



Committee Daily Bulletin

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS

COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Civil Service and Professional Regulation	Organizational meeting and adoption of the Committee's Rules of Procedure	<p>The Committee, chaired by Iligan City Rep. Frederick Siao, held its organizational meeting during which the Committee's Rules of Procedure for the 18th Congress was adopted.</p> <p>Under the Rules of the House, the Committee has jurisdiction over "all matters directly and principally relating to the organization, operation, management, rules and regulations of the civil service; the status, welfare and benefits of government officers and employees; and the regulation of, admission to, and the practice of professions."</p>
Cooperatives Development	Organizational meeting and adoption of the Committee's Rules of Procedure	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Sabiniano Canama (Party-List, COOP-NATCCO), held its organizational meeting during which the Committee's Rules of Procedure for the 18th Congress was adopted.</p> <p>Rep. Canama reported the accomplishments of the Committee in the previous Congress, highlighting the enactment of RA 11364 or the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) Charter of 2019.</p> <p>Under the Rules of the House, the Committee has jurisdiction over "all matters directly and principally relating to cooperatives inclusive of cooperative movements and organizations; urban and rural-based credit, consumers, producers, marketing, service and multi-purpose cooperatives; electric cooperatives registered with the CDA; and the implementation or amendment of the Cooperative Code of the Philippines."</p>
Indigenous Cultural Communities and Indigenous Peoples	Organizational meeting and adoption of the Committee's Rules of Procedure	<p>The Committee, chaired by Kalinga Rep. Allen Jesse Mangaoang, held its organizational meeting during which the Committee's Rules of Procedure for the 18th Congress was adopted.</p> <p>Under the Rules of the House, the Committee has jurisdiction over "all matters directly and principally relating to indigenous cultural communities and indigenous peoples and the development of their communities."</p>
Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development	Organizational meeting and adoption of the Committee's Rules of Procedure	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Virgilio Lacson (Party-List, MANILA TEACHERS), held its organizational meeting during which the Committee's Rules of Procedure for the 18th Congress was adopted.</p> <p>Rep. Lacson presented the Committee's legislative agenda for the 18th Congress, one of which is the enactment of the <i>Puhunan, Tulungan, Kaunlaran Act</i>. This proposed law seeks to create a comprehensive program for the development of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in order to transform them into five-star businesses and develop a loan program for the micro enterprises.</p> <p>Under the Rules of the House, the Committee has jurisdiction over "all matters directly and principally relating to policies and programs on entrepreneurship development including the promotion of entrepreneurship, support to entrepreneurs, and the establishment and continuing viability and growth of small and medium-scale enterprises."</p>
North Luzon Growth Quadrangle (Special Committee)	Organizational meeting and adoption of the Committee's Rules of Procedure	<p>The Committee, chaired by Abra Rep. Joseph Sto. Niño Bernos, held its organizational meeting during which the Committee's Rules of Procedure for the 18th Congress was adopted.</p>

Continuation... North Luzon Growth Quadrangle (Special Committee)		Under the Rules of the House, the Committee has jurisdiction over "all matters directly and principally relating to all policies and programs concerning the development of municipalities, cities, provinces and other local communities in the northwest Luzon area; and other actions to promote growth and expand avenues of economic cooperation with contiguous areas."
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COMMITTEE MEETINGS				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Agriculture and Food	Substitute Resolution to House Joint Resolution (HJR) 16 & HR 322	Deputy Speaker Villafuerte and Rep. Romualdez (Y.)	Directing the Department of Agriculture (DA) and the National Food Authority (NFA) to directly purchase palay from the local farmers for the rice subsidy program of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of National Defense (DND), Department of Transportation (DOTr), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), and the local government units (LGUs)	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Wilfredo Mark Enverga (1st District, Quezon), will deliberate further on the issues raised relative to the measure in its next meeting.</p> <p>Agriculture Undersecretary Ariel Cayanán apprised the Committee that the DA already conducted initial talks with the concerned departments on the purchase of palay directly from the local farmers for the latter's rice subsidy program.</p> <p>On the DA's proposal to grant rice instead of cash to the 4Ps (Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program) beneficiaries, Cayanán said that the DSWD has reservations on this proposal as it goes against the 4Ps' objective of granting conditional cash transfer to the beneficiaries.</p> <p>At present, the DSWD provides 4Ps beneficiaries a rice subsidy in the amount of P600 per month per household.</p> <p>Replying to the query of Rep. Carlos Isagani Zarate (Party-List, BAYAN MUNA) on the status of implementation of a directive requiring certain Departments and the LGUs to procure rice directly from NFA, Cayanán said that other departments are already procuring rice directly from the NFA for their rice subsidy programs, while the NFA is buying rice solely from the local farmers for its buffer stocking.</p> <p>Several Members urged the Committee to hold a follow-up meeting on the issue of the drastic decrease of palay prices and to invite resource persons from the NFA, DA, and other concerned government agencies to provide inputs and recommendations to address the problem.</p>
	<i>Motu proprio</i> inquiry		Inquiry into the outbreak of the African swine fever (ASF) in the country	<p>The Committee will continue its inquiry into the outbreak of the African swine fever in certain parts of the country in its next meeting.</p> <p>Rep. Enverga stated that four House Resolutions, HRs 192, 193, 336, and 383, urging the Committee on Agriculture and Food to conduct an investigation into the status of the ASF outbreak in some provinces in Luzon, are currently pending consideration by the Committee on Rules.</p>

