



# Journal of the House of Representatives

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

**JOURNAL NO. 58  
Tuesday to Thursday  
May 26 to 28, 2020**

Prepared by the  
**JOURNAL SERVICE**  
Plenary Affairs Bureau

**JOURNAL NO. 58**  
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**CALL TO ORDER**

At 4:00 p.m. of Tuesday, May 26, 2020, Deputy Speaker Roberto V. Puno called the session to order.

**INVOCATION AND NATIONAL ANTHEM**

Rep. Yasser Alonto Balindong delivered the invocation through Zoom video conferencing. Thereafter, the Members sang the National Anthem.

**ROLL CALL**

Thereupon, on motion of Rep. Manuel F. Zubiri, there being no objection, the Chair directed the Secretary General to call the Roll and the following Members were present:

Abante	Atienza	Cagas	Ecleo
Abaya	Aumentado	Calderon	Elago
Abellanos	Babasa	Calixto	Enverga
Abu	Bagatsing	Caminero	Erice
Abueg-Zaldivar	Balindong	Campos	Eriguel
Abunda	Bañas-Nogales	Canama	Ermita-Buhain
Acop	Barba	Caoagdan	Escudero
Acosta	Barbers	Cari	Espina
Acosta-Alba	Baronda	Castelo	Espino
Adiong	Barzaga	Castro (F.L.)	Estrella
Advincula	Bascug	Castro (F.H.)	Fariñas (R.C.)
Agabas	Bautista	Cayetano (A.P.)	Fariñas I (R.C.)
Agarao	Bautista-Bandigan	Cayetano (M.L.)	Fernandez
Aglipay	Belmonte	Celeste	Fernando
Aguinaldo	Benitez	Chatto	Ferrer (J.M.)
Albano	Bernos	Chipeco	Ferrer (L.)
Almario	Biazon	Chungalao	Flores
Alonte	Billones	Co (A.N.)	Fortun
Alvarez (F.)	Biron	Co (E.)	Fortuno
Alvarez (G.)	Bolilia	Cojuangco	Frasco
Alvarez (P.)	Bondoc	Collantes	Fuentebella
Amante-Matba	Bordado	Crisologo	Gaite
Amatong	Bravo	Cua	Garbin
Andaya	Brosas	Cuaresma	Garcia (J.E.)
Angara	Bulut	Cueva	Garcia (P.J.)
Aragones	Bustos	Cullamat	Garcia (V.)
Arbison	Cabatbat	Dagooc	Garin (J.)
Arenas	Cabochan	Dalipe	Garin (S.)
Arroyo	Cabredo	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
		Dy (I.P.)	Herrera-Dy
		Ebcas	Hofer

Jalosjos	Palma	Tan (Samier)	Valmayor
Javier	Pancho	Tan (S.A.)	Vargas
Jimenez	Panotes	Tan (Shernee)	Vargas Alfonso
Kho (E.)	Peña	Tejada	Velasco
Kho (W.)	Pichay	Teves (A.)	Velo
Khonghun	Pimentel	Teves (J.)	Vergara
Labadlabad	Pineda	Tiangco	Villa
Lacson	Plaza	Tolentino	Villafuerte
Lacson-Noel	Puno	Torres-Gomez	Villanueva (E.)
Lagman	Quimbo	Tulfo	Villanueva (N.)
Lagon	Radaza	Tupas	Villar
Lara	Ramirez-Sato	Tutor	Villaraza-Suarez
Lazatin	Ramos	Ty (A.)	Villarica
Leachon	Remulla	Ty (D.)	Violago
Legarda	Revilla	Umali (A.)	Yap (E.)
Lim	Reyes	Umali (M.V.)	Yap (V.)
Limkaichong	Rivera	Unabia	Yu
Lopez	Robes	Ungab	Zamora (R.)
Loyola	Rodriguez	Uy (J.)	Zamora (W.K.)
Lusotan	Roman	Uy (R.)	Zarate
Macapagal Arroyo	Romero	Valeriano	Zubiri
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		
Nograla (J.J.)	Singson		
Nograla (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		
Padiernos	Tan (A.S.)		
Paduano	Tan (A.)		

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

#### APPROVAL OF JOURNAL NO. 57

On motion of Representative Zubiri, there being no objection, the Body approved Journal No. 57 dated May 18 to 20, 2020.

#### REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Zubiri, 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, and Communications, which were referred to the appropriate committees indicated hereunder:

#### BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 6770, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES”

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

House Bill No. 6771, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIIJA, MUNICIPALITY OF SAN LEONARDO AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14 (c) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Natividad-Nagaño  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 6772, entitled:

“AN ACT DISPLAYING THE NAMES OF FALLEN MODERN-DAY HEROES DURING THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID) 19 PANDEMIC AT THE 'LIBINGAN NG MGA BAYAN' OR HEROES' CEMETERY”

By Representatives Fariñas (Ria) and Fariñas (Rudys Caesar)  
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6773, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT SYSTEM OF ALL LOANS, CREDIT CARDS, RENTALS, UTILITIES, MOBILE, CABLE AND INTERNET SERVICES IN THE COUNTRY AFFECTED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC”

By Representatives Suntay, Defensor (Lorenz), Cabochan, Abueg-Zaldivar, Benitez and Quimbo  
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6774, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING MARCH 21 OF EVERY YEAR AS THE NATIONAL COVID-19 HEALTH FRONTLINERS DAY”

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

House Bill No. 6775, entitled:

“AN ACT EXPANDING THE MANDATE AND SERVICE CAPABILITY OF THE WESTERN VISAYAS SANITARIUM IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SANTA BARBARA, ILOILO, RENAMING THE HOSPITAL AS WESTERN VISAYAS SANITARIUM AND GENERAL HOSPITAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Gorriceta  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 6776, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING SOCIAL MEDIA COMPANIES FROM USING PRACTICES THAT HARM MENTAL HEALTH TO SUBSTANTIALLY IMPEDE FREEDOM OF CHOICE, REQUIRING SOCIAL MEDIA COMPANIES TO TAKE MEASURES TO MITIGATE THE RISKS OF SOCIAL MEDIA ADDICTION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Yap (Victor)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 6777, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF A RAINWATER HARVESTING FACILITY IN ALL NEW INSTITUTIONAL, COMMERCIAL, AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS NATIONWIDE”

By Representative Barba  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

## RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 886, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE JOINT DOJ-DILG REVIEW COMMITTEE TO HASTEN THE REVIEW OF THE GCTA IRR”

By Representative Taduran  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Resolution No. 887, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO RECOMMEND THE INCREASE OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THE DOLE-AKAP PROGRAM FOR DISTRESSED OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS AND FOR SIMPLE, EASY, SPEEDY, ORGANIZED AND SAFE ACCESS AND DISTRIBUTION OF FINANCIAL AID UNDER THE PROGRAM”

By Representatives Gaite, Zarate and Cullamat  
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Resolution No. 888, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO MAKE INQUIRIES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & EMPLOYMENT (DOLE) TO FIND OUT WHY THE DOLE HAS NOT YET ISSUED THE NECESSARY

IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11165 OR 'AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING TELECOMMUTING AS AN ALTERNATIVE WORK ARRANGEMENT FOR EMPLOYEES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR'"

By Representative Savellano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 889, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION URGING THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION TO IMPLEMENT OPEN DISTANCE LEARNING PROTOCOLS IN ALL INSTITUTIONS FOR BASIC EDUCATION IN THE COUNTRY UNTIL A VACCINE AGAINST COVID-19 IS DEVELOPED AND MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC"

By Representatives Romero and Pineda  
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Resolution No. 890, entitled:

"RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE FOR THE IMMEDIATE DISMISSAL OF NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION POLICE OFFICE (NCRPO) CHIEF MAJ. GEN. DEBOLD SINAS FOR FAILING TO ADHERE TO COMMUNITY QUARANTINE PROTOCOLS AND RELEVANT LAWS AND IN LIGHT OF THE CRIMINAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES FILED BY THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP) AGAINST HIM"

By Representatives Brosas, Zarate, Cullamat, Gaite, Castro (France) and Elago  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

House Resolution No. 891, entitled:

"RESOLUTION URGING THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO REVIEW REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11223 OR THE UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE ACT SPECIFICALLY THE PROVISION ON MANDATORY CONTRIBUTION AND INCREASE IN PHILHEALTH CONTRIBUTION OF OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS"

By Representative Teves (Jose)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Resolution No. 892, entitled:

"RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE HOUSE COMMITTEES TO

INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE SUDDEN AND UNWARRANTED UPSURGE IN MERALCO ELECTRICITY RATES AND BILLS"

By Representatives Yap (Eric), Tulfo and Tadiran  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 893, entitled:

"RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING THE HEROISM, STRENGTH, AND DEVOTION OF OUR DOCTORS, NURSES, ALLIED MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS, AND OTHER HEALTH CARE WORKERS AND THEIR EXCEPTIONAL WORK AND ULTIMATE SACRIFICE TO SAVE LIVES DURING THE COVID-19 HEALTH CRISIS"

By Representative Suarez (Aleta)  
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Resolution No. 894, entitled:

"RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING THE HEROISM, STRENGTH, BRAVERY, AND DEDICATION OF OUR DOCTORS, NURSES, ALLIED MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS, AND OTHER HEALTH CARE WORKERS FOR THEIR WORK AND SACRIFICE TO SAVE LIVES DURING THE COVID-19 HEALTH CRISIS"

