



Journal of the House of Representatives

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**JOURNAL NO. 29
Wednesday, November 20, 2019**

Prepared by the
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CALL TO ORDER

At 3:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Rose Marie “Baby” J. Arenas called the session to order.

INVOCATION AND NATIONAL ANTHEM

Deputy Speaker Evelina G. Escudero delivered the invocation and thereafter, the Members sang the National Anthem.

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

On successive motions of Rep. Josephine Veronique R. Lacson-Noel, there being no objection, the Body deferred the calling of the Roll and the approval of the Journal of the previous session.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

On motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the Reference of Business.

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 5510, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE MANUFACTURE, USE, SALE, PACKAGING, DISTRIBUTION AND ADVERTISEMENTS OF VAPOR PRODUCTS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Herrera-Dy
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 5511, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 209, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 227”

By Representative Guico
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 5512, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE RULES AND POLICIES ON THE DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATIVE ADOPTION PROCEEDING OF FILIPINO AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Saulog
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

House Bill No. 5513, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10410, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'EARLY YEARS ACT OF 2013', AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Acop
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

House Bill No. 5514, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NO CALLS AND NO TEXT REGISTRATION SYSTEM AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romulo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 5515, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A HEALTH PROMOTION FUND AND HEALTH PROMOTION COMMISSION TO OVERSEE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF HEALTH PROMOTION IN THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Nograles (Juan)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 5516, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL POLICY IN PREVENTING TEENAGE PREGNANCIES, INSTITUTIONALIZING SOCIAL PROTECTION FOR TEENAGE PARENTS, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Nograles (Juan)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON POPULATION AND FAMILY RELATIONS

House Bill No. 5517, entitled:

“AN ACT RECOGNIZING WESTFIELDS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, INC., AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER, GRANTING CERTAIN PREROGATIVES CONDUCTIVE TO ITS GROWTH AS SUCH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Lazatin
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 5518, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR DRIVERS’ EDUCATION AS AN ELECTIVE FOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOLS”

By Representative Lazatin
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 5519, entitled:

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

By Representative Lazatin
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 5520, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING FOOD SAFETY STANDARDS IN SCHOOLS AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10611”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD SECURITY

House Bill No. 5521, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERSHIP IN THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Fernandez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 5522, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE INCLUSION OF THE STUDY OF THE CONSTITUTION AS A SUBJECT IN THE CURRICULUM OF SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

UNDER THE ENHANCED BASIC EDUCATION (K TO 12) PROGRAM”

By Representatives Defensor (Lorenz) and Gorriceta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 5523, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING HOTELS AND RESORTS WITH SWIMMING POOLS AND BEACH FRONTS TO EMPLOY LIFEGUARDS”

By Representative Aragoness
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 5524, entitled:

“AN ACT REORGANIZING THE COMELEC OFFICES”

By Representative Dalipe
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

House Bill No. 5525, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY PASILMANTA IN ZAMBOANGA CITY, TO BE KNOWN AS PASILMANTA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Dalipe
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 5526, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE RULES AND POLICIES ON THE DOMESTIC ADMINISTRATIVE ADOPTION PROCEEDING OF FILIPINO AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

House Bill No. 5527, entitled:

“AN ACT FURTHER EXPANDING THE JURISDICTION OF THE METROPOLITAN TRIAL COURTS, MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURTS IN CITIES, MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURTS, AND MUNICIPAL CIRCUIT TRIAL COURTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980,' AS AMENDED”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 5528, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE MARSHAL SERVICE, DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS AND POWERS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Villafuerte

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 5529, entitled:

“AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE ADVANCE USE OF THE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS’ 2019 EXCESS TARIFF REVENUES FROM RICE IMPORTATION, AND OTHER POSSIBLE SOURCES, AS A SPECIAL EMERGENCY FUND SETTING-UP THE RICE FARMER FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AS DIRECT CASH TRANSFERS TO RICE FARMERS”

