

Journal of the House of Representatives

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**JOURNAL NO. 56
Monday to Wednesday
May 11 to 13, 2020**

Prepared by the
JOURNAL SERVICE
Plenary Affairs Bureau

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CALL TO ORDER

At 3:00 p.m. of Monday, May 11, 2020, Deputy Speaker Deogracias Victor “DV” B. Savellano called the session to order.

INVOCATION AND NATIONAL ANTHEM

Rep. Julianne “Jam” L. Baronda delivered the invocation. Thereafter, the Members sang the National Anthem.

ROLL CALL

On motion of Rep. Wilter “Sharky” Wee Palma II, there being no objection, the Chair directed the Secretary General to call the Roll and the following Members were present:

Abante	Arroyo	Cabochan	Dy (I.P.)
Abaya	Atienza	Cabredo	Ebcas
Abellanosa	Aumentado	Cagas	Ecleo
Abu	Babasa	Calderon	Elago
Abueg-Zaldivar	Bagatsing	Calixto	Enverga
Abunda	Balindong	Caminero	Erice
Acop	Bañas-Nogralles	Campos	Eriguel
Acosta	Barba	Canama	Ermita-Buhain
Acosta-Alba	Barbers	Caoagdan	Escudero
Adiong	Baronda	Cari	Espina
Advincula	Barzaga	Castelo	Espino
Agabas	Bascug	Castro (F.L.)	Estrella
Agarao	Bautista	Castro (F.H.)	Fariñas (R.C.)
Aglipay	Bautista-Bandigan	Cayetano (A.P.)	Fariñas I (R.C.)
Aguinaldo	Belmonte	Cayetano (M.L.)	Fernandez
Albano	Benitez	Celeste	Fernando
Almario	Bernos	Chatto	Ferrer (J.M.)
Alonte	Biazon	Chipeco	Ferrer (L.)
Alvarez (F.)	Billones	Chungalao	Flores
Alvarez (G.)	Biron	Co (A.N.)	Fortun
Alvarez (P.)	Bolilia	Co (E.)	Fortuno
Amante-Matba	Bondoc	Cojuangco	Frasco
Amatong	Bordado	Collantes	Fuentebella
Andaya	Bravo	Crisologo	Gaite
Angara	Brosas	Cua	Garbin
Aragones	Bulut	Cuaresma	Garcia (J.E.)
Arbison	Bustos	Cueva	Garcia (P.J.)
Arenas	Cabatbat	Cullamat	Garcia (V.)
		Dagooc	Garin (J.)
		Dalipe	Garin (S.)
		Dalog	Gasataya
		Datol	Gatchalian
		Daza	Gato
		De Jesus	Geron
		de Venecia	Go (E.C.)
		Defensor (L.)	Go (M.)
		Defensor (M.)	Gonzaga
		Del Mar	Gonzales (A.)
		Delos Santos	Gonzales (N.)
		Deloso-Montalla	Gonzalez
		Dimaporo (A.)	Gorriceta
		Dimaporo (M.K.)	Guico
		Duavit	Gullas
		Dujali	Guya
		Duterte	Haresco
		Dy (F.)	Hataman
		Dy (F.M.C.)	Hernandez

Herrera-Dy	Padiernos	Tan (A.S.)	Valeriano
Hofer	Paduano	Tan (A.)	Valmayor
Jalosjos	Palma	Tan (Samier)	Vargas
Javier	Pancho	Tan (S.A.)	Vargas Alfonso
Jimenez	Panotes	Tan (Shernee)	Velasco
Kho (E.)	Peña	Tejada	Veloso
Kho (W.)	Pichay	Teves (A.)	Vergara
Khonghun	Pimentel	Teves (J.)	Villa
Labadlabad	Pineda	Tiangco	Villafuerte
Lacson	Plaza	Tolentino	Villanueva (E.)
Lacson-Noel	Puno	Torres-Gomez	Villanueva (N.)
Lagman	Quimbo	Tulfo	Villar
Lagon	Radaza	Tupas	Villaraza-Suarez
Lara	Ramirez-Sato	Tutor	Villarica
Lazatin	Ramos	Ty (A.)	Violago
Leachon	Remulla	Ty (D.)	Yap (E.)
Legarda	Revilla	Umali (A.)	Yap (V.)
Lim	Reyes	Umali (M.V.)	Yu
Limkaichong	Rivera	Unabia	Zamora (R.)
Lopez	Robes	Ungab	Zamora (W.K.)
Loyola	Rodriguez	Uy (J.)	Zarate
Lusotan	Roman	Uy (R.)	Zubiri
Macapagal Arroyo	Romero		
Maceda	Romualdez (F.M.)		
Madrona	Romualdez (Y.M.)		
Malapitan	Romualdo		
Mangaoang	Romulo		
Mangudadatu	Roque		
Marcoleta	Sacdalan		
Mariano-Hernandez	Sagarbarria		
Mariño	Sakaluran		
Marquez	Salceda		
Martinez	Salimbangon		
Matba	Salo		
Matugas	Sanchez		
Mendoza	Sangcopan		
Mercado	Santos-Recto		
Momo	Sarmiento		
Natividad-Nagaño	Saulog		
Nava	Savellano		
Nieto	Siao		
Noel	Silverio		
Nogralas (J.J.)	Singson		
Nogralas (J.F.F.)	Singson-Meehan		
Nolasco	Sinsuat		
Nuñez-Malanyaon	Suansing (E.)		
Oaminal	Suansing (H.)		
Olivarez	Suarez (A.)		
Ong (J.)	Suarez (D.)		
Ong (R.)	Suntay		
Ortega	Sy-Alvarado		
Ouano-Dizon	Taduran		
Pacquiao (A.)	Tallado		
Pacquiao (R.)	Tambunting		

With 302 Members responding to the Call, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum. (See Appendix)

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

Thereafter, on motion of Rep. John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the Reference of Business.

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 6694, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING THE ABS-CBN CORPORATION (FORMERLY ABS-CBN BROADCASTING CORPORATION) A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN TELEVISION AND RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Rodriguez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 6695, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR SPECIAL COMPENSATION AND SURVIVORSHIP ASSISTANCE TO COVID 19 HEALTH AND MEDICAL PERSONNEL, AND FIRST RESPONDERS, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE”

By Representative Sakaluran
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6696, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING FEBRUARY 27 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF GENERAL SANTOS TO BE KNOWN AS 'THE FOUNDATION DAY OF THE CITY OF GENERAL SANTOS' ”

By Representative Bañas-Nogales
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 6697, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING JUNE 15 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF GENERAL SANTOS IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS CITY CHARTER ANNIVERSARY”

By Representative Bañas-Nogales
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 824, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED BIRD FLU OUTBREAK IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF JAEN, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA AND THE PREPAREDNESS OF THE GOVERNMENT TO CONTAIN THE DISEASE IN THE COUNTRY”

By Representative Cabatbat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 825, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO EASE THE OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSES OF PATIENTS AND CLIENTS OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE DIALYSIS CENTERS AND FACILITIES, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MEDICAL DIAGNOSTIC CENTERS, AND OTHER STAND-ALONE HEALTH AND

MEDICAL FACILITIES IN RELATION TO PROTOCOLS ADOPTED BECAUSE OF THE COVID-19 HEALTH EVENT”

By Representative Belmonte
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Resolution No. 826, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE SERIES OF MASS ARRESTS AND OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS PERPETRATED BY LAW ENFORCERS SINCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE, AND TO RECOMMEND MEASURES TO ENSURE THE PROTECTION OF THE CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS OF FILIPINOS IN THE MIDST OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC”

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

House Resolution No. 827, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH TO CONDUCT AN URGENT REVIEW, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11223 OR THE UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE ACT IN LIGHT OF COMPLAINTS OF OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS REGARDING PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION'S (PHILHEALTH) MANDATORY PREMIUM COLLECTION AND PREMIUM RATE HIKE, AND TO SUSPEND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF RA 11223 AND ITS RULES AND REGULATIONS PENDING REVIEW OF THE LAW”

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

House Resolution No. 828, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PHILIPPINES TO THE BEREAVED FAMILY OF MRS. LAURA SARREAL

ELORDE, THE GRAND MATRIARCH OF PHILIPPINE BOXING, WIFE OF FORMER BOXING CHAMPION GABRIEL 'FLASH' ELORDE, AND A PILLAR OF PARAÑAQUE CITY”

By Representative Tambunting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 829, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS TO DETERMINE THE PROGRAMS, ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS, AND SAVINGS IN THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT THAT WERE REPROGRAMMED, REALLOCATED AND REALIGNED THROUGH REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11469”

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

House Resolution No. 830, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SINCERE CONDOLENCES TO THE BEREAVED FAMILY OF THE HONORABLE HEHERSON T. ALVAREZ, FORMER SENATOR AND FORMER REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FOURTH DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF ISABELA”

By Representative Legarda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 831, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CALLING FOR ENDING THE CURRENT ACADEMIC TERM, A UNIVERSAL PASS POLICY, PROMOTION OF HEALTH LITERACY, AND PROVIDING AN EDUCATION EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND AMID SCHOOL CLOSURES DUE TO COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY”