Continuation... Agriculture and Food				<p>Department of Agriculture (DA) Undersecretary Ariel Cayanán reported that as soon as DA Secretary William Dar received the incident report on the increased mortality among backyard grown pigs from the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) on August 16, 2019, a crisis management team (CMT) was immediately organized to implement the “1-7-10 Protocol” in the Province of Rizal and later on, in the Province of Bulacan, Quezon City, and the City of Manila.</p> <p>The 1-7-10 Protocol means that hogs within one kilometer (km) radius of a suspected disease outbreak will be immediately culled and buried and the area will be disinfected. The next 7-km radius is considered the surveillance area for testing and sampling. Within the 10-km radius, authorities will strictly monitor the transport of animals.</p> <p>Cayanán likewise informed the body that the DA had mobilized regional quick response teams (Regional QRTs) to implement complementary measures, and an inter-agency national task force headed by President Rodrigo Duterte was formed in a cabinet meeting immediately after the declaration of the outbreak.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Philippine Association of Meat Processors, Inc. (PAMPI) spokesperson Rex Agarrado lamented that after the confirmation of the ASF outbreak, some LGUs have immediately implemented either quarantine procedures or total entry ban of meat products in their respective localities. However, this has placed the P300-billion meat industry into a stand still, Agarrado said.</p> <p>Agarrado urged both the national and local governments to also give due attention to the concerns of the meat industry and to adopt science-based regulations in addressing the ASF outbreak, noting that the ASF virus does not affect human beings.</p> <p>Rep. Rico Geron (Party-List, AGAP) questioned the immediate culling of pigs from the backyard hog raisers in several areas while the confiscated canned meat products coming from ASF- infected countries are being kept in the warehouses of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and not being disposed. The Licencing and Registration Division Chief of the FDA's Center for Food Regulation and Research, Helena Alcaraz, explained that the confiscated canned meat products already passed through quarantine procedures prior to the outbreak, but she did not elaborate on the reason for not discarding the canned meat products until now.</p>
Constitutional Amendments	HB 788	Rep. Biazon	Providing for the selection of an acting President and acting Vice President of the Republic of the Philippines in case of a failure of election	The Committee, chaired by Rep. Rufus Rodriguez (2 nd District, Cagayan de Oro City), agreed to prepare a matrix of the comments and recommendations of all the resource

Continuation... Constitutional Amendments	Resolution of Both Houses (RBH) 1	Rep. Rodriguez	Constituting the Senate and the House of Representatives into a constituent assembly to propose revisions of the 1987 Constitution by adopting a federal form of government	persons invited during its consultations on the proposed revision or amendment of the 1987 Philippine Constitution.
	RBH 2	Rep. Velasco	Proposing amendments to certain economic provisions of the 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines particularly on Articles II, XIV and XVI	Rep. Antonio "Tonypet" Albano (1 st District, Isabela) sat as the presiding officer during the early part of the meeting.
	RBH 3	Rep. Haresco	Proposing amendments to certain economic provisions of the 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines	Former Supreme Court Associate Justice Vicente Mendoza pointed out that while he agrees with some provisions of RBH 1 which provide local government units or the "federated regions" with greater autonomy on fiscal matters, the measure does not actually create a federal system of government but more of a decentralized unitary system of government.
	House Joint Resolution (HJR) 3	Rep. Cabochan	Proposing amendment to Section 16, Article VII of the 1987 Philippine Constitution in order to limit the confirmation process of the Commission on Appointments for members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) to the positions of Chief-of-Staff of the AFP and service commanders of the Army, Air Force, and Navy only	He explained that in a federal system, separate states with separate charters come together to form a federation.
	HJR 4	Deputy Speaker Gonzales (A.)	Calling upon members of Congress to convene for the purpose of considering proposals to amend or revise the Constitution, upon a vote of three-fourths of all members	On the proposed amendments to the economic provisions of the Constitution, Mendoza suggested the need to form a technical working group (TWG), to be composed of "select and highly technical people," to work on the provisions.
	House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 1	Rep. Rodriguez	Proposing amendments to certain provisions of the 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines particularly on Articles VI, X, XII, XIV, and XVI	Meanwhile, Rep. Albano advised the resource persons who do not favor a shift to a federal form of government to submit their own version of the bill.
Indigenous Cultural Communities and Indigenous Peoples	HB 1823	Rep. Chatto	Establishing an indigenous peoples (IPs) training and learning center in the Province of Bohol, preserving the culture and language of the "Eskaya" and providing them livelihood opportunities, through education, seminars, and literacy programs for language and cultural preservation, and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee, chaired by Kalinga Rep. Allen Jesse Mangaoang, approved HB 1823 subject to style and amendment.
	HBs 639 & 2281	Deputy Speaker Legarda and Rep. Acosta- Alba	Recognizing, protecting and strengthening the IPs and local communities conserved areas and territories, acknowledging their contribution to the conservation and protection of key biodiversity areas, establishing for the purpose the National Indigenous Community Conserved Areas (ICCA) registry, appropriating funds therefor	The Committee agreed to create a technical working group (TWG) to deliberate further on HBs 639 and 2281. The TWG will be chaired by Rep. Amihilda Sangcopan (Party-List, AMIN). National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) Chair Allen Capuyan expressed his support for the two bills but suggested that they be harmonized with RA 11038 or the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (ENIPAS) Act of 2018.
	HBs 889 & 1456	Rep. Cuaresma	Institutionalizing IPs mandatory representation in the Province of Nueva Vizcaya and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee will deliberate further on HBs 889 and 1456 in its next meeting.