By Representative Villafuerte

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 5530, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MULTI-PURPOSE FISHERY BREEDING FARM AND HATCHERY FOR THE PRODUCTION OF MILKFISH (BANGUS) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN AND IN THE ISLAND GARDEN CITY OF SAMAL (IGACOS), PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL NORTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Dujali

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 5531, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE AND BENEFITS TO THE DEPENDENTS OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP), PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION (BFP), BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY (BJMP), NATIONAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (NBI), PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY (PDEA), PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD (PCG) AND BUREAU OF CORRECTIONS (BUCOR) WHO ARE KILLED OR PERMANENTLY INCAPACITATED WHILE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTY OR

BY REASON OF THEIR OFFICE OR POSITION”

By Representative Hernandez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY AND THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

House Bill No. 5532, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE PROVINCE OF LAGUNA TO BE STATIONED AT THE MUNICIPALITY OF LOS BAÑOS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14, PARAGRAPH (E) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980', AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Mariano-Hernandez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 5533, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN THE CITY OF CABUYAO, PROVINCE OF LAGUNA, TO BE KNOWN AS THE CABUYAO CITY TESDA TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Mariano-Hernandez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 533, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION APPEALING TO THE GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR TO IMPLEMENT ON AN EXPERIMENTAL BASIS, THE PROPOSAL OF A 'FOUR-DAY WORK WEEK'”

By Representative Barzaga

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

House Resolution No. 534, entitled:

“RESOLUTION FOR THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BASES CONVERSION, OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE RESOLUTION OF THE SANGGUNIAN BAYAN OF CAPAS, TARLAC, REQUESTING FOR A REVIEW OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7227 OR PROCLAMATION NO. 163, SERIES OF 1993, TO EXCLUDE FOR MILITARY USE PORTIONS OF ZONE C (CROW VALLEY), IN THE SAID MUNICIPALITY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Cojuangco, Yap (Victor) and Villanueva (Noel)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

COMMUNICATION

Letter dated November 4, 2019 of Delfin N. Lorenzana, Secretary, Department of National Defense, submitting the Department’s report on the implementation of Martial Law in Mindanao covering the month of August 2019.
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Committee on Natural Resources (Committee Report No. 84), re H.B. No. 4119, entitled:

“AN ACT REVERTING FISH PONDS WHICH HAVE BEEN UNUTILIZED OR ABANDONED FOR A PERIOD OF THREE (3) YEARS TO FORESTLANDS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 43 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 705, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED FORESTRY REFORM CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”

recommending its approval without amendment
Sponsors: Representatives Barzaga and Villarica
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

PRIVILEGE HOUR

With leave of the House, on motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, there being no objection, the Chair declared a Privilege Hour.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE MANGUDADATU

On motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, the Chair recognized Rep. Esmael G. Mangudadatu who spoke about the commemoration of the 10th

year of the Maguindanao massacre and shared to the Body his experience, thoughts, and reveries on the gruesome attack that took the lives of his wife, siblings, relatives, and friends.

Representative Mangudadatu recounted his painful experience, personal suffering, and trauma and how he had entrusted his plight for justice to Allah and the country’s criminal justice system.

In memory of the 58 victims of the massacre, Representative Mangudadatu expressed dismay over the defense’s recantation of their witnesses’ testimonies; and shared that despite the delays in the dispensation of justice, another month would be worth the wait for as long as justice would be served. He then appealed to President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, the Supreme Court, the Department of Justice, and the presiding judge for true justice to be served and for maximum penalty to be imposed.

Relaying the difficulty of collecting and preserving evidence of the massacre, Representative Mangudadatu thereby asked that the House of Representatives initiate the passing of a bill that would amend Republic Act No. 6975 to mandate the Philippine National Police (PNP) and augment its funds for the establishment of a scene of the crime operative or SOCO team in every municipality in the country for an immediate conduct of crime scene processing. He stated that he would file his own version of the bill and sought his colleagues’ support for its immediate passage.