By Representatives Elago, Castro (France), Zarate, Gaite, Cullamat and Brosas
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Resolution No. 832, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS PERPETRATED DURING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMUNITY QUARANTINE”

By Representatives Zarate, Gaite and Cullamat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 833, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE DEPLOYMENT OF PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE OFFICERS TO VIOLENTLY DISPERSE THE PEOPLE'S BARRICADE AND FACILITATE THE ENTRY OF FUEL TANKS FOR OCEANAGOLD'S ILLEGAL MINING OPERATIONS”

By Representatives Zarate, Gaite and Cullamat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 834, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CURRENT STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11055, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'PHILIPPINE IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM ACT’ ”

By Representative Aragonas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 835, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE GUN-POINTING INCIDENT MADE BY THE CHINESE WARSHIP TOWARDS THE BRP CONRADO YAP”

By Representatives Zarate, Gaite and Cullamat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 836, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE FRONTLINERS AND ESSENTIAL WORKERS IN THE PHILIPPINES FOR THEIR INVALUABLE AND HEROIC SERVICES IN THE TIME OF THE COVID-19 GLOBAL PANDEMIC”

By Representative Salo
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Resolution No. 837, entitled:

“RESOLUTION ON THE GRADUAL AND CAUTIOUS LIFTING OF THE ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE (ECQ)”

By Representatives Abante, Garin (Janette), Belmonte, Paduano, Zarate, Quimbo, Bordado, Brosas, Cabatbat, Castro (France), Cullamat, Dagoc, Elago, Fortun, Gaite, Guya, Saulog and Tan (Sharee)

TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Resolution No. 838, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO CONDUCT COVID 19 TESTING TO ALL DRIVERS AND CONDUCTORS, AIRCRAFT PILOTS AND ITS CREW, SHIP CAPTAINS AND ITS CREW, RAIL/LOCOMOTIVE PILOTS AND ITS CREW BEFORE ITS OPERATION AS PART OF THE MINIMUM PUBLIC HEALTH STANDARDS”

By Representative Sakaluran
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Resolution No. 839, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE ISSUANCE BY THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (NTC) OF A CEASE AND DESIST ORDER AGAINST ABS-CBN IN WANTON DISREGARD OF ITS COMMITMENT TO BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS TO GRANT THE BROADCASTING NETWORK A PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY TO OPERATE PENDING RENEWAL OF ITS FRANCHISE”

By Representative Fortun
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Resolution No. 840, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE ALLEGED PRESENTATION OF COCA COLA WORKERS AS REBEL SURRENDEREES AMID THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC CRISIS”

By Representatives Gaite, Zarate and Cullamat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 841, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND/OR THE DEFEAT COVID-19 ADHOC COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE IMPACT OF THE 'NEW NORMAL' TO THE TRANSPORT SECTOR (LAND, SEA, AND AIR) AS A RESULT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC WITH THE END IN VIEW OF DEVELOPING A NEW ROAD MAP FOR THE TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY THAT WILL PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE STIMULUS PACKAGES TO ENABLE THEM TO CARRY OUT THEIR MANDATE

TO SERVE THEIR RESPECTIVE CONSTITUENCIES”

By Representatives Gonzalez (Sandro) and Lusotan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 842, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT AND/OR THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS AND/OR THE DEFEAT COVID-19 AD-HOC COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE IMPACT OF THE 'NEW NORMAL' TO THE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF FILIPINO SEAFARERS WHO LOST THEIR JOBS AS A RESULT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF PROVIDING THEM ALTERNATIVE JOBS AND LIVELIHOOD, FINANCIAL AND NON-FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, AND OTHER INCOME OPPORTUNITIES”

By Representatives Gonzalez (Sandro) and Lusotan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 843, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PHILIPPINES FOR THE ACTS OF HEROISM OF OUR UNIFORMED PERSONNEL, HEALTH AND EMERGENCY FRONTLINE PERSONNEL, AND PERSONNEL OF OTHER CRITICAL SERVICES FOR THEIR SELFLESS DEVOTION AND SACRIFICE IN THE NATION'S FIGHT AGAINST COVID 19”

By Representative Arenas
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Resolution No. 844, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON COVID-19 ON-SITE ASSISTANCE, REPATRIATION, AND REINTEGRATION OF OFWS BOTH LAND-BASED AND SEA-BASED, IN VIEW OF THE NEED FOR SEAMLESS COORDINATION AMONG CONCERNED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES SUCH AS THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (DFA) AND THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

(DOLE) THROUGH THE PHILIPPINE OVERSEAS LABOR OFFICE (POLO), OVERSEAS WORKERS' WELFARE ADMINISTRATION (OWWA) AND PHILIPPINE OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT ADMINISTRATION (POEA), AND NEED FOR AN OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT PLAN IN THE LIGHT OF MASSIVE JOB LOSS WORLDWIDE”

By Representative Mendoza
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 845, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THROUGH THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS, TO CONDEMN AND INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE APRIL 30, 2020 KILLING OF BAYAN MUNA COORDINATOR JOSE REYNALDO 'JORY' PORQUIA IN ILOILO CITY”

By Representatives Cullamat, Zarate, Gaite, Brosas, Castro (France), Elago, Abante, Abaya, Aglipay, Macapagal Arroyo, Belmonte, Benitez, Crisologo, Defensor (Michael), Defensor (Lorenz), Fernandez, Fernando, Garin (Janette), Gorriceta, Jolosjos, Lacson-Noel, Lopez, Palma, Pancho, Quimbo, Robes, Roman, Sy-Alvarado and Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 846, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE APPROPRIATE HOUSE COMMITTEES TO INVESTIGATE AND FILE CRIMINAL CASES AS WARRANTED AGAINST THE COMMISSIONERS AND OFFICERS OF THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION AND THE SOLICITOR GENERAL AND SUCH OTHER OFFICIALS AND INDIVIDUALS FOR PERJURY AND FOR VIOLATION OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICAL STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES AND THE ANTI-GRAFT AND CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT AND OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS”

By Representative Defensor (Michael)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Joint Resolution No. 30, entitled:

“JOINT RESOLUTION GRANTING PROVISIONAL FRANCHISE TO ABS-CBN

CORPORATION TO OPERATE UNTIL JUNE 30, 2022”

By Representative Rodriguez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 6698, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR VOLUNTARY MEMBERSHIP OF OVERSEAS FILIPINOS IN THE NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11223, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE ACT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

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

House Bill No. 6699, entitled:

“AN ACT ABOLISHING THE OPTICAL MEDIA BOARD, CREATED BY VIRTUE OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9239, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE OPTICAL MEDIA ACT OF 2003, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Salo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

House Bill No. 6700, entitled:

“AN ACT BANNING AND DECLARING ILLEGAL PHILIPPINE OFFSHORE GAMING OPERATORS (POGOs) AND OPERATIONS”

By Representatives Abante, Garin (Janette), Belmonte, Zarate, Gaite, Castro (France), Brosas, Cullamat, Bordado, Fortun, Dagooc, Guya, De Jesus, Ebcas, Limkaichong, Nuñez-Malanyaon, Yu and Lacson-Noel
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GAMES AND AMUSEMENTS

House Bill No. 6701, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING RA 7925 BY ABOLISHING THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (NTC) AND TRANSFERRING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND

COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY
(DICT)”

By Representative Abante

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE
ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 6702, entitled:

“AN ACT PENALIZING THE DISHONESTY
OR UNTRUTHFUL DECLARATION OF
ANY PATIENT IN TIMES OF PUBLIC
HEALTH EMERGENCY OR PANDEMIC,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11332, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE MANDATORY
REPORTING OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES
AND HEALTH EVENTS OF PUBLIC
HEALTH CONCERN ACT, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Fariñas (Ria) and Fariñas
(Rudys Caesar)

TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6703, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A BALIK
PROBINSIYA PROGRAM AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Savellano

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 6704, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING AND
STANDARDIZING THE MINIMUM
SALARY GRADE OF ALL GOVERNMENT
MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS”

By Representative Defensor (Michael)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 6705, entitled:

“AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE GRANT
OF SPECIAL RISK ALLOWANCE TO
FRONTLINE PUBLIC HEALTH WORKERS
IN TIMES OF PUBLIC HEALTH
EMERGENCY”

By Representative Olivarez

TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6706, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A RECOVERY
ASSISTANCE PACKAGE FOR HIGHER
EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL-
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND

TRAINING, APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Go (Mark)

TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6707, entitled:

“AN ACT ENCOURAGING A BASELINE
POLYMERASE CHAIN REACTION
COVID-19 TESTING FOR VULNERABLE
MEMBERS OF SOCIETY FOR THE
PURPOSE OF INTERCEPTING COVID-19
TRANSMISSION”

By Representative Garin (Janette)

TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6708, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE TELEVISION
(TV) BROADCASTING EDUCATION
PROGRAM AS AN ALTERNATIVE
LEARNING SYSTEM FOR BASIC
EDUCATION (TELEVISION ALS ACT)”

By Representative Lacson

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND
CULTURE

House Bill No. 6709, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COVID-19
UNEMPLOYMENT REDUCTION
ECONOMIC STIMULUS (CURES) FUND
AND INSTITUTING MECHANISMS FOR
THE IMPLEMENTATION THEREOF AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Cayetano (Alan Peter),
Villafuerte, Duterte, Legarda, Romualdez
(Ferdinand), Yap (Eric), Cayetano (Maria
Laarni), Defensor (Michael) and Sy-Alvarado

TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6710, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING AN
INSTALLMENT PAYMENT SCHEME
ON BASIC UTILITY BILLS DURING
CALAMITIES, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES TO BE KNOWN AS 'THE
THREE-GIVES LAW' ”

By Representative Tolentino

TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

PRIVILEGE HOUR

It being a Monday, on a subsequent motion of
Representative Nieto, there being no objection, the
Chair declared a Privilege Hour.

On motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Senior Deputy Minority Leader Janette L. Garin for her privilege speech.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE GARIN (J.)

Representative Garin initially shared the common sentiments of mothers amid the COVID-19 pandemic and how it is affecting their lives and livelihood, and threatening the safety of their families and children. She pointed out that while the world is awaiting for the COVID-19 vaccine and anti-viral drug, the government should strategize to curb the transmission of the disease without compromising the economic and financial well-being of families, as well as to be aggressive in detecting infection especially among the asymptomatic or the so-called “silent carriers.”

She then enumerated the following critical premises which she said the government should consider in formulating courses of action for the country to survive the pandemic: (1) flattening the curve translates into deeper economic recession which causes social unrest; (2) the issue involves balancing health and economic considerations; (3) testing centers will be the antidote to properly strategize government response; and (4) the failure to adopt to a “new normal” will result in lockdown-induced illnesses and death.

She underscored the importance of proper nutrition, exercise, and mental health in fighting the new coronavirus; and explained the mutation and process of infection of the virus as well as how antibodies could act as an individual’s protection and immunity against the virus. She also explained how early detection could intercept the transmission of the virus.

Hence, she manifested that she filed a bill that morning, which seeks to increase testing, particularly conducting baseline polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing for COVID-19, among the vulnerable asymptomatic with comorbidities, whom she alleged would trigger a second wave of infections once the people gradually enter the “new normal.” Citing the need to expand testing facilities which are available, accessible, and affordable to the vulnerable members of society, she claimed that the Philippines cannot say that it has flattened the curve because not even one percent of the Philippine population has been tested.

She then emphasized that testing the vulnerable COVID-19 asymptomatics would enable the government to achieve the following objectives: (1) isolate asymptomatic patients thereby providing early intervention and ultimately reducing mortality; (2) provide early protection of a patient’s household companions and co-workers, thus providing prompt intervention; (3) sustain the gains of the initial lockdown while allowing gradual economic return; and (4) not simply flatten but crush the curve because the virus will be hit in its hideout.

Stressing the importance of stronger, bolder partnerships between the government and the private sector in fighting the pandemic as well as in shifting to the “new normal,” the senior deputy minority leader said that crushing COVID-19 thus entails more than a whole-of-government approach, and what is needed is a whole-of-nation approach. She then enjoined her colleagues for the immediate passage of House Bill No. 6707 or the Crushing COVID Act, and proceeded to highlight the salient features of her proposed legislation which aims to make the country a safe and better place to live in amid the pandemic while they await the vaccine for the new coronavirus.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair recognized Deputy Speaker Rodante D. Marcoleta in the Zoom video conference for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER MARCOLETA

Deputy Speaker Marcoleta sought clarification on whether the medical assessment of the COVID-19 pandemic and recommendations of Representative Garin (J.) were properly conveyed and responded to by the proper authorities.

Representative Garin stated that authorities from both the government and the private sector have expressed support for her assessment and recommendations. Hence, she expressed hope that Congress would soon approve House Bill No. 6707.

Deputy Speaker Marcoleta expressed his appreciation to Representative Garin for bringing this sensitive and urgent matter on mass testing. Thereafter, the latter informed the Body that Majority Leader Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, together with other colleagues from Region VIII, had agreed to upgrade and expand the capacity of the COVID-19 testing center in Tacloban City.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BELMONTE

On motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair recognized Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte who expressed his support for efficient and widespread COVID-19 mass testing. He then discussed with Representative Garin the following issues: (1) the risks faced by vulnerable people who have comorbidities; (2) the critical need for improved testing centers, testing of individuals who would be reporting for work, and setting up efficient isolation mechanisms and facilities especially for asymptomatic COVID-19 carriers and people at high risk from the new coronavirus; and (3) the unlikelihood of observing social distancing in congested houses in urban areas.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BORDADO

Recognized by the Chair on motion of Representative Nieto, Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr., through Zoom video conferencing, manifested that he had been advocating for the immediate conduct of an effective, efficient, and protocol-based mass testing throughout the country. He therefore agreed to Representative Garin's (J.) premise that correct bases are needed to formulate appropriate strategies, and that her proposed program should be implemented immediately, as previously remarked by Deputy Speaker Marcoleta.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Savellano relinquished the Chair to Representative Palma.

INTERPELLATION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER GONZALES (A.)

On motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair recognized Deputy Speaker Aurelio "Dong" D. Gonzales Jr. in the Zoom video conference, who discussed with Representative Garin (J.) about the strategic places where testing centers would be established in the country and the budget requirements for each testing center.

At this juncture, Representative Palma relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Savellano.

The Members also tackled several issues related to (1) the installation of initial testing laboratories in Regions VII, VIII, and XI and the plan to establish

more laboratories in other regions; (2) the provision of funds for the same by private and public individuals and groups including some House Leaders and Members; (3) the costs of individual testing and of five to 10 percent of the population; and (4) the alternative proposals on manpower training and technical laboratory requirements.

She then stressed that the purpose of the community quarantine was not to reduce the number of COVID-19 cases but to lengthen the transfer time of the virus, thus agreeing with Deputy Speaker Gonzales' advocacy for safe work places, public places, and common areas when the same will have been lifted.

EXTENSION OF PRIVILEGE HOUR

At this point, on motion of Representative Nieto, there being no objection, the Chair extended the Privilege Hour for 30 minutes.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE VIOLAGO

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair next recognized Rep. Micaela S. Violago in the Zoom video conference, who asked about the financial capacity of local government units for setting up testing laboratories.

Representative Garin (J.) said they only needed to provide quarantine or isolation facilities and explained how other laboratories in her colleague's region would cater to the needs of her constituents.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE GARIN (J.)

On motion of Representative Nieto, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Representative Garin (J.) including the interpellations and manifestation thereon to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ZUBIRI

Recognized by the Chair upon motion of Representative Nieto, Rep. Manuel F. Zubiri talked about his proposal called "Adopt a Household Program: Patriotism at Its Best," which aims to encourage people living comfortable lives to adopt

a poor household for the duration of the pandemic. He appealed to the top two percent of the country's rich families to hire the head of poor households at minimum wage, with consideration to proximity to workplace.

He said that this would be the most patriotic thing to do and that he would discuss the mechanics of the program to those who would like to help including the Department of Social Welfare and Development and the private sector.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ZUBIRI

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

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ENVERGA

Subsequently, on motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair recognized Rep. Wilfrido Mark M. Enverga who spoke about the plight of the farmers who are below the poverty threshold; and explained that farmer-beneficiaries of the Financial Subsidy for Rice Farmers were not included in the first tranche of the Social Amelioration Program of the DSWD.

On behalf of the farmers nationwide, he pleaded for their inclusion in the second release of SAP cash assistance; asked that supplemental budget for the *Ahon Lahat, Pagkaing Sapat Kontra sa* COVID-19 Program be included in the proposed Economic Stimulus Bill, and for other programs of the Department of Agriculture to be part of the succeeding programs of the government aimed at alleviating the impact on the people of the pandemic.

Thereafter, the Chair recognized Rep. David "Jay-Jay" C. Suarez, upon Representative Nieto's motion.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE SUAREZ (D.)

Representative Suarez reiterated the importance of Representative Enverga's message which highlighted the contributions and plight of local farmers. The Members agreed that the farmers, including coconut farmers, and fisherfolks should be included in the next tranche of SAP distribution.

They then discussed the role of farmers and fisherfolks in providing food supply in the time of the pandemic; and the importance of rethinking the country's food self-sufficiency policies as the nation enters a "new normal."

Representative Suarez then expressed support for the resolution filed by Representative Enverga to help the farmers in this time of need.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ENVERGA

On motion of Representative Nieto, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Representative Enverga including the interpellation to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

On further motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair recognized Rep. Eufemia "Ka Femia" C. Cullamat for her privilege speech.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE CULLAMAT

Representative Cullamat narrated and expressed concern over serious violations of peasants' rights during the enhanced community quarantine, citing in particular the recent raid by uniformed personnel of the homes of farmer leaders in Barangay Coral ni Lopez, Calaca, Batangas. She said that while this kind of intimidation is not new to the farmers, residents in the said community denounce the presence of the military in their area.