Continuation... Indigenous Cultural Communities and Indigenous Peoples	HB 1162	Rep. Cuaresma	Ensuring equal employment opportunities to members of ICCs and preference in certain cases	The Committee will deliberate further on HB 1162 in its next meeting.
	HBs 1332 & 2812	Reps. Brosas and Rodriguez	Providing for a free and culture-sensitive system of registration concerning the civil status of IPs	The Committee deferred the discussion on HBs 1332 and 2812 pending the submission of the NCIP's position paper on the matter.
	HBs 1742 & 1886	Deputy Speaker Villafuerte and Rep. Vargas	Strengthening the healthcare system in cultural and indigenous communities by institutionalizing the training and employment of tribal health workers	The Committee will deliberate further on HBs 1742 and 1886 in its next meeting. NCIP Commissioner Norberto Navarro expressed the agency's support for the proposed law but informed the Committee that there might be an overlap in jurisdiction between the Department of Health (DOH) and the NCIP.
	HBs 1738 & 3758	Deputy Speaker Villafuerte and Rep. Rodriguez	Establishing resource centers for indigenous cultural communities (ICCs)/IPs to enhance and ensure delivery of essential services, appropriating funds therefor	The Committee will deliberate further on HBs 1738 and 3758 in its next meeting.
	HBs 3919 & 4429	Rep. Cagas and Deputy Speaker Savellano	Establishing an IP training and learning center in the Province of Davao del Sur and in the Municipality of Magsingal, Province of Ilocos Sur, respectively, appropriating funds therefor	The Committee will deliberate further on HBs 3919 and 4429 in its next meeting.
	HB 2789	Rep. Rodriguez	Extending the period for ICCs/IPs to exercise the option to secure the title to their ancestral lands under Commonwealth Act 141, as amended, or the Land Registration Act 496, amending for the purpose Section 12 of RA 8371, otherwise known as The Indigenous Peoples Rights Act of 1997	The Committee will deliberate further on HB 2789 in its next meeting. The NCIP Chair expressed his reservation on the bill saying that there are areas where the issuance or extension of a Certificate of Ancestral Domain (CADT) or Certificate of Ancestral Land Title (CALT) is no longer applicable since the IPs do not occupy these areas anymore.
Labor and Employment	HBs 271, 3184, 3367, 3381 & 4845	Reps. Aglipay, Fortun, Deputy Speaker Villanueva, Reps. Gaite, and Tambunting	Strengthening the security of tenure of workers, amending for the purpose PD 442, as amended, otherwise known as the Labor Code of the Philippines	The Committee, chaired by Rep. Enrico Pineda (Party-List, 1-PACMAN), will deliberate further on the bills, at the same time giving instructions to DOLE to submit the final draft of its own version of the bill strengthening the security of tenure of workers in the private sector.
	HB 1018	Rep. Castelo	Effectively authorizing the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) to ban and avert the practice of private companies of contractualization of employment and any form of flexibilization of labor thereby assisting said companies toward a shift to regularization of employment and security of tenure for contractual workers, laborers, and employees	DOLE Secretary Silvestre Bello informed the body that consultations with the labor sector were conducted to get their opinion on the inputs to the draft bill coming from the employers. DOLE Assistant Secretary Benjo Santos Benavidez said the Department is still in the process of consolidating the inputs from the stakeholders. He also said that the DOLE's version of the bill has adopted most of the provisions of the Security of Tenure Bill passed by Congress during the 17 th Congress, except those provisions unacceptable to the President which was why he vetoed that bill. In the veto message of the President, he stated
	HB 3032	Rep. Belmonte	Strengthening the security of tenure of workers in the private sector, amending for the purpose Articles 248, 279, 280, 281, and 288, and introducing new articles 106-A, 106-B, 106-C, 106-D, 106-E, 280-A and 280-B to PD 442, as amended	