At this point, Representative Mangudadatu asked for a minute of silence to honor the victims of the massacre and thereafter enumerated their names.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, the Chair recognized Rep. Rowena Niña O. Tadiran on a manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE TADURAN

On behalf of ACT- CIS Party-List, Representative Tadiran expressed sympathy to Representative Mangudadatu and stated that she feels and shares his pain as several of the victims were her colleagues from the media and that she is one with the nation in awaiting justice for the victims of the Maguindanao

massacre. She then hoped that such atrocity would never happen again.

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, the Chair recognized Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. for his manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Expressing support to Representative Mangudadatu's call for justice for his loved ones, Representative Atienza, on behalf of BUHAY Party-List, questioned the prevailing justice system in the country, which affected the rendering of justice, not only for the Maguindanao massacre victims, but also for the victims of other unresolved cases of heinous crimes.

He stressed that justice should be served and the only way for the Philippines to progress as a country is to have an efficient justice system. He then called on the government to address the issue and give justice to the victims of heinous crimes.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE MANGUDADATU

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Representative Mangudadatu, together with the manifestations thereon, to the Committee on Rules for its proper action.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Rep. Alfred C. Delos Santos acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of guests of Majority Leader Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, Deputy Speaker Pablo John F. Garcia, Reps. Yedda Marie K. Romualdez, Christopher V.P. de Venecia, Rudy S. Caoagdan, DPA, Josefina B. Tallado, Paul Ruiz Daza, and Jose "Jun" L. Ong Jr.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, the Chair recognized Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate for his privilege speech.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

On behalf of the Makabayan bloc, Representative Zarate expressed his support to Representative Mangudadatu and the victims of the Maguindanao

massacre. In commemoration of the Maguindanao massacre and the International Day to End Impunity, he spoke on the dangers posed by private armies, militias, and paramilitaries which have become one of the pillars of the reign of impunity in the country. He pointed out however that the government is not serious in addressing the problem considering that Executive Order No. 546 issued by former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo is still in effect and was being cited by warlords and powerful politicians like the Ampatuans to justify the existence of their private armies for political and economic ends. In view thereof, he stated that the reign of impunity continues resulting in more cases of extrajudicial killings and other forms of human rights violations.

He pointed out that the failure of government to prosecute the Ampatuans for the Maguindanao massacre is a reflection of the injustice that exists in the country. He added that the number of homicides related to the war on drugs that is under the investigation of the PNP seems to be just a mere figure because murderers continue to exercise their power in the country.

As he cited the recent Canlaon and Sagay massacres in Negros Occidental, he stressed that injustice still persists as attacks on the rights of activists and critics of the current administration who protest against violations of human rights continue and the quest for justice for the murder victims is still elusive.

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

Representative Zarate informed the Body that the Makabayan Bloc had recently begun to seek support from their colleagues against political persecution. He stated that their colleagues' support for them was a stand against impunity in the country.

In closing, he requested his colleagues to watch a video presentation remembering the Maguindanao massacre victims and thereafter called for an end to impunity and justice for the victims of the said massacre and all victims of impunity.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

On motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, there being no objection, the Body referred Representative

Zarate's privilege speech to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

SUSPENSION OF PRIVILEGE HOUR

Representative Lacson-Noel thereafter moved that the Body suspend the Privilege Hour and there being no objection, the Body approved the same.