She relayed her worry that pandemic and lockdown situations are being used to exploit legitimate peasant organizations. She then called on the proper House committee and the Commission on Human Rights to immediately investigate this recent harassment of farmers.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE CULLAMAT

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

SUSPENSION OF PRIVILEGE HOUR

With the indulgence of the other Members who registered to avail themselves of the Privilege Hour, Representative Palma said that based on their protocol and considering further the prevailing curfew because of the enhanced community quarantine, they are not allowed to stay more than two hours in the Session Hall. He however assured his colleagues that they will be given priority upon resumption of the Privilege Hour.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body suspended the Privilege Hour.

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 the titles of the following Resolutions on First Reading which were referred to the appropriate committees indicated hereunder:

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 847, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE HIRING AND MANAGEMENT OF EMPLOYEES, THE DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES OF THE TALAVERA GENERAL HOSPITAL BASED ON AN ANONYMOUS COMPLAINT AGAINST THE MANAGEMENT OF THE SAID HOSPITAL AND PROPOSE REMEDIAL MEASURES”

By Representative Suansing (Estrellita)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 848, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE

REPERCUSSIONS TO WORKERS IN GOVERNMENT OF MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 580 RELEASED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT”

By Representative Cabatbat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 849, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION TO PAY HOMAGE TO THE FALLEN SOLDIERS WHO PERISHED WHILE AIDING FAMILIES AFFECTED BY COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND CONDEMNING IN THE STRONGEST TERMS THE DEPLORABLE ATTACK AGAINST THESE SOLDIERS BY THE NEW PEOPLE'S ARMY”

By Representatives Limkaichong, Paduano, Arroyo, Benitez, Cueva, Ferrer (Juliet), Sagarbarria and Teves (Arnolfo)
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Resolution No. 850, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THROUGH THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE HIGH INCIDENCE OF INFECTION AND DEATHS DUE TO COVID-19 AMONG FRONTLINE-HEALTH WORKERS, AND RECOMMEND URGENT MEASURES TO PROTECT AND SUPPORT THE HEALTH WORKERS”

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

House Resolution No. 851, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION GRANTING TOURISM INDUSTRY EMERGENCY STIMULUS SUBSIDIES PROGRAM TO ADDRESS ECONOMIC IMPACT DUE TO COVID 19 PANDEMIC, AFFECTING MORE THAN 400 TOURISM ECONOMIC ZONES NATIONWIDE”

By Representative Jalosjos
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Resolution No. 852, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE DEFEAT COVID-19 COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT

AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE IMPACT OF CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) PANDEMIC ON PHILIPPINE AGRICULTURE TO DETERMINE THE STATUS OF FOOD SECURITY IN THE COUNTRY POST THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMUNITY QUARANTINE”

By Representative Cabatbat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 853, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES TO INQUIRE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE PROBABLE VIOLATIONS OF ABS-CBN CORPORATION OF ITS LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISE UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7966”

By Representatives Duterte, Tolentino and Yap (Eric)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair suspended the session at 5:32 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:34 p.m.

REFERRAL OF HOUSE RESOLUTIONS ON INQUIRIES IN AID OF LEGISLATION

In accordance with the Rules Governing Inquiries in Aid of Legislation, on motion of Representative Nieto, there being no objection, the Body approved to refer the following House Resolutions to the appropriate committees indicated hereunder:

1. House Resolution No. 846, on the investigation and filing of criminal cases against the commissioners and officers of the National Telecommunications Commission and the Solicitor General and other officials and individuals for perjury and for violation of the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for public officials and employees and the Anti-Graft and Corrupt

Practices Act – to the Committee on Good Government and Public Accountability; and

2. House Resolution No. 853, on the probable violations of ABS-CBN Corporation of its legislative franchise under Republic Act No. 7966 – to the Committee on Legislative Franchises.

CHANGE OF REFERRAL OF HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 808

On subsequent motion of Representative Nieto, there being no objection, the Body changed the referral of House Bill No. 808 from the Committee on Social Services to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee.

COMPOSITION OF THE DEFEAT COVID-19 AD HOC COMMITTEE

Subsequently, in view of the creation of the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee or the DCC, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved the correction on the composition of the DCC sub-committees as follows:

New Normal,
with Deputy Speaker Loren Legarda as chairperson:

1. Committee on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development
2. Committee on Disaster Management
3. Committee on Higher and Technical Education
4. Committee on Trade and Industry
5. Committee on Transportation
6. Committee on Basic Education and Culture
7. Committee on Labor and Employment
8. Committee on Government Reorganization
9. Committee on Public Information
10. Committee on Local Government
11. Committee on Civil Service and Professional Regulation
12. Committee on Good Government and Public Accountability
13. Committee on Revision of Laws
14. Committee on Information and Communications Technology
15. Committee on Inter-Parliamentary Relations and Diplomacy
16. Committee on Foreign Affairs
17. Committee on Appropriations

Health and COVID-19 Response,
with Reps. Angelina “Helen” D.L. Tan, MD
and Janette L. Garin as co-chairpersons:

1. Committee on Health
2. Committee on Science and Technology

Social Amelioration,
with Deputy Speaker Luis Raymund “LRay”
Villafuerte Jr. and Rep. Lucy Torres-Gomez
as co-chairpersons:

1. Committee on Agrarian Reform
2. Committee on Agriculture and Food
3. Committee on Aquaculture and Fisheries Resources
4. Committee on Cooperatives Development
5. Committee on Natural Resources
6. Committee on Rural Development
7. Committee on Veterans Affairs and Welfare
8. Committee on Overseas Workers Affairs
9. Committee on Poverty Alleviation
10. Committee on Social Services
11. Committee on Welfare of Children
12. Committee on Women and Gender Equality
13. Committee on Youth and Sports Development
14. Committee on People’s Participation
15. Special Committee on Food Security
16. Special Committee on Land Use
17. Special Committee on Persons with Disabilities
18. Special Committee on Senior Citizens

Economic Stimulus Response Package,
with Reps. Joey Sarte Salceda, Sharon S. Garin
and Stella Luz A. Quimbo as co-chairpersons:

1. Committee on Economic Affairs
2. Committee on Public Works and Highways
3. Committee on Government Enterprises and Privatization
4. Committee on Sustainable Development Goals
5. Committee on Metro Manila Development
6. Committee on Games and Amusements
7. Committee on Ways and Means
8. Special Committee on Climate Change
9. Committee on Visayas Development
10. Committee on Tourism
11. Committee on Energy
12. Committee on Banks and Financial Intermediaries

13. Special Committee on Flagship Programs and Projects
14. Special Committee on Globalization and WTO
15. Special Committee on Southern Tagalog Development
16. Special Committee on Bicol Recovery and Economic Development
17. Special Committee on North Luzon Growth Quadrangle
18. Special Committee on Bases Conversion
19. Special Committee on Reforestation
20. Special Committee on East ASEAN Growth Area

Peace and Order,
with Reps. Raul “Boboy” C. Tupas
and Narciso R. Bravo Jr. as co-chairpersons:

1. Committee on Accounts
2. Committee on National Defense and Security
3. Committee on Public Order and Safety
4. Committee on Ecology
5. Committee on Housing and Urban Development
6. Committee on Population and Family Relations
7. Committee on Constitutional Amendments
8. Committee on Ethics and Privileges
9. Committee on Justice
10. Committee on Legislative Franchises
11. Committee on Public Accounts
12. Committee on Suffrage and Electoral Reforms
13. Committee on Dangerous Drugs
14. Committee on Human Rights
15. Committee on Mindanao Affairs
16. Committee on Muslim Affairs
17. Committee on Indigenous Cultural Communities and Indigenous Peoples
18. Special Committee on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity
19. Special Committee on Strategic Intelligence
20. Special Committee on West Philippine Sea

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Chair suspended the session until three o’ clock in the afternoon of Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

It was 5:40 p.m. of Monday, May 11, 2020.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

Deputy Speaker Conrado M. Estrella III resumed the session at 3:00 p.m. of Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

RESUMPTION AND EXTENSION OF THE PRIVILEGE HOUR

Thereafter, on successive motions of Rep. Wilter “Sharky” Wee Palma II, there being no objection, the Body resumed the Privilege Hour and extended the same.

Subsequently, on motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Rep. Rosanna “Ria” V. Vergara to avail of the Privilege Hour via Zoom video conferencing.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE VERGARA

At the outset, Representative Vergara discussed the implementation of the SAP or the Social Amelioration Program, and recognized the efforts of the Department of Social Welfare and Development to administer the program despite implementation glitches.

She then spoke about the government’s price control mechanisms which were imposed during the quarantine period as enshrined in Republic Act No. 7581 or the Price Act; and relied on concerned government agencies to reasonably implement the same even after the said period.