Continuation... Labor and Employment	HB 3267	Rep. Go (M.)	Regulating the outsourcing of work, amending for the purpose Article 106 of PD 442, as amended	that the expansive definition of "labor-only contracting" may cause delicate imbalance between labor and employer.
	HB 4802	Rep. Singson	Extending the maximum allowable period of probationary employment, amending for the purpose PD 442, as amended	<p>Benavidez said that the DOLE version will spell out what can and cannot be contracted out, to include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The performance or completion of a specific job, work or service may be contracted out except for core business activities or functions unless in cases of seasonal and project work arrangement; • Core business activity or function refers to an activity or function that is an integral part of the principal line of business of the contractee; • A mere supply or placement of workers does not constitute contracting; • The contractee shall not exercise control over the workers of the contractor; • A fixed-term employment shall only be allowed "where a fixed period of employment was agreed upon knowingly and voluntarily by the parties, without any force, duress or improper pressure being brought to bear upon the employee and absent any other circumstances vitiating his consent, or where it satisfactorily appears that the employer and employee dealt with each other on more or less equal terms with no moral dominance whatever being exercised by the former over the latter."
	HR 66	Rep. Zarate	Commending ACT Teachers Party-List Representative France Castro for being awarded the 2019 Arthur Svensson International Prize for Trade Union Rights	The Committee adopted the resolution subject to style.
Overseas Workers Affairs	HBs 272, 328, 1568, 2318, 3282, 3990, 4685 & 4749	Rep. Aglipay, Deputy Speaker Arenas, Reps. Angara, Gonzalez (C.), Yap (E.), Agabas, Mendoza, and Espino	Instituting the Magna Carta for Filipino seafarers	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Raymond Democrito Mendoza (Party-List, TUCP), agreed to create a technical working group (TWG) to draft the substitute bill to the eight bills.</p> <p>Rep. Niña Taduran (Party-List, ACT-CIS), co-author of HB 3282, explained that the bill intends to strengthen the policies protecting and promoting the rights and welfare of Filipino seafarers.</p> <p>The resource persons present during the meeting expressed their support for the bills but requested that they be allowed to participate in the TWG meetings.</p> <p>DOLE Undersecretary Claro Arellano said that the Magna Carta of Filipino seafarers is a priority measure of the Department.</p>

Continuation... Overseas Workers Affairs				Rep. Mendoza is optimistic that the proposed measure will finally be passed in the Senate considering that it has been re-filed and approved several times in the previous Congresses.
Transportation	<i>Motu proprio</i> inquiry		Inquiry into the plans and programs of various transportation agencies for certain occasions or holidays during which traffic becomes worse in the metropolis and certain parts of the country	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Edgar Mary Sarmiento (1st District, Western Samar), conducted a <i>motu proprio</i> inquiry into the plans and programs of different transportation agencies during the three major holidays in the country: the upcoming All Souls' Day, Christmas season, and Holy Week.</p> <p>At the outset, Rep. Sarmiento mentioned that HR 353, which he authored and which was adopted by the Committee in its previous meeting, recommends the creation of a traffic crisis inter-agency management council for the purpose of consolidating and harmonizing all transport and traffic policies to address the urgent traffic crisis nationwide.</p> <p>Department of Transportation (DOTr) Undersecretary for Aviation and Airports Manuel Antonio Tamayo said that to ensure the safety and convenience of the riding public during the holidays and certain occasions, the DOTr will continue to implement its nationwide <i>Oplan Biyaheng Ayos</i> program during the week before the start of the holidays or occasion and up to the week after.</p> <p><i>Oplan Biyaheng Ayos</i> ensures that there are sufficient trips available for the expected influx of passengers during the holidays and ensures the roadworthiness of all public utility vehicles (PUVs) as well as the readiness of PUV drivers in getting commuters and motorists to their destinations.</p> <p>DOTr Undersecretary Raul del Rosario said that the Office of Transportation Security (OTS) issues threat security alerts or advisories on a monthly basis, checks the security conditions and conducts a threat vulnerability assessment in airports, seaports, and bus and rail terminals.</p> <p>Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) Board Member Ronaldo Corpus said that the Board will intensify <i>Oplan Anti-Colorum</i> and <i>Oplan Isnabero</i> operations against illegal or colorum PUVs and taxi units as well as those violating their franchises. The LTFRB will also enhance its terminal and garage inspections and pre-departure inspections of buses to ensure that the vehicles are roadworthy. In coordination with the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) and Land Transportation Office (LTO), the LTFRB will also conduct random drug testing for drivers and conductors, Corpus added.</p> <p>Rep. Marisol Panotes (2nd District, Camarines Norte) suggested that each provincial bus</p>