By Representative Suarez (Aleta)  
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Resolution No. 895, entitled:

"RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING THE COMMITMENT, BRAVERY, AND HARD WORK OF ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EMPLOYEES WHO SERVED AS FRONT LINERS DURING THE COVID-19 HEALTH CRISIS"

By Representative Suarez (Aleta)  
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Resolution No. 896, entitled:

"RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY, THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION, THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND ALL APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO STRONGLY IMPLEMENT



THE LAWS TO GIVE ALL STUDENTS ACCESS TO EDUCATION THROUGH DISTANCE AND ONLINE EDUCATION BY USING ALL AVAILABLE PLATFORMS SUCH AS THE INTERNET, TELEVISION, RADIO, MOBILE PHONES AND OTHER SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS DURING THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY BROUGHT ABOUT BY COVID-19 PANDEMIC”

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

#### COMMUNICATIONS

Letter dated 18 May 2020 of Janice G. Ayson-Zales, Deputy Director, Office of the General Counsel and Legal Services, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), transmitting to the House of Representatives duly certified electronic copies of the following BSP issuances, to wit:

1. Circular No. 1079 dated 9 March 2020;
2. Circular No. 1080 dated 27 March 2020;
3. Circular No. 1081 dated 4 March 2020;
4. Circular No. 1082 dated 31 March 2020;
5. Circular Letter No. CL-2020-015 dated 3 March 2020;
6. Circular Letter No. CL-2020-016 dated 24 March 2020;
7. Circular Letter No. CL-2020-017 dated 27 March 2020;
8. Circular Letter No. CL-2020-018 dated 27 March 2020;
9. Memorandum No. M-2020-007 dated 13 March 2020;
10. Memorandum No. M-2020-008 dated 14 March 2020;
11. Memorandum No. M-2020-009 dated 14 March 2020;
12. Memorandum No. M-2020-010 dated 18 March 2020;
13. Memorandum No. M-2020-011 dated 19 March 2020;
14. Memorandum No. M-2020-012 dated 19 March 2020;
15. Memorandum No. M-2020-013 dated 20 March 2020;
16. Memorandum No. M-2020-014 dated 24 March 2020;
17. Memorandum No. M-2020-015 dated 30 March 2020; and
18. Memorandum No. M-2020-016 dated 31 March 2020.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

Letter dated 18 May 2020 of Janice G. Ayson-Zales, Deputy Director, Office of the General Counsel and Legal Services, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), transmitting to the House of Representatives duly certified electronic copies of the following BSP issuances, to wit:

1. Circular No. 1086 dated 6 May 2020;
2. Circular Letter No. CL-2020-026 dated 10 May 2020;
3. Memorandum No. M-2020-038 dated 1 May 2020;
4. Memorandum No. M-2020-039 dated 4 May 2020; and
5. Memorandum No. M-2020-040 dated 5 May 2020.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

Report dated May 21, 2020 of Honorable Jose Luis G. Montales, Secretary General, House of Representatives, on enrolled bills transmitted to the Office of the President, for His Excellency’s consideration and signature, pursuant to Section 18(h), Rule VI of the Rules of the House of Representatives:

1. House Bill No. 1477, entitled:  
“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE CARAGA REGIONAL HOSPITAL IN BARANGAY WASHINGTON, SURIGAO CITY, SURIGAO DEL NORTE FROM ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (150) TO FIVE HUNDRED (500) BEDS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;
2. House Bill No. 1799, entitled:  
“AN ACT UPGRADING THE TALISAY DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN TALISAY CITY, PROVINCE OF CEBU, INTO A MEDICAL CENTER TO BE KNOWN AS THE CEBU SOUTH MEDICAL CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7799”;
3. House Bill No. 2998, entitled:  
“AN ACT TRANSFERRING THE CAPITAL AND SEAT OF GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF RIZAL FROM THE CITY OF PASIG, METRO MANILA TO THE CITY OF ANTIPOLLO, PROVINCE OF RIZAL”;

4. House Bill No. 4961, entitled:  
“AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY H-2 IN THE CITY OF DASMARIÑAS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE”; and
5. House Bill No. 5871, entitled:  
“AN ACT UPGRADING THE MARIA L. ELEAZAR DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TAGKAWAYAN, PROVINCE OF QUEZON INTO A LEVEL III GENERAL HOSPITAL TO BE KNOWN AS THE MARIA L. ELEAZAR GENERAL HOSPITAL, UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”.

### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Rep. Wilter “Sharky” Wee Palma II, the Chair suspended the session at 4:19 p.m.

### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:41 p.m., the session resumed.

### ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

Subsequently, 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 Reports which were referred to the appropriate committee indicated hereunder:

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Defeat COVID-19 *Ad Hoc* Committee (Committee Report No. 312), re H.B. No. 6815, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ECONOMIC STIMULUS STRATEGY FOR THE COUNTRY’S GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE AFTERMATH OF COVID-19 AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 6606, 6612, 6613, 6614, 6617, 6619, 6621, 6649, 6683 and 6693

Sponsors: Representatives Cayetano (Alan Peter), Romualdez (Ferdinand), Salceda, Garin (Sharon) and Quimbo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Defeat COVID-19 *Ad Hoc* Committee (Committee Report No. 313), re H.B. No. 6816, entitled:

“AN ACT ENSURING PHILIPPINE FINANCIAL INDUSTRY RESILIENCY AGAINST THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 6622

Sponsors: Representatives Cayetano (Alan Peter), Romualdez (Ferdinand) and Cua  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Defeat COVID-19 *Ad Hoc* Committee (Committee Report No. 314), re H.B. No. 6817, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST PERSONS WHO ARE DECLARED CONFIRMED, SUSPECT, PROBABLE, AND RECOVERED CASES OF COVID-19, REPATRIATED FILIPINOS, HEALTHCARE WORKERS, RESPONDERS, AND SERVICE WORKERS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 6676

Sponsors: Representatives Cayetano (Alan Peter), Romualdez (Ferdinand), Tupas, Bravo and Belmonte  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair suspended the session at 4:42 p.m., upon Representative Palma’s motion.

### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 4:43 p.m.

### BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 312 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6815

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 6815 contained in Committee Report No. 312 as submitted by the Defeat COVID-19 *Ad Hoc* Committee.

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

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ECONOMIC STIMULUS STRATEGY FOR THE

## COUNTRY'S GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE AFTERMATH OF COVID-19, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR."

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 further motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Reps. Joey Sarte Salceda, Sharon S. Garin, and Stella Luz A. Quimbo, co-chairpersons of the Sub-Committee on Economic Stimulus Package under the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee, to deliver their respective sponsorship speeches.

### SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE QUIMBO

First to deliver a sponsorship speech was Representative Quimbo who initially talked about the huge toll of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Philippine economy and on the country's overall employment. Citing John Maynard Keynes' *The General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money*, she said that the current unemployment problem could be addressed through government spending. She pointed out that House Bill No. 6815 will thus restart the economy by reviving businesses and consumer confidence, ensure business continuity, reverse unemployment trends, as well as redirect the economy toward a more resilient path.

She stated that the Bill seeks to plug three sources of economic leaks, particularly: 1) fear among workers and consumers, which could be addressed through massive testing, proper disease surveillance protocol, and enforcement of minimum health standards in the workplace; 2) issues in the liquidity of businesses, to be countered by transitional measures such as wage subsidies, interest-free loans and grants, and regulatory relief and other policy interventions to ease restarting of businesses; and 3) long-term loss of demand in industries such as tourism, trade, and transport, to be addressed with sectoral programs for them to continue to perform and contribute to an inclusive, long-run growth. She also mentioned the measure's long-term objective to make the economy more resilient and more capable of recovering from shocks of future pandemics, through its proposed structural measures.

As she emphasized that the cost of the Bill's proposed interventions was a small price to pay to pump prime the economy, Representative Quimbo stressed that the government should not idly accept the fate of an economic contraction, and should spend ₱568 billion for the economy to immediately get back to the path of recovery. She pointed out that while the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas has implemented proactive monetary policies, the economy still badly needs a fiscal stimulus to ensure that liquidity is not trapped.

Finally, Representative Quimbo said that the Bill's stimulus package is a huge opportunity to start, recover, and redirect the economy, and that a vote for this measure is a vote for new beginnings.

### SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE SALCEDA

Recognized by the Chair on motion of Representative Palma, Representative Salceda stated that House Bill No. 6815, or what he called as the Enhanced Stimulus Program for Economic Recovery and Advancement or ESPERA, was an initiative of the House of Representatives for economic restoration and recovery.

Through a slide presentation, he discussed the ESPERA Bill's target to attain a V-shaped economic recovery which was similar to the 2008 economic strategy of former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. He cited the measure's inclusion of programs on income augmentation, growth defense, education and health, and food security, as well as explained how the ₱583 billion economic stimulus package will eventually trigger credit stimulus for small businesses and facilitate more infrastructure projects.

Representative Salceda stressed the need for such economic recovery program and then urged his colleagues to support the measure.

### SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE GARIN (S.)

On motion of Representative Palma, the Chair next recognized Representative Garin who first acknowledged the foresight and quick response of Speaker Alan Peter "Compañero" S. Cayetano in forming the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee and the Economic Cluster Committee; the economic expertise of Representatives Salceda and Quimbo; and the support, hard work, commitment, and



contributions of almost all of the Members in crafting the Bill.