As she relayed the recent price controls on the sale of rice in her province, Representative Vergara called on the Department of Agriculture to strengthen the productivity of farmers while determining suitable price ceilings for rice; and on relevant agencies to ensure that violators of the Price Act are penalized, including those who were reported in the President’s Third Weekly Report to the Joint Congressional Oversight Committee. She stressed that it is imperative for the government to ensure ample supply of rice at reasonable prices in the coming months.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE VERGARA

Thereupon, on motion of Rep. John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Representative Vergara to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

On further motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair recognized Rep. Ron P. Salo, who was participating in the Zoom video conference, for his privilege speech.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE SALO

Representative Salo shared his experience of online bashing from overseas Filipino workers in relation to the premium hike, from 2.75 percent to three percent, as implemented by the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation or PhilHealth. As one of the proponents of the Universal Health Care or UHC Act, he explained that the said law is both a social protection program and a universal health insurance program, and thus a manifestation of the government’s effort to guarantee every Filipino’s right to accessible and quality health care. He added that the UHC Act, while claimed by some OFWs to be redundant, is needed by their families; and that membership thereto is based on citizenship, and not premium contributions.

Another benefit that Representative Salo mentioned was that OFWs could continue to avail of PhilHealth benefits even when they finally choose to stay in the country. He also belied the OFWs’ accusations that PhilHealth had made them its milking cow and explained the funding sources of the UHC Act.

Although he could only surmise that the premium increase was untimely, given the current pandemic, or that PhilHealth might have been overzealous in its premium collection, Representative Salo said that he has the duty to inform the public that despite the need to look into the funding sources and revisit the law’s implementing rules and regulations, the UHC Act is needed to ensure the progressive realization of better health for all Filipinos.

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

INTERPELLATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

Through Zoom video conferencing, Minority Leader Abante exchanged views with Representative Salo about the bashing that the latter received because of his interview that was posted on social media regarding the increase in the premium contributions of OFWs as prescribed under the UHC Act.

Both Members agreed that Congress was not responsible for said increase as it was the Executive Department which crafted the law's implementing rules and regulations or IRR. They agreed that through its oversight power, Congress should look into the IRR of the legislation that it passed. Citing the President's order to suspend higher premium payments of OFWs, as well as to make their membership voluntary, Minority Leader Abante expressed the belief that the Body should revisit the UHC Act for possible amendments in line with said order.

Representative Salo affirmed his stand that the UHC Act should not be faulted since the issue lies with the crafted IRR and other PhilHealth circulars.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE TAN (A.)

Subsequently recognized by the Chair in the Zoom video conference, on motion of Representative Nieto, Rep. Angelina "Helen" D.L. Tan, MD initially thanked Representative Salo for defending the UHC Act which she said was the biggest achievement of the current administration despite incurring the criticisms of OFWs. She then asked about the difference of the UHC Act from the previous PhilHealth Law with regard to membership, and the impact of voluntary PhilHealth membership of OFWs under the present law.

Thereafter, Representative Tan clarified that the abovementioned laws provide for an increase in premium contribution of up to five percent of an employee's basic monthly salary, although the UHC Act just laid out the incremental increase in premium rates until 2025. She also mentioned that she had reached out to the Senate to discuss the concern of the OFWs.

Subsequently, on motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair recognized Rep. Arlene D. Brosas, who was participating via the Zoom video conference, for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REREPESENTATIVE BROSAS

Representative Brosas discussed with Representative Salo whether OFWs would still continue to pay premium contributions to PhilHealth even with the President's directive. They also talked about the enforcement of voluntary PhilHealth membership among OFWs and the suspension of the premium hike during the new coronavirus pandemic.

The Members then debated on the need for an amendatory circular from PhilHealth and review of the unjust imposition of compounded interest on the OFWs' unpaid premiums. On the benefits from the UHC Act, Representative Brosas stressed that the law should be amended regarding the employers' share in the OFWs' premiums and for laxity in premium payment during crises such as pandemics; but Representative Salo said these concerns could just be addressed in the IRR.

EXTENSION OF PRIVILEGE HOUR

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved to extend the Privilege Hour by an hour.

On further motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Rep. Alberto "Bobby" D. Pacquiao for a manifestation via the Zoom video conference.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE PACQUIAO (A.)

Representative Pacquiao placed it on record that the OFW Family Party-List had recently filed House Resolution No. 817 seeking the immediate review of the UHC Act particularly the provision obliging OFWs to pay PhilHealth premiums. He emphasized his opposition to the increase in the premiums of OFWs, saying it was an added burden to them; and manifested his continuing efforts to resolve the matter.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE SALO

On motion of Representative Nieto, there being no objection, the Body approved the referral of Representative Salo's privilege speech including the interpellations and manifestation thereon to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

On motion of Rep. Manuel F. Zubiri, the Chair then recognized Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate to deliver a privilege speech through Zoom video conference.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Representative Zarate first adverted to the celebration of Mother's Day and the vital role of mothers.

He then talked about the recent death of 62-year old Adelaida “Nanay Ede” Macusang, a person deprived of liberty and a political prisoner who, he alleged, was jailed based on trumped-up charges in order to end her work as a farmer leader. He stressed that she died despite her illnesses because of inadequate medical care and jail congestion and then cited facts and statistics on the lack of building facilities, medical supplies, food, and other essentials in the country’s jails. He pointed out that it was not possible to implement preventive measures against the new coronavirus in such environments.

Lastly, he called upon the three branches of government to be compassionate and give humanitarian consideration to those vulnerable prisoners deprived of liberty and political prisoners during this time of COVID-19 crisis for they too have the right to live.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

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

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE GO (M.)

Recognized by the Chair upon motion of Representative Zubiri, Rep. Mark O. Go, through Zoom video conferencing, spoke about the state of the Philippine tertiary education in the time of COVID-19 pandemic. As chairperson of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education, he said that he, in the confines of his home, has constantly kept in touch with his Committee members, other stakeholders, the Commission on Higher Education, and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority to discuss how to address and move forward from the challenges caused by the current health crisis.

He said some of the imminent problems include: 1) lack of readiness of institutions and faculty members to distance learning; 2) poor capacity of students for online learning, especially the disadvantaged from rural areas; 3) end of cash flows among private HEIs or higher education institutions, as the reopening of new academic year remains uncertain; and 4) higher dropout rate due to the decreased financial capacity of students.

He enjoined his colleagues to implement and act on the recommended interventions for the benefit of the tertiary education section, and thus proposed for the creation of a special recovery assistance program to help public and private HEIs to adapt and recover from the crisis by providing appropriation for technological upgrade, and aid for faculty and employees of said institutions.

In addition, he proposed for the extension of a zero-interest loan program for financially distressed students and faculty for support to online platform education; and recommended the release of funds appropriated in the 2020 General Appropriations Act for the programs of CHED and TESDA. He said that their goal is not only to address short-term concerns and guide the development of policies for HEIs, but also to continue creating lasting reforms that would uplift the state and quality of tertiary education in the country.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Recognized by the Chair, on motion of Representative Zubiri, Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago asked about the intervention of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education with regard to ongoing online classes and examinations despite CHED’s advice to end tertiary classes by April 30, as well as to the performance assessment of learners considering the changes in learning structures due to the prevailing lockdown.

Representative Go (M.) explained the need to identify students who are experiencing difficulties in terms of the required tools to participate in online learning; and stated that his committee should review the most effective grading system and come up with recommendations.

Representative Elago then urged the committee to heed the call of the learning community to discuss a nationally-coordinated response to education and the appropriate grading and promotion schemes.

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

INTERPELLATION OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

Initially expressing his full support to Representative Go’s (M.) privilege speech, Minority

Leader Abante shared the recommendation of Finance Secretary Carlos “Sonny” Dominguez III to allocate a ₱1 billion-loan package to private schools under the “Study Now, Pay Later” Program.

Representative Go responded that he had filed a bill recommending for a higher amount which would be used to support students and teachers in public and private universities and colleges; and said that Secretary Dominguez’ proposal could be allocated as further funding support.

Minority Leader Abante then requested Representative Go to confirm the time frame of the implementation of said recommendation as he stressed that it would surely benefit students nationwide.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE GO (M.)

On motion of Representative Zubiri, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Representative Go and the interpellations thereon to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

On further motion of Representative Zubiri, the Chair recognized Rep. Rogelio “Ruel” D. Pacquiao for his privilege speech through video conferencing.

EXTENSION OF PRIVILEGE HOUR

At this point, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved to extended the Privilege Hour for another 30 minutes.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE PACQUIAO (R.)

Previously recognized by the Chair on motion of Representative Zubiri, Representative Pacquiao initially praised his fellow Members, the “frontliners” fighting against COVID-19, the private sector, and all Filipinos for showing courage and generosity during this very challenging time.

However, he pointed out that there is still no clear control over the spread of the disease. Despite his optimism over the zero case of COVID-19 in his district, he expressed concern that said absence may be due to lack of available testing center; and thus requested for the Department of Health to establish testing facility not only in his district but in far-flung and less-developed provinces.

He also talked about the slow and uncoordinated roll-out of subsidies under the SAP or Social Amelioration Program that are also lacking in many localities; and proposed that the Department of Social Welfare and Development should formulate a safer and more creative policy in distributing future relief, such as door-to-door distribution to avoid mass gatherings.