Continuation... Transportation				<p>should have emergency kits. Corpus agreed to the suggestion, adding that first aid training will also form part of the LTFRB's nationwide Driver's Academy program.</p> <p>Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) Assistant General Manager for Planning Jose Campo reported that to help ease traffic congestion during the holidays, the MMDA requests mall operators to adjust their mall operations so as not to coincide with the rush-hour traffic; to stop weekday sales; to make sure that there will be no day-time delivery of goods; and to prohibit and apprehend <i>colorum</i> PUVs including transport network vehicle service (TNVS) inside the mall complex, among others.</p> <p>Philippine National Police-Highway Patrol Group (PNP-HPG) Director Eliseo Cruz said that his office deploys more personnel in the highways to assist motorists and ensure road safety especially during the holidays and special occasions.</p> <p>Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Undersecretary for Operations Epimaco Densing III said that the local government units (LGUs) are instructed to devise and implement their own special traffic management plan.</p> <p>Likewise, Toll Regulatory Board (TRB) Executive Director II Abraham Sales said that the toll operators at the expressways have established their respective plans on how to address the influx of vehicles along the expressways during the holiday season.</p> <p>Light Rail Transit Authority (LRTA) Deputy Administrator Paul Chua said that the LRT operates on regular hours during the holidays but with additional public relation officers posted at LRT's three major stations: Recto, Cubao, and Katipunan. On the other hand, Philippine National Railways (PNR) legal counsel Celeste Lautu said that the number of PNR trips will be increased from 62 to 78 trips by November 15. There will be sectional maintenance but this will not disrupt the train operations, Lautu said.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Deputy Speaker Johnny Ty Pimentel (2nd District, Surigao del Sur) proposed the realignment of additional funds for the PNR in the 2020 national budget to allow it to purchase additional trains.</p> <p>Representatives from the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), and Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) also informed the Committee of their respective plans during the holiday seasons.</p>
	Motu proprio inquiry		Inquiry into the "carmaggedon" and the four-hour traffic from San Pedro, Laguna	The Committee conducted a <i>motu proprio</i> inquiry into the "carmaggedon" and the four-

Continuation... Transportation			to Makati City via South Luzon Expressway (SLEX) last September 26, 2019	<p>hour traffic from San Pedro, Laguna to Makati City via SLEX last September 26.</p> <p>Traffic was reportedly at its worse last September 26 along SLEX after its third lane was closed to give way to the construction of the Skyway extension project.</p> <p>Rep. Sarmiento and Muntinlupa City Rep. Rozzano Rufino Biazon stressed that there was lack of information dissemination before the start of the construction along SLEX which would have aptly warned the motorists passing along the expressway and could have taken alternative routes. Likewise, concerned government agencies and local governments could have designated alternative routes or prepared for the expected traffic buildup.</p> <p>Skyway O&M Corp. (SOMCO) President Manuel Bonoan said that SLEX's third lane will be open by December, assuring a smoother traffic by that time.</p> <p>Bonoan was requested to submit a simplified traffic management plan for the Skyway extension project</p>
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TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETINGS				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Government Reorganization jt. w/ Disaster Management (Technical Working Group)	HB 4	Speaker Cayetano	Creating the Emergency Response Department (ERD), appropriating funds therefor	<p>The joint technical working group (TWG), co-chaired by Rep. Yedda Marie Romualdez (Party-List, TINGOG SINIRANGAN) of the Committee on Government Reorganization and Rep. Romeo Momo Sr. (Party-List, CWS) of the Committee on Disaster Management, terminated its deliberations on the bills.</p> <p>The Secretariat was directed to prepare the substitute bill and the corresponding Committee Report to be presented to the Mother Committee in its next meeting.</p> <p>The TWG adopted HB 1151, authored by Rep. Romualdez, as the working draft.</p> <p>HB 1151 seeks to create the Department of Disaster Resilience that will effectively improve the institutional capacity of the government for disaster risk reduction and management, reduce the vulnerabilities surrounding the affected local population and build the resilience of local communities to both natural disasters and climate change.</p> <p>Deputy Speaker Loren Legarda (Antique), author of HB 3913, asked how the budgetary requirement for the operation of the proposed Department of Disaster Resilience will be funded.</p>
	HB 885	Rep. Cabochan	Establishing the Emergency Management Agency (EMA), amending for this purpose RA 10121, otherwise known as the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010	
	HBs 30, 164, 195, 338, 398, 563, 1151, 2451, 3023, 3084, 3142, 3214, 3348, 3459, 3490, 3542, 3999, 4301, 4313, 4401 & 4577	Reps. Salceda, Belmonte, Suansing (E.), Romualdo, Deputy Speaker Villafuerte, Reps. Abellanos, Romualdez (Y.), Fortun, Palma, Olivarez, Almario, Herrera-Dy, Deloso-Montalla, Velasco, Nieto, Sy-Alvarado,	Creating the Department of Disaster Resilience, defining its powers and functions, and appropriating funds therefor	