ROLL CALL

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

Abaya	Bustos	Eriguel	Momo
Abellanos	Cabatbat	Ermita-Buhain	Natividad-Nagaño
Abu	Cabochan	Escudero	Nava
Abueg-Zaldivar	Cagas	Espina	Nieto
Acop	Calderon	Espino	Noel
Acosta	Calixto	Estrella	Nogralas (J.J.)
Acosta-Alba	Canama	Fariñas I (R.C.)	Nogralas (J.F.F.)
Adiong	Caoagdan	Fernando	Nolasco
Advincula	Castelo	Ferrer (J.M.)	Oaminal
Agabas	Castro (F.L.)	Ferrer (L.)	Ong (J.)
Agarao	Castro (F.H.)	Fortuno	Ong (R.)
Aglipay	Cayetano (A.P.)	Gaite	Ortega
Albano	Cayetano (M.L.)	Garbin	Pacquiao (A.)
Almario	Celeste	Garcia (J.E.)	Pacquiao (R.)
Alvarez (F.)	Chatto	Garcia (P.J.)	Paduano
Alvarez (G.)	Chipeco	Garcia (V.)	Palma
Amatong	Chungalao	Garin (J.)	Pancho
Angara	Co (A.N.)	Garin (S.)	Panotes
Arenas	Collantes	Gasataya	Peña
Atienza	Crisologo	Gato	Pichay
Aumentado	Cuaresma	Geron	Pimentel
Babasa	Cullamat	Go (M.)	Pineda
Bagatsing	Dagooc	Gonzales (A.)	Quimbo
Balindong	Dalipe	Gonzales (N.)	Ramirez-Sato
Barba	Daza	Gorriceta	Revilla
Barbers	De Jesus	Guico	Reyes
Bascug	de Venecia	Guya	Rivera
Bautista	Defensor (L.)	Haresco	Rodriguez
Belmonte	Defensor (M.)	Hernandez	Roman
Benitez	Del Mar	Herrera-Dy	Romero
Bernos	Delos Santos	Hofer	Romualdez (F.M.)
Biazon	Dimaporo (M.K.)	Jalosjos	Romualdez (Y.M.)
Billones	Dujali	Jimenez	Romualdo
Biron	Duterte	Kho (E.)	Roque
Bolilia	Dy (F.)	Kho (W.)	Sacdalan
Bondoc	Dy (F.M.C.)	Labadlabad	Sagarbarria
Bordado	Ebcas	Lacson	Salceda
Brosas	Elago	Lacson-Noel	Salo
		Lagman	Sanchez
		Lagon	Sarmiento
		Lara	Saulog
		Leachon	Savellano
		Lim	Siao
		Lusotan	Singson
		Macapagal Arroyo	Singson-Meehan
		Maceda	Sinsuat
		Madrona	Suansing (E.)
		Mangaoang	Suansing (H.)
		Mangudadatu	Suarez (A.)
		Marcoleta	Suntay
		Mariano-Hernandez	Taduran
		Mariño	Tallado
		Marquez	Tambunting
		Matba	Tan (A.)

Tejada	Valeriano
Teves (A.)	Vargas
Teves (J.)	Vargas Alfonso
Tiangco	Veloso
Tolentino	Vergara
Torres-Gomez	Villafuerte
Tulfo	Villanueva (N.)
Tutor	Villar
Ty (A.)	Villarica
Ty (Dy.)	Violago
Umali (A.)	Yap (E.)
Umali (M.V.)	Yap (V.)
Unabia	Yu
Uy (J.)	Zamora (R.)
Uy (R.)	Zarate

With 214 Members responding to the Call, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum. (See Appendix)

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

On motion of Rep. Juan Pablo “Rimpy” B. Bondoc, the Chair recognized Representative Atienza who first said that there were only 172 Members on the floor but this number already constituted a quorum. He then questioned the roll call result of the Secretariat and called the latter’s attention to its “bad habit” of adding more numbers to the same.

RESUMPTION OF PRIVILEGE HOUR

On motion of Representative Bondoc, there being no objection, the Body then resumed the Privilege Hour; and on motion of Rep. Kristine Singson-Meehan, the Chair recognized Rep. Ferdinand R. Gaité for his privilege speech.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

Representative Gaité said that the farmers and residents in Eastern Visayas suffer gravely not only from droughts, pest infestation, and the low price and productivity besetting their copra and abaca industries. He pointed out that they also suffer from hamleting, threats, harassment, and other human rights violations as a result of militarization. In particular, he cited the recent bombing of a suspected New People’s Army camp in Las Navas, Northern Samar; and pointed out that according to the people

therein who talked to him during a recent fact finding and mercy mission, said lair was merely a farm.

Representative Gaité subsequently condemned militarization and asked the Body to address the plight of their countrymen. He also called for an end to the implementation of Memorandum Order No. 32, series of 2018, on the deployment of additional police and military forces in the Negros, Bicol, and Samar regions.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

On motion of Representative Bondoc, there being no objection, the Body referred Representative Gaité’s privilege speech to the Committee on Rules.