Thereupon, he stated that Congress had introduced several measures responding to the pandemic such as the COVID-19 Unemployment Reduction Economic Stimulus to save the economy from collapsing; and that the people deserve a better sense of direction and responsiveness from the government. He then enjoined his colleagues to continue finding ways to alleviate the dire health and economic impact of the COVID-19 crisis.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE PACQUIAO (R.)

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Zubiri, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Representative Pacquiao to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

On motion of Representative Zubiri, the Chair recognized Rep. Eddiebong G. Plaza for his privilege speech, via Zoom video conferencing.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE PLAZA

Representative Plaza initially underscored the preventive and stricter measures taken by the Province of Agusan del Sur in its fight against COVID-19, as he related that his province remains free from COVID-19. He stated however that while local government units understand the national-level protocols which were heavily based on highly-compromised areas, public pronouncements of national officials regarding quarantine protocols made it appear that the stricter measures of his province were violating national standards.

He appealed to the Inter-Agency Task Force on the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases or IATF and the national government to issue statements allowing less compromised LGUs to implement quarantine protocols that best suit their local conditions provided that the ECQ measures below the national standards shall be subjected to IATF approval. He also suggested that all the regions

and provinces which are less prepared or those which remain COVID-19 free be subjected to capacity development by the Department of Health and other health institutions.

He then expressed hope that his appeal and suggestion would not fall on deaf ears as they need the assurance that the gains they had accomplished would not be wasted. He also informed the Body that together with Rep. Joseph Stephen “Caraps” S. Paduano, he had filed a resolution as to his suggestion and enjoined his colleagues to support the same.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Estrella relinquished the Chair to Representative Palma.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE PLAZA

Thereupon, on successive motions of Representative Zubiri, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Representative Plaza to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action; and the Chair recognized Rep. Ferdinand R. Gaite for his privilege speech.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

Through Zoom video conferencing, Representative Gaite shared to the Body the sentiments of the OFWs regarding the PhilHealth’s increase in premium contributions, as well as the substandard quarantine centers provided to them.

He then asked how the government would conduct testing and monitoring of COVID-19 cases among the hundreds of thousands of inbound OFWs when it could not even attend to the stranded OFWs in the country and the outbound OFWs with no income and assistance coming from the government. He also expressed his dismay over the slow distribution of assistance through the Department of Labor and Employment or the DOLE’s AKAP program which only benefits a small number of OFWs.

At this point, he aired the OFWs’ grievances, including the curtailment of their right to criticize the government for its slow response in confronting the pandemic. He then urged his colleagues to recognize the OFWs’ heroic acts by heeding their appeal; and raised the call of nurses to extend the exemption on the deployment ban of health workers and include those whose documents were still being processed beyond the set cut-off date. He said that sums of

money were already spent by these nurses who had also communicated their case to the IATF and relevant House committees.

Finally, he requested for personal protective equipment and hazard pay and additional benefits for frontliners of the office of Overseas Workers Welfare Administration. He ended his speech by reiterating his call for the fast release and distribution of assistance to the OFWs, both in and out of the country.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

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

REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

With the indulgence of the Members, due to time constraints, the Chair assured that those who had not yet availed of the Privilege Hour would be the ones to deliver their speeches the next day.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 6711, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Chipeco
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6712, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING DAILY ALLOWANCE TO SERVICE VOLUNTEERS DURING PERIOD OF DISASTERS”

By Representative Cuaresma
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6713, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE INCLUSION OF DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND MANAGEMENT SUBJECT IN THE JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM”

By Representative Cuaresma
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 6714, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING HAZARD PAY TO OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE NATIONAL, REGIONAL, AND LOCAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Defensor (Michael) and Teves (Jose)
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6715, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING BANKS AND GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TO OFFER FLEXIBLE LOAN PROGRAMS TO MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (MSMEs) AFFECTED BY THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 PANDEMIC”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6716, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING THE ADOPTION OF ELECTRONIC MONEY AS A MEDIUM OF EXCHANGE FOR FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT AND ALL MERCHANTS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Hernandez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

House Bill No. 6717, entitled:

“AN ACT IMPOSING SALES TAX IN LIEU OF VALUE-ADDED TAX, REPLACING FOR THE PURPOSE THE ENTIRE PROVISIONS OF TITLE IV, AND AMENDING SECTION 116, TITLE V, AND SECTION 236, TITLE IX, OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Hernandez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 6718, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Hernandez
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 854, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS, COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY AND DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD-HOC* COMMITTEE TO INQUIRE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE CONTINUED ATTACKS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE NEW PEOPLE’S ARMY (NPA) SINCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF COMMUNITY QUARANTINE”

By Representatives Duterte, Tolentino, Yap (Eric) and Bautista
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

House Resolution No. 855, entitled:

“RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BURIAL OF MEDICAL FRONTLINERS WHO DIED IN SERVICE DUE TO COVID-19 IN THE LIBINGAN NG MGA BAYANI”

By Representative Garbin
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Resolution No. 856, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING ALL PRIVATE AND PUBLIC TELEVISION STATIONS IN THE COUNTRY TO ALLOT AT LEAST THREE HOURS PER DAY TO EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS THAT FOSTER HOLISTIC LEARNING AND EDUCATION TO KEEP GOVERNMENT ON TRACK IN ITS COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVE THE 17 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS”

By Representative Villaraza-Suarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

House Resolution No. 857, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED) TO IMPLEMENT TV-BASED LECTURES FOR ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTRY DURING THE COVID-19

PERIOD, USE THE FACILITIES OF TWO GOVERNMENT-OWNED TV STATIONS PTV 4 AND IBC 13 TELEVISION STATIONS TO SERVE AS TRANSMISSION VEHICLES FOR SUCH LECTURES AND ENSURE GOVERNMENT CONTINUES ON ITS TRACK TO ACHIEVE GOAL 4 QUALITY EDUCATION OF THE 17 SUSTAINABLE GOALS”

By Representative Villaraza-Suarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Resolution No. 858, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DENOUNCING AND CONDEMNING THE ATTACKS MADE BY THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE PHILIPPINES-NEW PEOPLE’S ARMY (CPP-NPA) DURING THE ONGOING COVID-19 PANDEMIC”

By Representatives Duterte, Tolentino, Yap (Eric) and Bautista
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DEFENSOR (M.)

At this point, on motion of Representative Zubiri, the Chair recognized Rep. Michael T. Defensor to clarify and put on record that the Body, with its 160 new Members, would also like to be well informed of the application for the renewal of the ABS-CBN franchise which had been pending before the House since 2014 under a different administration and House leadership. He pointed out that the House of Representatives had been tackling important bills in the past months which required urgent attention, and that it was unfair to say that the Body had been fully aware of the issues concerning said franchise renewal.

He said that, therefore, it behooves upon them to study carefully the issues surrounding said application, considering the Body’s new composition and thus had limited knowledge on these matters.

The Chair noted the said manifestation.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Zubiri, the Chair suspended the session at 5:55 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:58 p.m., the session was resumed with Deputy Speaker Estrella presiding.

On motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Representative Zarate for his manifestation.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

As a coauthor of an ABS-CBN franchise renewal bill, Representative Zarate expressed his thanks to Speaker Alan Peter “Compañero” S. Cayetano for his response regarding the ABS-CBN franchise renewal, and said that despite important matters in this time of pandemic, it is now Congress’ turn to act on the issue at hand. He subsequently asked for the immediate conduct of hearings on the pending franchise renewal bills.

The Chair noted the manifestation of Representative Zarate.

APPROVAL OF JOURNAL NO. 55, AS AMENDED

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved Journal No. 55 dated May 4 to 6, 2020, subject to the following amendments on page 4 thereof: (1) to include the name SIAO in the list of Members who responded to the Roll Call; and (2) accordingly, to replace the figures “301” with 302 and “276” with 277, to reflect the same.

CHANGE OF REFERRAL OF HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 858

On further motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body changed the referral of House Resolution No. 858, from the Committee on Rules to the Committee on Public Order and Safety.

REFERRAL OF HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 854

In accordance with the Rules Governing Inquiries in Aid of Legislation, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved to refer House Resolution No. 854, on the continued attacks of the members of the New People’s Army (NPA) since the implementation of community quarantine, to the Committee on Public Order and Safety.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the session was suspended until three o’clock in the afternoon of Wednesday, May 13, 2020.

