

HERRERA-DY	PACQUIAO (A.)	SUAREZ (D.)
HOFER	PACQUIAO (R.)	SUNTAY
JALOSJOS	PADIERNOS	* SY-ALVARADO
JAVIER	PADUANO	TADURAN
JIMENEZ	PALMA	TALLADO
KHO (E.)	PANCHO	TAMBUNTING
KHO (W.)	PANOTES	TAN (A.S.)
KHONGHUN	PEÑA	TAN (A.)
LABADLABAD	PICHAY	* TAN (S.)
LACSON	PIMENTEL	TAN (S.A.)
LACSON-NOEL	PINEDA	* TAN-TAMBUT
* LAGMAN	PLAZA	TEJADA
LAGON	PUNO	TEVES (A.)
LARA	QUIMBO	* TEVES (J.)
LAZATIN	RADAZA	TIANGCO
LEACHON	* RAMIREZ-SATO	TOLENTINO
LEGARDA	RAMOS	* TORRES-GOMEZ
LIM	REMULLA	TULFO
LIMKAICHONG	REVILLA	TUPAS
LOPEZ	REYES	TUTOR
LOYOLA	RIVERA	* TY
MACAPAGAL ARROYO	ROBES	UMALI (A.)
* MACEDA	RODRIGUEZ	UMALI (M.V.)
*** MADRONA	* ROMAN	UNABIA
MALAPITAN	ROMERO	UNGAB
MANGAOANG	ROMUALDEZ (F.M.)	UY (J.)
MANGUDADATU	* ROMUALDEZ (Y.M.)	UY (R.)
MARCOLETA	ROMUALDO	VALERIANO
MARIANO-HERNANDEZ	ROMULO	VALMAYOR
MARIÑO	ROQUE	VARGAS
MARQUEZ	SACDALAN	VARGAS ALFONSO
MARTINEZ	* SAGARBARRIA	VELASCO
MATBA	*** SAKALURAN	VELOSO
MATUGAS	SALCEDA	VERGARA
* MENDOZA	SALIMBANGON	* VILLA
MOMO	SALO	VILLAFUERTE
NATIVIDAD-NAGAÑO	SANCHEZ	VILLANUEVA (E.)
* NAVA	* SANGCOPAN	VILLANUEVA (N.)
NIETO	SANTOS-RECTO	* VILLAR
* NOEL	SARMIENTO	VILLARAZA-SUAREZ
NOGRALES (J.J.)	SAULOG	VILLARICA
NOGRALES (J.F.F.)	SAVELLANO	VIOLAGO
NOLASCO	SIAO	YAP (E.)
NUÑEZ-MALANYAON	SILVERIO	* YAP (V.)
OAMINAL	SINGSON	* YU
* OLIVAREZ	SINGSON-MEEHAN	ZAMORA (R.)
ONG (J.)	SINSUAT	ZAMORA (W.K.)
ONG (R.)	SUANSING (E.)	ZARATE
ORTEGA	SUANSING (H.)	ZUBIRI
OUANO-DIZON	* SUAREZ (A.)	

* Appeared after the Roll Call

** Section 71, Rule XI of the Rules of the House

(Attended committee meetings as authorized by the Committee on Rules/Attended meetings of the CA, HRET, or bicameral conference committees/

On official mission as approved by the Speaker)