Continuation... Government Reorganization jt. w/ Disaster Management (Technical Working Group)		Agabas, Suarez (D.), Deputy Speaker Hernandez, Reps. Bolilia and Aragones		Cleotilde Drapete, director of the Systems and Productivity Improvement Bureau of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), replied that the funding can be sourced from the President's contingency fund and from the budget of the Office of Civil Defense (OCD).
	HB 2001	Rep. Vargas	Creating the Department of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management, defining its mandates, powers and functions, and appropriating funds therefor	The Deputy Speaker suggested that the budget for the proposed department be included in the General Appropriations Act (GAA) for 2021 because its establishment and operation will entail a significant amount. The DBM was also requested to prepare the staffing pattern for the proposed department. Rep. Romualdez requested the resource persons to submit their respective position papers on the proposed law to serve as reference in the crafting of a substitute bill.
	HBs 2133 & 3182	Reps. Castelo and Tolentino	Creating the Department of Disaster Management, defining its powers and functions and appropriating funds therefor	
	HB 3245	Deputy Speaker Gonzales (A.)	Creating the Department of Disaster and Emergency Management, defining its powers and functions, appropriating funds therefor	
	HB 3913	Deputy Speaker Legarda	Creating the Philippine Disaster and Emergency Management Authority, defining its powers and functions, appropriating funds therefor	
Higher and Technical Education (Technical Working Group)	Draft Substitute Bill to HBs 524, 2021, 2446, 2604, 2767 & 3739	Reps. Aglipay, Vargas, Deputy Speaker Villafuerte, Reps. Acop and Rodriguez	Providing guidelines for the establishment and operation of local colleges and universities	<p>The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Rufus Rodriguez (2nd District, Cagayan de Oro City), will deliberate further on the draft substitute bill in its next meeting.</p> <p>The TWG thoroughly discussed sections one to six of the substitute bill. One of the agreements reached by the TWG was that the withdrawal of the university status of non-compliant local colleges and universities (LCUs) would be subject to CHED's applicable criteria instead of automatic revocation.</p> <p>The resource persons were requested to submit their respective position papers on the draft substitute bill for the TWG's reference.</p>
Information and Communications Technology (Technical Working Group)	Draft Consolidated Bill on HBs 57 & 4109	Reps. Yap (V.) and Abaya	Promoting open access in data transmission, providing additional powers to the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC)	<p>The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Victor Yap (2nd District, Tarlac), will deliberate further on the draft consolidated bill in its next meeting.</p> <p>Rep. Yap informed the body that the proposed law is a legislative priority measure of Speaker Alan Peter "Compañero" Cayetano (1st District, Taguig City-Pateros). A similar bill was approved on third reading by the House of Representatives during the 17th Congress.</p> <p>Committee Secretary Ranier Alvarado presented the features of the draft consolidated bill.</p> <p>The resource persons from the following agencies/entities expressed their support for the consolidated bill, with some of them presenting their respective recommendations:</p>

Continuation... Information and Communications Technology (Technical Working Group)				<p>NTC, Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT); Philippine Competition Commission (PCC); Philippine Cable Television Association (PCTA); Philippine Association of Private Telecommunications Companies, Inc. (PAPELCO), Smart Communications Inc.; Globe Telecom; Internet Society-Philippines Chapter; and Democracy.Net.PH.</p> <p>The resource persons were asked to submit their respective position papers for the TWG's consideration in its deliberations on the bill.</p>
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AGENCY BRIEFINGS		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Civil Service and Professional Regulation	<p>Briefing by the following government agencies on their mandate, plans and programs, and legislative priorities for the 18th Congress</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civil Service Commission (CSC) Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) Career Executive Service Board (CESB) 	<p>The Committee, chaired by Iligan City Rep. Frederick Siao, listened to the briefing of the CSC, PRC and CESB on their mandates, plans and programs, and legislative priorities for the 18th Congress.</p> <p>CSC Chairperson Alicia dela Rosa-Bala presented the legislative priorities of the CSC which include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen the powers of the CSC to enable it to issue Temporary Restraining Orders (TROs) and Injunction Orders and to punish direct contempt; Enact a Civil Service Reform Code; Create a human resource management office in local government units; Expand the leave benefits of employees to 30 days vacation leave and 30 days sick leave yearly; and Provide for a rehabilitation leave to cover not only the actual days when the employee met an accident during work hours but also the period of recovery from illness or surgical operation. <p>PRC Chair Teofilo Pilando Jr. said that one of the planned programs of the Commission is to enhance its frontline services and make them more accessible to its clientele. Pilando said this could be achieved through the use of mobile phones for information dissemination, the establishment of Operational Offsite Service Centers in malls nationwide, and the establishment of one-stop service centers for overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) in the offices of the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) in Clark, Pampanga and in Palayan, Nueva Ecija.</p> <p>CESB Director Giselle Durana presented the Board's mandate and programs.</p> <p>Durana said that the CESB requests Congress to pass a bill that will improve the system of classification of positions of civil servants, particularly the third level and second level executive/managerial positions.</p>
Cooperatives Development	Briefing by the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) on its accomplishments and plans and programs	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Sabiniano Canama (Party-List, COOP-NATCCO), listened to the briefing conducted by the CDA on its accomplishments and plans and programs.</p> <p>CDA Chair Ray Elevazo informed the Committee that with the enactment of RA 11364 or the CDA Charter of 2019, the CDA was granted quasi-judicial powers and functions. Likewise, Executive Order 67, series of 2018 transferred the supervision of CDA from the</p>