She then explained the provisions of the Bill on (1) mass testing for COVID-19 in order to build consumer as well as business confidence; and (2) transitional, financial, sectoral, and structural measures in order to address the liquidity of businesses and the employment of workers.

Concluding her speech, she stressed that the House has to pass House Bill No. 6815 in order to save the livelihood of the people and the economy of the country.

There being no other Member who wished to deliver a sponsorship speech on House Bill No. 6815, on motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Rep. Edcel C. Lagman for his interpellation via Zoom teleconferencing and Representative Quimbo to sponsor the Bill.

#### **INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE LAGMAN**

Representative Lagman said at the outset that he was in favor of the proposed measure as it incorporated some provisions of House Bill No. 6693 which he had filed, seeking the continuation of emergency assistance programs and the provision of a stimulus package, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

He subsequently sought clarification and Representative Quimbo provided pertinent information, on the economic stimulus package's total appropriation; its phases, particularly the provision of emergency assistance; and the implementation of the proposed economic stimulus program, including its components and budgets.

The Members then focused on the mass testing program included in the proposed measure, specifically, the details of its ₱20-billion budget; its definition as referred to in the Bill; and its intent to cover both the asymptomatics and the symptomatics, to increase confidence among workers as they report back to work. Representative Lagman then suggested to Representative Quimbo a possible proposal to provide a more specific definition of the words "mass testing" or "massive testing" in the Bill during the period of amendments.

Discussing next the country's ranking in the ASEAN in terms of spending for the COVID-19

response, the Sponsor explained that the proposed economic stimulus package, to some extent, will improve the Philippines' ranking with regard to per capita response to the pandemic, considering the inclusion of mass testing and health measures in the Bill.

Representative Lagman then asked about the exclusion of the Social Amelioration Program from the proposed measure, to which Representative Quimbo clarified that the approach in providing assistance to households under House Bill No. 6815 is different from the SAP, as it targets small businesses and workers. She also took note of the data mentioned by Representative Lagman on the need for further funding for social amelioration, and said that possible recommendations regarding the matter would be referred to the Committee.

Representative Quimbo thereafter answered the related questions and welcomed the amendments of Representative Lagman on the following: inclusion of programs for agrarian reform beneficiaries that are more meaningful than the condonation of their loans, which they might not have paid at all; assistance to local government units through the increase in their loan portfolio for employment generation; and provision of a contingent fund so that the national government does not have to go back to Congress if it needs additional funds.

After analyzing, together with the Sponsor, the funding sources of the economic stimulus package, Representative Lagman stressed that the House should not disaggregate annually the total appropriations for the package, which is about ₱1.3 trillion. He also opined that the measure is a special appropriations bill which should comply with the constitutional requirement for the National Treasury's certification of fund availability.

#### **SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6815**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6815.

#### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

On motion of Representative Palma, the Chair declared a recess at 5:58 p.m.

## RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:59 p.m.

## BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 313 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6816

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 6816 contained in Committee Report No. 313 as submitted by the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee.

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

“AN ACT ENSURING PHILIPPINE  
FINANCIAL INDUSTRY RESILIENCY  
AGAINST THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.”

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 Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Rep. Junie E. Cua, chairperson of the Committee on Banks and Financial Intermediaries, for his sponsorship speech.

## SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE CUA

Representative Cua said that House Bill No. 6816, also called the Financial Institutions Strategic Transfer Act or FIST, is Congress’ response to the plight of the banking industry due to the increased non-performing loans of banks as a result of the failure of businesses to meet their maturing obligations during the enhanced community quarantine period.

He stated that the Bill has set up the mechanism and legal framework that will address the foregoing concerns; encourages large foreign investors to possess land for a limited period of time; includes consumer protection measures; and provides time-bound incentives to stakeholders like financial institutions, FIST companies, and investors.

He then appealed to his colleagues for their support to the early passage of the Bill to encourage

the banking industry to continuously provide credit facilities to the business sector that badly needs support during this period of pandemic.

On motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Rep. Paul Ruiz Daza for his interpellation.

## INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DAZA

Representatives Daza and Cua initially discussed the similarities and differences between House Bill No 6816 and the Special Purpose Vehicle Act of 2002 in terms of tax revenue measures.

While he supports the Bill, Representative Daza asked for the types of financial institutions covered under the measure.

Representative Cua replied that the proposal is limited to institutions supervised by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas. He however stated that the Committee would study the proposals of Representative Daza who had also signified his support for the Bill.

## SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6816

Whereupon, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6816.

## SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Palma, the Chair suspended the session at 6:15 p.m.

## RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 6:16 p.m.

## 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 Wednesday, May 27, 2020.

It was 6:17 p.m. of Tuesday, May 26, 2020.

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 3:00 p.m. of Wednesday, May 27, 2020, the session resumed with Deputy Speaker Conrado M. Estrella III presiding.