It was 6:02 p.m. of Tuesday, May 12, 2020.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 3:00 p.m. of Wednesday, May 13, 2020 with Deputy Speaker Raneo “Ranie” E. Abu presiding.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Rep. Wilter “Sharky” Wee Palma II, the Chair declared a recess at 3:00 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 3:47 p.m.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the Additional Refence of Business.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read the titles of the following Bills and Resolutions on First Reading, and Messages from the Senate, which were referred to the appropriate committees indicated hereunder or consigned to the Archives:

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 6719, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PANDEMIC, EPIDEMIC, OUTBREAKS AND OTHER NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES COUNCIL”

By Representative Crisologo
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6720, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE GRANT OF HAZARD PAY TO PRIVATE SECTOR EMPLOYEES WHOSE WORK EXPOSES THEM TO OCCUPATIONAL RISKS AND PERILS TO LIFE DURING ACTUAL OR IMPENDING EMERGENCIES”

By Representative Mendoza
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6721, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE AGRICULTURE INFORMATION SYSTEM IN ALL CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES”

By Representative Defensor (Lorenz)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 6722, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11223 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE ACT' ”

By Representative Garbin
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 6723, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO WORKERS IN THE EDUCATION SECTOR AFFECTED BY SCHOOL CLOSURE DURING PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY AND OTHER ANALOGOUS CASES”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6724, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO FRANCISCAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8736 ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING THE FRANCISCAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS ANYWHERE IN THE PHILIPPINES WHERE FREQUENCIES AND/OR CHANNELS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR RADIO BROADCASTING' FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT”

By Representative Sagarbarria
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 6725, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF PROVINCES”

By Representative Delos Santos
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 6726, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING CENTER TO BE KNOWN AS THE CABAGAN TESDA TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Albano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 859, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION ALLOWING PROVINCIAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS IN LESS COMPROMISED AREAS FROM CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) TO ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT QUARANTINE PROTOCOLS APPROPRIATE AND NECESSARY TO THEIR RESPECTIVE COMMUNITIES”

By Representatives Plaza and Paduano
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Resolution No. 860, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE DEFEAT COVID-19 AD-HOC COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED RISING NUMBER OF PRISONERS DYING FROM COVID-19 INSIDE HIGHLY CONGESTED PRISON FACILITIES AND ON THE SLOW RELEASES OF QUALIFIED PERSONS DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY AND OTHER PRISONERS ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE, MAKING OUR PRISONS A VECTOR OF COVID-19 OUTBREAKS”

By Representatives Zarate, Gaite and Cullamat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Message dated May 11, 2020, informing the House of Representatives that on March 23, 2020 the Senate adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 9, entitled:

“CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CREATING A JOINT COMMITTEE OF BOTH HOUSES TO NOTIFY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES THAT CONGRESS HAS CONVENED ITS FIRST SPECIAL SESSION AND THERE BEING A QUORUM, SAID CONGRESS HAS ALREADY ENTERED UPON THE EXERCISE OF ITS FUNCTIONS”

in which it requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.
TO THE ARCHIVES

Message dated May 11, 2020, informing the House of Representatives that on March 23, 2020 the Senate adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 10, entitled:

“CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE FIRST SPECIAL SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES NOT

LATER THAN TWELVE O'CLOCK, MIDNIGHT, TODAY, MARCH 23, 2020”

in which it requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.
TO THE ARCHIVES

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

BILL ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 6732, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING THE ABS-CBN CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Cayetano (Alan Peter), Gonzales (Neptali), Abu, Puno, Fernandez, Villafuerte, Romualdez (Ferdinand) and Sy-Alvarado

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

RESOLUTION

House Resolution No. 861, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO DIRECT ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS OF COVID-19-STRICKEN PROVINCES, CITIES, AND MUNICIPALITIES TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT THEIR RESPECTIVE ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLANS”

By Representative Abellanos
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Message dated May 12, 2020, informing the House of Representatives that on May 11, 2020 the Senate approved the Conference Committee Report of the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 1086 and House Bill No. 6312, both entitled:

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

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

CONSTITUTION OF THE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

At this point, Majority Leader Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez informed the Body that House Bill No.

6732 was referred to the Committee on Rules. By the authority granted to the Majority Leader by the said Committee to act on the Bill, and pursuant to Sections 137 and 138, Rule XVIII of the Provisional Rules of the House, on motion of Majority Leader Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, there being no objection, the Body constituted itself into a Committee of the Whole in order for the House to consider House Bill No. 6732.

DESIGNATION OF PRESIDING OFFICER AND FLOOR LEADER OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

Thereafter, on motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), there being no objection, the Chair designated the former to preside over the Committee of the Whole House, and Representative Palma to act as Floor Leader.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair then *motu proprio* suspended the session at 3:52 p.m. to give way to the proceedings of the Committee of the Whole House.

At this juncture, the Committee of the Whole House deliberated on House Bill No. 6732.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:30 p.m., the session was resumed with Deputy Speaker Abu presiding.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

Thereupon, 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 the following Committee Report which was referred to the appropriate committee indicated hereunder:

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Committee of the Whole House, re H.B. No. 6732, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING THE ABS-CBN CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND

MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

recommending its approval without amendment
Sponsors: Representatives Romualdez (Ferdinand), Cayetano (Alan Peter), Villafuerte and Fernandez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6732

Subsequently, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 6732 contained in the Committee Report submitted by the Committee of the Whole House.

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

“AN ACT GRANTING THE ABS-CBN CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

As copies of the Bill had been distributed to the Members, on motion of Representative Palma, 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 motion of Majority Leader Romualdez (F.M.), the Chair then recognized Deputy Speaker Luis Raymund “LRay” F. Villafuerte Jr. who was authorized by the chairperson of the sponsoring committee to sponsor the measure.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF DEPUTY SPEAKER VILLAFUERTE

Deputy Speaker Villafuerte said that the rationale behind House Bill No. 6732 was to enable Congress to perform its duty and mandate of affording due process for all stakeholders on the renewal of the franchise of ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation. He added that Congress wanted to provide a partial, comprehensive, and extensive hearing for all in view of the contentious issues surrounding the matter.

He remarked that the consideration thereof was delayed because of the need to address problems brought about by the pandemic.

**INSERTION INTO THE RECORDS
OF THE SPONSORSHIP SPEECHES
OF SPEAKER CAYETANO (A.P.)
AND DEPUTY SPEAKER FERNANDEZ**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved to insert into the records of the House the sponsorship speeches on House Bill No. 6732 which Speaker Cayetano and Deputy Speaker Fernandez delivered during the meeting of the Committee of the Whole House.

On further motion of Representative Palma, the Chair then recognized Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate for his interpellation.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE**

Participating via Zoom video conferencing, Representative Zarate first discussed with Deputy Speaker Villafuerte the temporary nature of the franchise to be granted to ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation and the legislative process for the approval of the instant measure.

As to the proposed effectivity period of the provisional franchise which is until October 31, 2020, Deputy Speaker Villafuerte explained that a five-month period would give Members enough time to conduct consultations and hearings and for all stakeholders to submit their position papers on the matter, while they attend to other pressing matters during said period.

Representative Zarate joined his colleague in questioning the cease and desist order issued by the National Telecommunications Commission to ABS-CBN; believed that the Body's decision on the franchise renewal should be based on careful deliberations; and said that it is now up to Congress to thoroughly discuss and come up with a fair and reasonable solution to the issue.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS**

Recognized by the Chair upon motion of Representative Palma, Rep. Arlene D. Brosas, via Zoom video conferencing, stated that the extension of

the franchise until October 31, 2020 was insufficient considering the current COVID-19 crisis. Deputy Speaker Villafuerte said that they had to set a deadline so that they would be able to discuss the matter extensively and with impartiality, and come up with a decision on whether to approve or deny the grant of a franchise.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE PALMA

Due to technical difficulties, Representative Palma moved to suspend Representative Brosas' interpellation. Thereafter, on his motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Michael T. Defensor to next interpellate the Sponsor.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE DEFENSOR (M.)**

Representative Defensor discussed with Deputy Speaker Villafuerte whether ABS-CBN has applied for a renewal and has agreed on the provisional franchise as the former hoped for ABS-CBN's cooperation in terms of the provisions of the Bill and submit to the process of deliberations.

The Sponsor clarified that the proposed measure was filed without influence from ABS-CBN nor any other stakeholder, but with the intention to have an impartial and extensive hearing so the Body can fulfill its constitutional duty to decide whether to approve or reject its franchise application.

REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

With the indulgence of the two Members and in response to Representative Defensor's query, Deputy Speaker Abu cited Section 7 of the Bill on "Acceptance and Compliance."

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE DEFENSOR (M.)
(Continuation)**

Representative Defensor and Deputy Speaker Villafuerte subsequently tackled the legal issues confronting ABS-CBN such as violations on the constitutional limitation on foreign ownership, election and labor laws, and the 50-year limit for the grant of legislative franchise, for which extensive hearings should be conducted, according to Deputy Speaker Villafuerte.

Representative Defensor pointed out that the Members had many priorities such as responding to

the COVID-19 pandemic; but stressed that the action of the NTC was wrong. He disclosed that he had filed a resolution regarding the matter.

Deputy Speaker Villafuerte commented that while Congress is very productive, transparent, relevant and responsible, the media has focused its attention to said franchise renewal. He thus assured the Filipino people that the House will continue to do and prioritize what is right, while attending to the issues of ABS-CBN.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE PALMA

At this point, Representative Palma read for the record Representative Brosas' text message to him, in line with her previous interpellation, which expressed concern on Sections 5 and 9 of the Bill; and stated that Gabriela Women's Party stands for freedom and democracy, as well as advocates press freedom.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Rep. Ferdinand R. Gaité for his interpellation via Zoom video conferencing.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE

Regarding Representative Gaité's initial concern, Deputy Speaker Villafuerte explained that because no action had been done by the previous Congresses with regard to the ABS-CBN franchise, it is only right that the Members conduct an impartial, extensive, and comprehensive hearing so they can have the opportunity to listen to all parties, and not be influenced by outside pressure.