<p>Continuation... Cooperatives Development</p>		<p>Office of the President (OP) to the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).</p> <p>EO 67 rationalizes the OP proper to strengthen its oversight function over the executive department and further streamline the mandates of the offices under its supervision.</p> <p>On the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of RA 11364, CDA Administrator Benjie Oliva reported that the IRR is almost complete and promised that a copy of the IRR will be submitted to the Committee once finalized.</p> <p>Rep. Sergio Dagooc (Party-List, APEC) suggested that the CDA conduct extensive consultations with affected sectors including the electric cooperatives and teachers cooperatives before finalizing the IRR.</p> <p>However, Oliva lamented that the budgetary requirement for the conduct of consultations in relation to the drafting of the IRR was not included in the CDA's 2020 proposed budget.</p> <p>To provide the CDA with the resources needed to fully undertake its mandate, the Committee Members agreed to submit a petition requesting the Speaker, through the Committee on Appropriations, to restore the original budget proposal of CDA for 2020, amounting to P1.5 billion.</p> <p>Likewise, Rep. Canama made several suggestions to help the CDA perform its duties more efficiently and effectively, some of which are: to streamline the documentary requirements relative to the loan program of the CDA; to strengthen the regulation on the issuance of Certificate of Tax Exemption (CTE) to cooperatives; and to give priority to the micro and small-scale cooperatives in the availment of loans and other benefits.</p> <p>The CDA was requested to submit a copy of its FY 2020 original budget proposal, the DBM-approved CDA budget under the FY 2020 National Expenditure Program, and an initial report on its budget utilization and obligations for 2019, among others, to justify the reinstatement of its 2020 original budget proposal.</p>
<p>North Luzon Growth Quadrangle (Special Committee)</p>	<p>Briefing by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) on its plans and programs and budget for Regions I and II, and the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR)</p>	<p>The Committee, chaired by Abra Rep. Joseph Sto. Niño Bernos, listened to the briefing by the DPWH on its plans and programs and budget for Regions I and II, and the CAR.</p> <p>DPWH Region I Regional Director Ronnel Tan reported that the DPWH's on-going and proposed high impact projects in Region I include the construction of bypasses, diversion roads, and new roads. He maintained that the completion of these projects will ensure a safe and reliable national road system for the region.</p> <p>Engr. Jaime Catolos Jr., OIC-Chief of the Planning and Design Division of DPWH Region II, reported that the regional office maintains a total road network of 1,984.46 kms as of October 13, 2018. Catolos likewise informed the Committee that the budget of DPWH Region II has marginally increased for the last seven years starting in 2012.</p> <p>DPWH CAR Regional Director Tiburcio Canlas said that the two high-impact projects for the CAR are the Baguio-La Trinidad-Itogon-Sablan-Tuba-Tublay (BLISTT) Outer Ring Circumferential Road and the Apuyao-Ilocos Norte Road.</p> <p>Canlas said the BLISTT Outer Ring Circumferential Road has a total length of 154.40 kms and is composed of seven individual sections that will connect to national roads. It will provide an alternate route that will decongest traffic in the highly urbanized centers in the region</p>