**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

On motion of Senior Deputy Majority Leader Jesus Crispin C. Remulla, the Chair suspended the session at 3:00 p.m.

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

The session resumed at 3:04 p.m.

On motion of Rep. Wilter “Sharky” Wee Palma II, the Chair recognized Rep. Eric Go Yap on a question of privilege.

**QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE  
OF REPRESENTATIVE YAP (E.)**

In his speech, Representative Yap mainly decried the false news being reported by some members of the media. As he recounted his interview that morning with broadcast journalist Karen Davila in an ANC program, which touched on different topics including the issue on ABS-CBN, he gave as an example the false news previously reported about Deputy Speaker Paolo Z. Duterte, which he said was never rectified and thus destroyed the latter’s name and that of his family.

Through a slide presentation, he then took offense to what he called a malicious news report published on *Inquirer.net* which claimed that, based on his ANC interview, he had admitted to having personal reasons for filing House Resolution No. 853, seeking a probe into the probable violations by ABS-CBN of its legislative franchise. He pointed out that he was never asked by *Inquirer.net* on said issue and thought that they might have seen his interview earlier and wrote its own story on the matter without even asking for his side of the issue.

He pointed out that he had said during his ANC interview that he had many reasons for introducing the measure but these did not include any personal issue with the network. However, he underscored his personal concern for factual news reporting by the media which, he said, is very powerful; hence, it is the duty of its members to report only the truth and not to spread fake news. He also stated that he is

neither for nor against the network but that he stands for responsible journalism.

He also stressed that what is a personal issue for him is the media’s wrongful reporting of a person without correcting it. He added that he just wanted to put a stop to such wrong practice of some news reporters which was why he filed House Resolution No. 853. He thereafter appealed to journalists to examine their conscience before reporting malicious news articles that could ruin people’s lives.

**REFERRAL OF SPEECH  
OF REPRESENTATIVE YAP (E.)**

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

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:  
COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 312  
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6815**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6815 contained in Committee Report No. 312 as submitted by the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee.

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

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ECONOMIC STIMULUS STRATEGY FOR THE COUNTRY’S GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE AFTERMATH OF COVID-19, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR.”

Representative Palma stated that the status of the Bill was that it was in the period of sponsorship and debate. Upon his successive motions, the Chair recognized Reps. Stella Luz A. Quimbo, Sharon S. Garin, and Joey Sarte Salceda to continue with their sponsorship of the measure, and Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr. for his manifestation.

**MANIFESTATION OF  
REPRESENTATIVE BORDADO**

Via Zoom videoconferencing, Representative Bordado initially noted that Rep. Edcel C. Lagman had already propounded the previous day on the

critical and relevant questions regarding House Bill No. 6815, such as funding sources, assistance to local governments and various sectors, and social amelioration. He then manifested that he welcomed the proposed Philippine Economic Stimulus Act as it directly addresses the problems and complications spawned by the COVID-19 pandemic and expressed hope for its immediate passage.

Thereafter, upon motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Rep. Francisco “Kiko” B. Benitez for his manifestation through Zoom videoconferencing.

#### **MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BENITEZ**

Representative Benitez expressed his strong support for the enactment of House Bill No. 6815 or the proposed Philippine Economic Stimulus Act or PESA as he noted that the new coronavirus pandemic has triggered an unprecedented global economic crisis and has threatened to sink families into extreme poverty. He observed that with the lockdown and economic downturn, the education sector’s operations have been disrupted. Thus, he commended the authors of the Bill for recognizing the plight of the education sector which, in the long run, would have costs on human and social capital, development, and welfare.

He continued to relay to the Body the impact of the suspension of classes on teachers and school staff. He also stressed the need to distinguish between education and schooling, highlighting the importance of continued learning with or without schools; and to ensure that students without access to digital technologies would not be left behind.

He then congratulated the Sponsors not only for the Bill’s provision to support schools and teachers through loans and wage subsidies and extension of assistance to students but its provision for information and communications technology infrastructure for schools, which will be necessary to retool and reskill the people and prepare the nation in the emerging post-COVID-19 world.

In view of the Bill’s urgency, necessity, and impact, Representative Benitez expressed hope that the Members would deliberate on it carefully but quickly, and approve the same at the soonest possible time.

On motion of Rep. John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto, the Chair recognized Rep. France L. Castro for her interpellation.

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

Representative Castro sought clarification and discussed with Representative Garin (S.) certain provisions of the Bill, particularly the following, among others: the proposed COVID-19 scientific mass testing in schools; coverage of the education subsidy for students and the proposed amount of assistance for both beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries of the Tertiary Education Subsidy or the TES; inclusion of teachers and school personnel for assistance, whom Representative Castro said would have no income for three months; and the features of the enhanced “Build, Build, Build” Program in relation to the education sector, such as digital infrastructure in schools, decongestion of classrooms, and provision of technology gadgets to teachers.