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

**** Absent without notice

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

Congress of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Philippines

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE

Journal No. 18

Friday, September 13, 2019

ABANTE	BORDADO	DY (F.)
ABAYA	BRAVO	* DY (F.M.C.)
* ABELLANOSA	BROSAS	* DY (I.P.)
* ABU	* BULUT	EBCAS
ABUEG-ZALDIVAR	BUSTOS	ECLEO
ABUNDA	CABATBAT	ELAGO
ACOP	* CABOCHAN	ENVERGA
ACOSTA	* CABREDO	* ERICE
* ACOSTA-ALBA	* CAGAS	* ERIGUEL
* ADIONG	* CALDERON	ERMITA-BUHAIN
* ADVINCULA	CALIXTO	ESCUDERO
AGABAS	* CAMINERO	ESPINA
* AGARAO	CAMPOS	* ESPINO
AGLIPAY	* CANAMA	* ESTRELLA
* AGUINALDO	* CAOAGDAN	* FARIÑAS (R.C.)
ALBANO (A.)	CARI	* FARIÑAS I (R.C.)
*** ALBANO (R.)	CASTELO	FERNANDEZ
* ALMARIO	CASTRO (F.L.)	FERNANDO
* ALONTE	CASTRO (F.H.)	* FERRER (J.M.)
* ALVAREZ (F.)	** CAYETANO (A.P.)	* FERRER (L.)
* ALVAREZ (G.)	CAYETANO (M.L.)	FLORES
* ALVAREZ (P.)	* CELESTE	FONGWAN
AMANTE-MATBA	CHATTO	* FORTUN
* AMATONG	* CHIPECO	FORTUNO
*** ANDAYA	CHUNGALAO	FRASCO
ANGARA	CO (A.N.)	* FUENTEBELLA
* ARAGONES	* CO (E.)	GAITE
ARBISON	* COJUANGCO	* GARBIN
* ARENAS	* COLLANTES	* GARCIA (J.E.)
ARROYO	CRISOLOGO	** GARCIA (P.J.)
ATIENZA	CUA	* GARCIA (V.)
* AUMENTADO	CUARESMA	GARIN (J.)
* BABASA	CUEVA	GARIN (S.)
* BAGATSING	CULLAMAT	* GASATAYA
BALINDONG	DAGOOC	* GATCHALIAN
BARBA	DALIPE	GATO
**** BARBERS	DALOG	* GERON
BARONDA	* DAZA	GO (E.C.)
* BARZAGA	DE JESUS	* GO (M.)
BASCUG	DE VENECIA	GONZAGA
** BAUTISTA	DEFENSOR (L.)	GONZALES (A.)
* BAUTISTA-BANDIGAN	* DEFENSOR (M.)	GONZALES (N.)
BELMONTE	DEL MAR	* GONZALEZ
* BENITEZ	DELOS SANTOS	* GORRICETA
BERNOS	DELOSO-MONTALLA	GUICO
BIAZON	DIMAPORO (A.)	* GULLAS
BILLONES	DIMAPORO (M.K.)	GUYA
* BIRON	* DUAVIT	HARESCO
BOLILIA	* DUJALI	HATAMAN
BONDOC	** DUTERTE	* HERNANDEZ

* HERRERA-DY	* PACQUIAO (A.)	SUAREZ (D.)
* HOFER	PACQUIAO (R.)	SUNTAY
JALOSJOS	PADIERNOS	SY-ALVARADO
JAVIER	PADUANO	TADURAN
JIMENEZ	PALMA	TALLADO
KHO (E.)	PANCHO	TAMBUNTING
KHO (W.)	PANOTES	* TAN (A.S.)
* KHONGHUN	PEÑA	TAN (A.)
* LABADLABAD	* PICHAY	* TAN (S.)
* LACSON	PIMENTEL	TAN (S.A.)
LACSON-NOEL	PINEDA	* TAN-TAMBUT
LAGMAN	PLAZA	* TEJADA
* LAGON	PUNO	TEVES (A.)
* LARA	QUIMBO	TEVES (J.)
LAZATIN	* RADAZA	TIANGCO
* LEACHON	* RAMIREZ-SATO	TOLENTINO
* LEGARDA	RAMOS	* TORRES-GOMEZ
LIM	REMULLA	TULFO
LIMKAICHONG	* REVILLA	* TUPAS
* LOPEZ	REYES	* TUTOR
LOYOLA	RIVERA	TY
MACAPAGAL ARROYO	ROBES	* UMALI (A.)
* MACEDA	* RODRIGUEZ	UMALI (M.V.)
*** MADRONA	* ROMAN	UNABIA
MALAPITAN	* ROMERO	UNGAB
* MANGAOANG	ROMUALDEZ (F.M.)	* UY (J.)
* MANGUDADATU	* ROMUALDEZ (Y.M.)	UY (R.)
MARCOLETA	ROMUALDO	VALERIANO
MARIANO-HERNANDEZ	* ROMULO	VALMAYOR
* MARIÑO	ROQUE	VARGAS
* MARQUEZ	SACDALAN	* VARGAS ALFONSO
* MARTINEZ	SAGARBARRIA	* VELASCO
MATBA	*** SAKALURAN	* VELOSO
MATUGAS	* SALCEDA	VERGARA
* MENDOZA	* SALIMBANGON	VILLA
MOMO	SALO	* VILLAFUERTE
NATIVIDAD-NAGAÑO	SANCHEZ	VILLANUEVA (E.)
* NAVA	SANGCOPAN	VILLANUEVA (N.)
NIETO	* SANTOS-RECTO	* VILLAR
NOEL	SARMIENTO	VILLARAZA-SUAREZ
* NOGRALES (J.J.)	* SAULOG	VILLARICA
NOGRALES (J.F.F.)	SAVELLANO	VIOLAGO
NOLASCO	* SIAO	* YAP (E.)
* NUÑEZ-MALANYAON	SILVERIO	* YAP (V.)
OAMINAL	* SINGSON	* YU
* OLIVAREZ	SINGSON-MEEHAN	* ZAMORA (R.)
ONG (J.)	SINSUAT	ZAMORA (W.K.)
* ONG (R.)	SUANSING (E.)	ZARATE
ORTEGA	SUANSING (H.)	ZUBIRI
OUANO-DIZON	* SUAREZ (A.)	