SUSPENSION OF PRIVILEGE HOUR

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

OATH-TAKING OF REPRESENTATIVE TY (A.)

Thereupon, Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.) cited the Body’s receipt of a certificate of nomination from the LPGMA Party-List before the Commission on Elections, naming Hon. Allan U. Ty as its second nominee.

In view of the untimely demise of Rep. Rodolfo B. Albano Jr. of the said party-list, on motion of Majority Leader Romualdez, there being no objection, the Body allowed Honorable Ty to take his oath to assume the position vacated by the late Representative Albano.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Pimentel relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Conrado M. Estrella III.

Honorable Ty then ascended the rostrum with his family and several Members of the House and took his oath before the Body as Representative of LPGMA Party-List, with Deputy Speaker Estrella administering the oath.

Thereafter, Deputy Speaker Estrella relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Pimentel.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Whereupon, on motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), the Chair suspended the session

at 4:40 p.m. to allow the Members to meet and greet Representative Ty (A.).

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 4:42 p.m.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Rep. Michael Edgar Y. Aglipay acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Rep. Edgar M. Chatto.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ALBANO

Upon recognition of the Chair, Rep. Antonio “Tonypet” T. Albano thanked the Body for the condolences their family received on the passing of his father, Rep. Rodolfo B. Albano Jr. of LPGMA Party-List. He said that even as he is still in mourning, he is also celebrating the oath-taking of Representative Ty (A.) who took the place of his father as Representative of said party-list in the House. He also thanked his new colleague for initially allowing the late Representative Albano to represent the LPGMA. He then vouched that Representative Ty would show exemplary work ethic and commitment.

RESUMPTION OF PRIVILEGE HOUR

On motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Chair resumed the Privilege Hour.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE CHATTO

On motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Chair recognized Rep. Edgar M. Chatto who spoke about the Philippines’ vulnerability to climate change hazards, particularly on tourism which is a major economic contributor of the country. As the principal author of the Tourism Act of 2009 and current chairperson of the Special Committee on Climate Change, he then mentioned certain issues about sustainable tourism and said that climate change adaptation and mitigation measures should be made part of tourism promotion.

Representative Chatto then raised the following recommendations: 1) strengthening of the functional and organizational structure of the Climate Change Commission and its research and development

for the empowerment of local government units in implementing necessary strategies at the local level; 2) strengthening of the “whole-of-government approach” in climate change by replicating best practices; and 3) for political leaders, including Members of the House, to be strong advocates of climate change adaptation and mitigation in their communities.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE CHATTO

On motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body referred Representative Chatto’s privilege speech to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

Further, on Representative Aglipay’s motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago for her privilege speech.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Representative Elago spoke in commemoration of the 30th anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). She then narrated that various activities had been conducted at the Sunken Garden of the University of the Philippines where students from different schools participated in activities that emphasized and raised awareness about the rights of the child.

She relayed to the Body the unity statement of various youth and student organizations in response to the statements of the National Youth Commission (NYC) and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) on the celebration of the 1st National Students’ Day Youth Camp last November 17, 2019. The unity statement expressed the apprehensions of said organizations over the attempt to malign the youth camp and discredit students and youth activities as alleged platforms of “communist-led front organizations” for their own agenda, she added.

She expressed fear that student-led activities will be maliciously scrutinized and red-tagged; reminded officials of said government agencies on the relevance of the youth celebration; and expressed her support for all efforts made to celebrate the National Students’ Day.

She thanked the students, student leaders, and guest speakers of different civil society organizations

for their participation in the discussions on topics relevant to various sectors and the drafting of a resolution which aims to improve the justice system and governance in the country.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

On motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Representative Elago to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

TERMINATION OF PRIVILEGE HOUR

On motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body terminated the Privilege Hour.

ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

On motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body approved to include as additional coauthors of House Bills No. 5421, 5437, 5477, 5490, and 5491 the names of Members contained in the list to be submitted by the Committee on Rules.

APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILLS UNDER THE BUSINESS FOR THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

On successive motions of Representative Delos Santos, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading the following House Bills calendared under the Business for Thursday and Friday contained in the committee reports 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 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; approved the amendments as contained in the committee reports, if any; terminated the period of amendments; and approved the measures on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting:

Submitted by the Committee on Natural Resources:

1. House Bill No. 5421 as contained in Committee Report No. 74, declaring a

parcel of land of the public domain located in Bunog, Iraan, Punta Baja, Campong Ulay and Ransang of Jose P. Rizal, Palawan, as agricultural land open to disposition for agricultural, commercial, residential, industrial, and other productive purposes; and

Submitted by the Committee on Legislative
Franchises and sponsored by the principal
author, Rep. Jocelyn F. Fortuno:

2. House Bill No. 5490 as contained in Committee Report No. 77, renewing for another 25 years the franchise granted to Bicol Broadcasting Systems, Inc. under Republic Act No. 8092.

REOPENING OF PRIVILEGE HOUR

On successive motions of Representative Delos Santos, there being no objection, the Body reopened the Privilege Hour; and thereafter, the Chair recognized Rep. Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento for his privilege speech.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE SARMIENTO

Representative Sarmiento thanked the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency and the Philippine National Police for conducting a successful anti-illegal drug operations in Region VIII last October 17, 2019.

However, he expressed dismay with and vehemently denied the accusations thrown against his district by a fellow Member of the House that the seized drugs came from Calbayog City and that illegal drugs are rampant in his district. He said that based on the reports, no one among the arrested was his constituent.

He said that aside from being the vice chairperson of the Committee on Dangerous Drugs during the 17th Congress and a member of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly Fact-Finding Committee to combat the drug menace in 2017, he had been supportive of the government's war against illegal drugs and it has been his consistent policy to make his district drug-free. He mentioned about the high resiliency competitiveness index of Calbayog City which he said was a clear manifestation that the leaders of the First District of Samar are serious in

their mission to improve the lives of the Samarnons and to stop the proliferation of illegal drugs.

He also recalled that during his term as vice chairperson of the Committee on Dangerous Drugs, he had requested the Philippine Coast Guard to impose stricter rules in putting mandatory checkpoints to prevent the movement of illegal drugs across provinces. Finally, he reminded his colleagues to practice the ethical standards for elected officials and urged them to work together to maintain the good reputation of the House.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE SARMIENTO

On motion of Rep. Lianda B. Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body referred Representative Sarmiento's privilege speech to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Recognized by the Chair upon motion of Representative Bolilia, Rep. Arlene D. Brosas spoke to commemorate the celebration of the Universal Children's Day and the 30th anniversary of the UNCRC. She discussed the pressing issues that could negatively affect the future of children, such as the proposal to lower the minimum age for criminal responsibility, the growing number of child victims of the continuing drug war, and the displacement and abuses of children due to militarization.

She then criticized the Department of Environment and Natural Resources for issuing an environmental compliance certificate for the Kaliwa Dam Project despite possible environmental destruction and other threats it poses on the future of the children. She also argued that making the "water crisis" a justification for the project was unacceptable and stressed that government policies should intend to protect the common good, the environment, and the children.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS

Thereupon, on successive motions of Representative Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Representative Brosas to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action; and thereafter, the Chair recognized Deputy

Speaker Aurelio "Dong" D. Gonzales Jr. for his privilege speech.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF DEPUTY SPEAKER GONZALES (A.)

Deputy Speaker Gonzales relayed to the Body the sad plight of the rice farmers in his district caused by the high moisture content of palay, thereby forcing the farmers to sell the same at a lower price. He said he was informed by the Department of Agriculture (DA) that they would provide financial assistance to the farmers, however, he said that instead of giving limited cash assistance, the government should supply the necessary farming equipment, seedlings, subsidy for fertilizers and mechanical palay dryers.

In order for the farmers to improve their farming techniques, Deputy Speaker Gonzales proposed for the adoption of his initiative in his district, the Advanced Bio-Infrastructure Agricultural System (ABIAS) which aims to modernize rice farming in the country and provide additional income for the farmers.