In response, Representative Garin said that the Sponsors will consider providing a ₱7,500 subsidy to both TES and non-TES students, measures to prevent discrimination in the selection of cash recipients, and a three-month subsidy for private school teachers. She also explained that the Bill’s infrastructure program and that of the COVID-19 Unemployment Reduction Economic Stimulus (CURES) Bill can complement one another and stated that the Sponsors will look into the latter to ensure that there will be no redundancy or contradiction of programs.

Thereupon, Representatives Castro and Garin delved on the rationale for the special power given to the President to reallocate and realign appropriations and the financing intervention provision under the measure wherein the former raised concern on the prescribed period of said special power and the sufficiency of the present loans incurred by the government for its COVID-19 response.

Representative Garin clarified that the special authorization given to the President is limited only to six months wherein only specific items could be reallocated or realigned, and that the loans incurred were being utilized to finance the implementation of the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act. She added that the loans that are proposed to be further incurred would be used in anticipation of the problems and issues that would arise after the pandemic.



Representative Castro expressed hope that the proposed PESA would redound to the new normal and transform the economy for the benefit of the Filipino people.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair recognized Rep. Manuel F. Zubiri for his manifestation via Zoom videoconferencing.

### **MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZUBIRI**

After expressing his gratitude to Representatives Garin (S.), Quimbo, and Salceda for their exemplary crafting of House Bill No. 6815, Representative Zubiri brought to the attention of the Body the plight of the aviation industry which has been tremendously affected by the pandemic. He stated that airlines all over the world are in survival mode wherein some are filing for bankruptcy and requesting for relief packages from their governments. As such and in order for the aviation industry to bounce back to life, he then appealed that they should be given a boost such as emergency lines of credit, and workers relief and protection packages, among others.

He stressed that it is about time that the Members help save the aviation industry as well as the other industries and the people that depend on them. He said that the proposed PESA would be the best economic stimulus for the country if implemented properly and efficiently for the sake of the people.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair next recognized Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. for his interpellation via Zoom videoconferencing.

### **INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA**

Representative Atienza sought clarification on the economic stimulus packages' total appropriation in relation to its component infrastructure program. This, as he said that the government should focus on specific industries tremendously affected by the pandemic instead of the multimillion businesses controlled by oligarchs. He pointed out the Bill's lack of safeguard provisions against corruption, as he raised the spending issues under the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act and cautioned about giving the President a blanket authority for three years to shuffle funds.

Representative Garin clarified that a copy of the latest version of the Bill which they were discussing may not have been given to Representative Atienza; hence, the former will be provided with a copy of the Bill which has sections on safeguard measures. She manifested that the sponsoring Committee would be willing to accommodate the proposed amendments of Representative Atienza, if any.

In closing, Representative Atienza appreciated the well-crafted and well-intentioned measure but stressed that its approval rests on the incorporation of safeguard and self-policing mechanisms.

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

Subsequently, on motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair recognized Rep. Enrico A. Pineda for his interpellation.

### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

On motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair suspended the session at 4:07 p.m.

### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 4:08 p.m., the session was resumed with Deputy Speaker Estrella presiding.

Upon resumption of session, Representative Nieto withdrew his previous motion and next moved for the recognition of Rep. Victor A. Yap.

### **MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE YAP (V.)**

The Chair then recognized Representative Yap who signified his intent to make a manifestation on the PESA measure in support of the relevancy and urgency of the National Broadband Plan. He expressed his support to the proposed PESA and commended the efforts of his colleagues from the Economic Stimulus Response Package Subcommittee of the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee or DCC. He underscored the Bill's potential huge impact on the economy and its role in serving as a beacon of light to the Filipinos who are suffering from financial difficulties due to the pandemic.



During the community quarantine, he said that he saw the significance of a fast, reliable, accessible, and affordable internet but stressed that despite the digital age, connectivity continues to be a problem in the country. He then highlighted President Rodrigo Roa Duterte's pronouncement about the need for a faster and expanded reach of broadband and internet services as well as Speaker Alan Peter "Compañero" S. Cayetano's initiative in incorporating the national broadband initiative in the first draft of the New Normal Bill.

He explained that while applications and tools are available, oftentimes for free, to those who have access to the internet, the people could not maximize this opportunity due to lack of digital infrastructure and issues on the internet's accessibility, affordability, and speed.

In conclusion, he proposed the following to realize the objectives of the National Broadband Program: 1) a policy to establish cross-sector infrastructure sharing to develop the country's ICT and support telecommunications network; 2) incorporation of all private sector capacities in government initiatives; and 3) funding for the program.

On subsequent motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair recognized Rep. Arlene D. Brosas for her interpellation via Zoom videoconferencing.