* Appeared before/after the Roll Call

** Section 71, Rule XI of the Rules of the House

(Attended committee meetings as authorized by the Committee on Rules/Attended meetings of the CA, HRET, or bicameral conference committees/

On official mission as approved by the Speaker)

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

**** Absent without notice

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

Congress of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Philippines

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE

Journal No. 18

Friday, September 20, 2019

ABANTE	BORDADO	DY (F.)
ABAYA	BRAVO	DY (F.M.C.)
* ABELLANOSA	BROSAS	DY (I.P.)
* ABU	BULUT	EBCAS
ABUEG-ZALDIVAR	BUSTOS	ECLEO
ABUNDA	CABATBAT	ELAGO
ACOP	CABOCHAN	ENVERGA
ACOSTA	CABREDO	ERICE
** ACOSTA-ALBA	CAGAS	ERIGUEL
ADIONG	CALDERON	ERMITA-BUHAIN
ADVINCULA	CALIXTO	ESCUDERO
AGABAS	CAMINERO	ESPINA
AGARAO	CAMPOS	* ESPINO
* AGLIPAY	* CANAMA	ESTRELLA
AGUINALDO	CAOAGDAN	FARIÑAS (R.C.)
ALBANO (A.)	CARI	FARIÑAS I (R.C.)
*** ALBANO (R.)	CASTELO	FERNANDEZ
ALMARIO	CASTRO (F.L.)	FERNANDO
ALONTE	CASTRO (F.H.)	FERRER (J.M.)
ALVAREZ (F.)	CAYETANO (A.P.)	* FERRER (L.)
ALVAREZ (G.)	CAYETANO (M.L.)	FLORES
* ALVAREZ (P.)	CELESTE	FONGWAN
AMANTE-MATBA	CHATTO	FORTUN
AMATONG	CHIPECO	FORTUNO
*** ANDAYA	CHUNGALAO	FRASCO
ANGARA	CO (A.N.)	FUENTEBELLA
ARAGONES	CO (E.)	GAITE
ARBISON	COJUANGCO	* GARBIN
ARENAS	COLLANTES	GARCIA (J.E.)
ARROYO	CRISOLOGO	GARCIA (P.J.)
ATIENZA	CUA	* GARCIA (V.)
AUMENTADO	CUARESMA	GARIN (J.)
BABASA	CUEVA	GARIN (S.)
BAGATSING	CULLAMAT	* GASATAYA
BALINDONG	DAGOOC	GATCHALIAN
BARBA	DALIPE	GATO
**** BARBERS	DALOG	** GERON
BARONDA	DAZA	GO (E.C.)
* BARZAGA	DE JESUS	GO (M.)
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