In closing, he enjoined his colleagues to support the farmers and help them air their problems to the DA.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF DEPUTY SPEAKER GONZALES (A.)

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Deputy Speaker Gonzales to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Bolilia, the Chair recognized Minority Leader Bienvenido M. Abante Jr. for his manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

As he was late during the Body's approval on Third Reading of certain House measures the previous session, Minority Leader Abante manifested his "Yes" vote to House Bills No. 5437, 5477, and 5306, which was duly noted by the Chair.

TERMINATION OF PRIVILEGE HOUR

On motion of Rep. Bernadette "BH" Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body terminated the Privilege Hour.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this juncture, Representative Herrera-Dy acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Minority Leader Abante and Representative Bolilia.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 5 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 78

On subsequent motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 78 contained in Committee Report No. 5 as reported out by the Committee on Economic Affairs.

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

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE DEFINITION OF PUBLIC UTILITY, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 146, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'PUBLIC SERVICE ACT', AS AMENDED.”

Representative Herrera-Dy stated that the Bill was in the period of sponsorship and debate and on her motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Sharon S. Garin, chairperson of the sponsoring Committee, to defend the measure; and Rep. Lorenz R. Defensor to interpellate thereon.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DEFENSOR (L.)

Representative Defensor discussed with Representative Garin (S.) the constitutionality of the definition of the term “public utility,” the intent of the framers of the Constitution to allow certain flexibility so that Congress could identify certain areas of investments open to foreigners, as well as the parameters for franchises issued for public utilities. He then inquired into how the proposed measure would affect the regulations in the transportation and telecommunications industries, and whether foreign companies, under the proposed Bill, would still need to register with, and be regulated by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Representative Garin stressed that all the powers and functions of agencies such as the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines, Department of Energy, Energy Regulatory Commission, and the Land

Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board would remain applicable even with the passage of the Bill.

Lastly, the Members discussed if it would be better to have foreign companies registered and openly regulated than to maintain the 60-40 ownership restriction which is rather challenging to control and monitor, according to Representative Defensor.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 78

On motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 78.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Herrera-Dy then acknowledged the presence of her guests in the Session Hall.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read the following Committee Report which was referred to the appropriate committee indicated hereunder:

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Committee on Local Government (Committee Report No. 85), re H.B. No. 5568, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY GUINHALINAN IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BAROBO, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 904

Sponsors: Representatives Villanueva (Noel) and Pimentel

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, the Chair suspended the session at 6:18 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

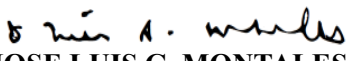
The session resumed at 6:19 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

Whereupon, on motion of Representative Herrera-Dy, there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until three o'clock in the afternoon of Monday, November 25, 2019.

It was 6:19 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.


JOSE LUIS G. MONTALES
Secretary General

Approved on November 26, 2019.

DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED

Printed copies of the following measures were distributed to the Members during the session:

1. House Bill No. 4952, entitled: "AN ACT DECLARING THE WALINGWALING ORCHID AS THE NATIONAL ORCHID OF THE PHILIPPINES"
2. House Bill No. 4953, entitled: "AN ACT DECLARING THE BALANGAY AS THE NATIONAL BOAT OF THE PHILIPPINES"
3. House Bill No. 5070, entitled: "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR FREE FREIGHT SERVICES IN THE TRANSPORTATION OF RELIEF GOODS TO CALAMITY-STRICKEN AREAS"