<p><i>Continuation...</i> North Luzon Growth Quadrangle (Special Committee)</p>		<p>and consequently reduce travel time by 50-60%. The project, costing around P10.09 billion, started in 2017 and is expected to be completed by 2022.</p> <p>With regard to the Apayao-Ilocos Norte Road, Canlas said it is a major component of the Cordillera Roads Improvement Project (CRIP) as a lateral road that connects Ilocos Region and the Northern Cordilleras. Canlas said that upon completion of the road, inter-municipal and inter-regional connectivity will be realized. The project will also reduce travel time by 3½ hours and is expected to spur economic growth in the locality, which is much needed by the Province of Apayao considering that it is one of the poorest provinces of the country.</p>
<p>Overseas Workers Affairs</p>	<p>Briefing on the mandate, core functions and services of the following government agencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Foreign Affairs-Office of the Undersecretary for Migrant Workers Affairs (DFA-OUMWA) • Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and its attached offices 	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Raymond Democrito Mendoza (Party-List, TUCP), listened to the briefings by the DFA and DOLE on their mandates, core functions, and services concerning overseas Filipino workers (OFWs).</p> <p>DFA Undersecretary for Migrant Workers Affairs Sarah Lou Arriola informed the body that there are 10.35 million OFWs to date, spread across the world, as follows: 4.99 million OFWs in the North and South American countries; 2.56 million in Asia and the Pacific; 2.21 million in the Middle East and Africa; and 589,296 in Europe. The top 10 destination countries for OFWs are the United States of America, Malaysia, Canada, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, China, Australia, Japan, Kuwait and Qatar.</p> <p>The DFA-OUMWA offers assistance to nationals (ATN) and legal assistance services to documented or undocumented workers, tourists and those who went abroad for marriage purposes. The DFA reported that from January to August 2019, there are 106,832 ATN beneficiaries utilizing P549.84 million of the ATN funds, and 4,116 legal assistance fund (LAF) beneficiaries utilizing P121.68 million of the LAF.</p> <p>International Labor Affairs Bureau (ILAB) Director Alice Visperas briefly discussed the mandate and functions of the ILAB, as the international arm of the DOLE. ILAB is primarily responsible for developing policies, plans, programs, projects, and operating standards relative to international labor and employment concerns and monitors the country's observance and implementation of its obligations/commitments, courtesies and facilities required by international organizations. It provides advisory service to the Office of the Secretary in the supervision, monitoring and reporting of operations/activities of the Philippine Overseas Labor Offices (POLOs) and the Filipino Resource Centers (FRCs) in different parts of the world.</p> <p>Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) Administrator Bernard Olalia presented POEA's core functions which are employment facilitation, industry regulation, and workers protection. He also apprised the body that in a standard employment contract, complete compliance with the requirements is needed in order for a worker to be processed. However, some overseas employers would hire unqualified OFWs and pay them less than the declared wage in the contract, Olalia said.</p> <p>Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) Administrator Hans Leo Cacdac discussed the mandates, functions, and accomplishments of the OWWA.</p> <p>Cacdac highlighted one of the OWWA's programs, the Rebate Program, wherein the agency has already disbursed approximately P14 million benefitting 5,000 claimants/beneficiaries.</p>

Continuation... Overseas Workers Affairs		The OWWA Rebate Program is in compliance with the provision of the OWWA Act, which allows the grant of a rebate (based on the members' contributions) to long-time members of OWWA, or those who are members for at least 10 years, and have not received any benefit from OWWA.
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OTHER MATTERS		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Indigenous Cultural Communities and Indigenous Peoples	Discussion on issues concerning the performance of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP)	<p>The Committee, chaired by Kalinga Rep. Allen Jesse Mangaoang, discussed the issues raised by the Members on the performance of the NCIP, particularly in the issuance of Certificate of Ancestral Domain Titles (CADTs) and Certificate of Ancestral Land Titles (CALTs).</p> <p>The NCIP is the government agency mandated to protect and promote the interest and well-being of the indigenous cultural communities and indigenous peoples (ICCs/IPs) with due regard to their beliefs, customs, traditions and institutions.</p> <p>Several Committee Members raised issue against the NCIP for allegedly not performing up to par, chief of which is the slow issuance of CADTs and CALTs. Mountain Province Rep. Maximo Dalog Jr., for one, confirmed that the NCIP has not issued a single CALT in Mountain Province, where IPs/ICCs claim a vast area of ancestral lands.</p> <p>NCIP Chair Allen Capuyan admitted that there is a slowdown in the processing of CALTs and CADTs but this is mostly on the part of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Land Registration Authority (LRA). He promised to personally look into the status of the applications for CALT in Mountain Province.</p> <p>Rep. Noel Villanueva (3rd District, Tarlac) asked the NCIP to come up with a report on the status of requests or applications for CADTs and CALTs. Capuyan promised to do so.</p> <p>Under RA 8371 or The Indigenous Peoples Rights Act of 1997, CADT refers to a title formally recognizing the rights of possession and ownership of ICCs/IPs over their ancestral domains identified and delineated in accordance with the law. On the other hand, CALT refers to a title formally recognizing the rights of ICCs/IPs over their ancestral lands.</p> <p>The Members asked the NCIP to coordinate with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), concerned district representatives, and this Committee regarding the implementation of its projects and funding concerns.</p>