Representative Gaité and Deputy Speaker Villafuerte then discussed 1) the reason on the grant of franchise for ABS-CBN considering that President Rodrigo Roa Duterte openly stated before that its franchise would not be renewed; 2) the employees who would be affected should there be a non-renewal of franchise; 3) whether ABS-CBN had violated labor laws; and 4) the network's biased and unfair treatment especially during the election campaign period.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ARAGONES

Recognized by the Chair upon Representative Palma's motion, Rep. Sol Aragones, through Zoom video conferencing, expressed her appreciation to Speaker Cayetano (A.P.) and the authors of the Bill

for granting a provisional franchise to ABS-CBN despite its effectivity only until October 31, 2020 since this would give the Members time to hear all sides of the issues.

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

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Representative Elago discussed with the Sponsor the factors that were considered in determining the terms of the provisional franchise given to ABS-CBN which shall be in effect until October 31, 2020 and what prompted such a decision. While she is one with Deputy Speaker Villafuerte in giving priority to policies that address the health and livelihood of the people amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, Representative Elago said that they should also give focus on addressing the spread of false information and protecting press freedom and freedom of expression.

TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

There being no other Member who wished to interpellate the Sponsor, on successive motions of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of sponsorship and debate and thereafter, proceeded to the period of amendments.

PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no committee amendments, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to consider individual amendments.

AMENDMENTS OF REPRESENTATIVE CABATBAT

As proposed by Rep. Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved the amendment on Sections 14 and 17 of House Bill No. 6732.

TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no further amendments, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of amendments.

**APPROVAL ON SECOND READING
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6732, AS AMENDED**

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved on Second Reading House Bill No. 6732, as amended, through *viva voce* voting.

**INSERTION INTO THE RECORDS
OF THE MANIFESTATION
OF REPRESENTATIVE DEL MAR**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved to insert into the records of the House the manifestation of Rep. Raul V. Del Mar earlier submitted to the Committee on Rules.

ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

Thereafter, on successive motions of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved to include Reps. Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento and John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto as additional coauthors of House Bill No. 6732.

Likewise, on further motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved to include as additional coauthors of House Bills No. 6623 and 6732 the names of the Members contained in the list to be submitted by the Committee on Rules.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair suspended the session at 6:23 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:25 p.m., the session resumed.

**INSERTION INTO THE RECORDS
OF THE MANIFESTATION
OF DEPUTY SPEAKER ARENAS**

Upon resumption of session, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved to insert into the records of the House the manifestation of Deputy Speaker Rose Marie “Baby” J. Arenas previously submitted to the Committee on Rules.

**DISTRIBUTION OF COPIES
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6732**

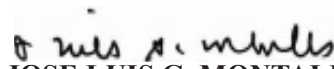
Thereafter, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Chair directed the Secretariat to provide Third Reading copies of House Bill No. 6732 to the Members via electronic means and distribute hard copies of the same to their respective offices.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

Subsequently, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until three o’clock in the afternoon of Monday, May 18, 2020.

It was 6:26 p.m. of Wednesday, May 13, 2020.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.


JOSE LUIS G. MONTALES
Secretary General

Approved on May 18, 2020.

Congress of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Philippines

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE

Journal No. 56

Monday to Wednesday, May 11 to 13, 2020

ABANTE	BORDADO	DUTERTE
ABAYA	BRAVO	DY (F.)
ABELLANOSA	BROSAS	DY (F.M.C.)
ABU	BULUT	DY (I.P.)
ABUEG-ZALDIVAR	BUSTOS	EBCAS
ABUNDA	CABATBAT	ECLEO
ACOP	CABOCHAN	ELAGO
ACOSTA	CABREDO	ENVERGA
ACOSTA-ALBA	CAGAS	ERICE
ADIONG	CALDERON	ERIGUEL
ADVINCULA	CALIXTO	ERMITA-BUHAIN
AGABAS	CAMINERO	ESCUDERO
AGARAO	CAMPOS	ESPINA
AGLIPAY	CANAMA	ESPINO
AGUINALDO	CAOAGDAN	ESTRELLA
ALBANO	CARI	FARIÑAS (R.C.)
ALMARIO	CASTELO	FARIÑAS I (R.C.)
ALONTE	CASTRO (F.L.)	FERNANDEZ
ALVAREZ (F.)	CASTRO (F.H.)	FERNANDO
ALVAREZ (G.)	CAYETANO (A.P.)	FERRER (J.M.)
ALVAREZ (P.)	CAYETANO (M.L.)	FERRER (L.)
AMANTE-MATBA	CELESTE	FLORES
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	DATOL	GO (E.C.)
BARZAGA	DAZA	GO (M.)
BASCUG	DE JESUS	GONZAGA
BAUTISTA	DE VENECIA	GONZALES (A.)
BAUTISTA-BANDIGAN	DEFENSOR (L.)	GONZALES (N.)
BELMONTE	DEFENSOR (M.)	GONZALEZ
BENITEZ	DEL MAR	GORRICETA
BERNOS	DELOS SANTOS	GUICO
BIAZON	DELOSO-MONTALLA	GULLAS
BILLONES	DIMAPORO (A.)	GUYA
BIRON	DIMAPORO (M.K.)	HARESCO
BOLILIA	DUAVIT	HATAMAN
BONDOC	DUJALI	HERNANDEZ

HERRERA-DY
 HOFER
 JALOSJOS
 JAVIER
 JIMENEZ
 KHO (E.)
 KHO (W.)
 KHONGHUN
 LABADLABAD
 LACSON
 LACSON-NOEL
 LAGMAN
 LAGON
 LARA
 LAZATIN
 LEACHON
 LEGARDA
 LIM
 LIMKAICHONG
 LOPEZ
 LOYOLA
 LUSOTAN
 MACAPAGAL ARROYO
 MACEDA
 MADRONA
 MALAPITAN
 MANGAOANG
 MANGUDADATU
 MARCOLETA
 MARIANO-HERNANDEZ
 MARIÑO
 MARQUEZ
 MARTINEZ
 MATBA
 MATUGAS
 MENDOZA
 MERCADO
 MOMO
 NATIVIDAD-NAGAÑO
 NAVA
 NIETO
 NOEL
 NOGRALES (J.J.)
 NOGRALES (J.F.F.)
 NOLASCO
 NUÑEZ-MALANYAON
 OAMINAL
 OLIVAREZ
 ONG (J.)
 ONG (R.)
 ORTEGA

OUANO-DIZON
 PACQUIAO (A.)
 PACQUIAO (R.)
 PADIERNOS
 PADUANO
 PALMA
 PANCHO
 PANOTES
 PEÑA
 PICHAY
 PIMENTEL
 PINEDA
 PLAZA
 PUNO
 QUIMBO
 RADAZA
 RAMIREZ-SATO
 RAMOS
 REMULLA
 REVILLA
 REYES
 RIVERA
 ROBES
 RODRIGUEZ
 ROMAN
 ROMERO
 ROMUALDEZ (F.M.)
 ROMUALDEZ (Y.M.)
 ROMUALDO
 ROMULO
 ROQUE
 SACDALAN
 SAGARBARRIA
 SAKALURAN
 SALCEDA
 SALIMBANGON
 SALO
 SANCHEZ
 SANGCOPAN
 SANTOS-RECTO
 SARMIENTO
 SAULOG
 SAVELLANO
 SIAO
 SILVERIO
 SINGSON
 SINGSON-MEEHAN
 SINSUAT
 SUANSING (E.)
 SUANSING (H.)
 SUAREZ (A.)

SUAREZ (D.)
 SUNTAY
 SY-ALVARADO
 TADURAN
 TALLADO
 TAMBUNTING
 TAN (A.S.)
 TAN (A.)
 TAN (SAMIER)
 TAN (S.A.)
 TAN (SHERNEE)
 TEJADA
 TEVES (A.)
 TEVES (J.)
 TIANGCO
 TOLENTINO
 TORRES-GOMEZ
 TULFO
 TUPAS
 TUTOR
 TY (A.)
 TY (D.)
 UMALI (A.)
 UMALI (M.V.)
 UNABIA
 UNGAB
 UY (J.)
 UY (R.)
 VALERIANO
 VALMAYOR
 VARGAS
 VARGAS ALFONSO
 VELASCO
 VELOSO
 VERGARA
 VILLA
 VILLAFUERTE
 VILLANUEVA (E.)
 VILLANUEVA (N.)
 VILLAR
 VILLARAZA-SUAREZ
 VILLARICA
 VIOLAGO
 YAP (E.)
 YAP (V.)
 YU
 ZAMORA (R.)
 ZAMORA (W.K.)
 ZARATE
 ZUBIRI

* 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)