Congress of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Philippines

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE

Journal No. 29

Wednesday, November 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	***	CARI	**	FARIÑAS I (R.C.)
** ALMARIO		CASTELO	****	FERNANDEZ
*** ALONTE		CASTRO (F.L.)		FERNANDO
ALVAREZ (F.)		CASTRO (F.H.)	**	FERRER (J.M.)
** ALVAREZ (G.)	**	CAYETANO (A.P.)	**	FERRER (L.)
**** ALVAREZ (P.)	**	CAYETANO (M.L.)	***	FLORES
**** AMANTE-MATBA		CELESTE	****	FONGWAN
AMATONG		CHATTO	****	FORTUN
*** ANDAYA	**	CHIPECO		FORTUNO
ANGARA		CHUNGALAO	****	FRASCO
*** ARAGONES		CO (A.N.)	****	FUENTEBELLA
*** ARBISON	****	CO (E.)		GAITE
ARENAS	****	COJUANGCO		GARBIN
*** ARROYO		COLLANTES		GARCIA (J.E.)
ATIENZA		CRISOLOGO		GARCIA (P.J.)
AUMENTADO	****	CUA		GARCIA (V.)
BABASA	**	CUARESMA	**	GARIN (J.)
BAGATSING	***	CUEVA		GARIN (S.)
BALINDONG		CULLAMAT		GASATAYA
**** BAÑAS-NOGRALES		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.)		SUNTAY
	HOFER	**	PACQUIAO (R.)	***	SY-ALVARADO
	JALOSJOS	****	PADIERNOS		TADURAN
****	JAVIER		PADUANO		TALLADO
	JIMENEZ		PALMA		TAMBUNTING
	KHO (E.)	**	PANCHO	****	TAN (A.S.)
	KHO (W.)		PANOTES		TAN (A.)
****	KHONGHUN		PEÑA	****	TAN (S.)
	LABADLABAD		PICHAY	***	TAN (S.A.)
	LACSON		PIMENTEL	****	TAN-TAMBUT
	LACSON-NOEL		PINEDA		TEJADA
	LAGMAN	***	PLAZA		TEVES (A.)
	LAGON	****	PUNO		TEVES (J.)
	LARA		QUIMBO		TIANGCO
***	LAZATIN	***	RADAZA		TOLENTINO
	LEACHON		RAMIREZ-SATO		TORRES-GOMEZ
****	LEGARDA	*	RAMOS		TULFO
	LIM	****	REMULLA	***	TUPAS
****	LIMKAICHONG		REVILLA		TUTOR
**	LOPEZ		REYES		TY (A.)
****	LOYOLA		RIVERA		TY (D.)
	LUSOTAN	*	ROBES		UMALI (A.)
	MACAPAGAL ARROYO	**	RODRIGUEZ		UMALI (M.V.)
	MACEDA		ROMAN		UNABIA
	MADRONA	**	ROMERO	****	UNGAB
***	MALAPITAN		ROMUALDEZ (F.M.)		UY (J.)
	MANGAOANG		ROMUALDEZ (Y.M.)		UY (R.)
	MANGUDADATU		ROMUALDO		VALERIANO
	MARCOLETA	****	ROMULO	***	VALMAYOR
	MARIANO-HERNANDEZ		ROQUE		VARGAS
	MARIÑO		SACDALAN		VARGAS ALFONSO
	MARQUEZ		SAGARBARRIA	****	VELASCO
****	MARTINEZ	***	SAKALURAN		VELOSO
	MATBA		SALCEDA		VERGARA
****	MATUGAS	***	SALIMBANGON	****	VILLA
****	MENDOZA		SALO		VILLAFUERTE
	MOMO		SANCHEZ	****	VILLANUEVA (E.)
	NATIVIDAD-NAGAÑO	***	SANGCOPAN		VILLANUEVA (N.)
	NAVA	****	SANTOS-RECTO		VILLAR
	NIETO		SARMIENTO	***	VILLARAZA-SUAREZ
	NOEL		SAULOG		VILLARICA
	NOGRALES (J.J.)		SAVELLANO		VIOLAGO
	NOGRALES (J.F.F.)		SIAO		YAP (E.)
	NOLASCO	***	SILVERIO		YAP (V.)
***	NUÑEZ-MALANYAON		SINGSON		YU
	OAMINAL		SINGSON-MEEHAN	**	ZAMORA (R.)
***	OLIVAREZ		SINSUAT	***	ZAMORA (W.K.)
	ONG (J.)		SUANSING (E.)		ZARATE
	ONG (R.)		SUANSING (H.)	***	ZUBIRI
	ORTEGA	**	SUAREZ (A.)		
****	OUANO-DIZON	****	SUAREZ (D.)		

* 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