## **INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS**

Representative Brosas shared her observation that the COVID-19 pandemic not only prompted policymakers to examine the threats to public health but also to review the economic structure of the country; hence, the creation of the proposed Philippine Economic Stimulus Act in order to retain jobs and push for economic revival. She stressed that the Makabayan bloc wanted to ensure that the Bill will save jobs and livelihoods.

She then asked Representative Quimbo about the funding for mass testing and the number of workers to be included in the mass testing as proposed under the measure. She also stressed the need to test frontliners for the new coronavirus; advocated the use of reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction or RT-PCR tests over rapid diagnostic tests, and asked why the

Department of the Interior and Local Government is the lead agency in mass testing.

On job generation, Representative Brosas proposed that the government take the lead in employment generation. On critically-impacted sectors, she relayed the plight of pedicab, tricycle, and jeepney drivers during the pandemic and asked if said transport workers would benefit from the Bill. On the enhanced "Build, Build, Build" Program, she asked why police and military offices were included despite their already huge budgets.

Representative Quimbo assured her colleague that the Committee will follow the health protocols of the Department of Health; the provision for an enhanced Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers (TUPAD) program of the Department of Labor and Employment is aligned with job generation by the government; and the measure contains various kinds of assistance for public utility drivers such as emergency credit lines and fuel subsidies. She also pointed out that police and military forces were vital for border control during the pandemic.

Representative Brosas then expressed hope that the Bill will also take into consideration such issues as environmental stability and food self-sufficiency and most importantly, direct cash assistance for the members of the agricultural sector.

On motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair then recognized Rep. Angelina "Helen" D.L. Tan, MD for a manifestation.

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

Initially, Representative Tan thanked the sponsoring Committee for helping provide relief to overseas Filipino workers, especially as regards their increased premium contributions to the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation.

She then informed the Body that the Health and COVID-19 Response Subcommittee of the DCC had deliberated and approved Senior Deputy Minority Leader Janette L. Garin's bill on mandatory testing using the PCR test to stop the new coronavirus transmission. She added that this is aligned with the ongoing discussion on the Project ARK which

would combine the rapid diagnostic test and the PCR. She expressed hope that the measure will soon be approved to address gaps in mass testing.

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

### **INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO**

Representative Elago discussed with Representative Quimbo the provisions of Section 9 of the Bill regarding “Educational Subsidy to Students” with respect to the identified student-beneficiaries; what parameters will determine the final amount of subsidy to students; the number of students in local and state universities and colleges, and private institutions; and the unreleased funds for 2019 Tertiary Education Subsidy which Representative Elago proposed may be used to cover student expenses other than tuition fees. The Sponsor suggested that they exchange data on the number of student-beneficiaries, to aid in estimating allocation for student subsidies.

Regarding the subsidies for primary and secondary school students, Representative Elago suggested that they consider extending subsidies to more beneficiaries in case there would be adjustments in the budget for the assistance to tertiary students; and then asked whether the assistance will be direct transfers to students or through the schools.

The Members next tackled the possibility that private schools would refund unused fees since school fees were meant for classroom and experiential learning, with Representative Elago asking the Sponsors to follow through the commitment of private schools to waive other fees as mentioned by Representative Quimbo. The Sponsor subsequently requested her colleague to assist in drafting the relevant guidelines on the matter for consideration by the sponsoring Committee.

To Representative Elago’s question about the pending application of schools for tuition fee increase, the Sponsor explained that House Bill No. 6815 has socioeconomic policy measures that will mandate sector regulators to review pricing and payment policies, including school tuition fees. Representative Elago added that at the proper time, she will propose amendments that will ensure protection to student-scholars.

Lastly, Representative Elago asked for a consideration of the mass promotion of students during the current academic term as the pandemic has caused uncertainty among students on how they will proceed to the next academic term.

### **MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE PINEDA**

Recognized by the Chair upon Representative Nieto’s motion, Representative Pineda initially stated his support for the PESA. He relayed to the Body that during a virtual committee hearing earlier, Labor and Employment Secretary Silvestre Bello III said that, should there be no available COVID-19 vaccine by 2021, labor would be the most critically hit sector with 5 to 10 million workers losing their jobs, especially under the “no work, no pay” scheme.

While the DOLE had launched various assistance programs to disadvantaged workers, Representative Pineda said that funds had become a problem. He then expressed belief that the economic reliefs in the PESA measure will help jump start the economy again while providing employment security to workers, and that it is the best solution for the country at present. He reiterated his support for the Bill; and expressed hope for its passage at the soonest possible time.

On motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair next recognized Rep. Ferdinand R. Gaite for his interpellation via Zoom videoconferencing.

### **INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE**

Representative Gaite initially inquired about Section 7 of the Bill regarding the provision of subsidies to rank-and-file employees and asked whether contractual workers, who are the most vulnerable, would be included in the wage subsidy program. He also asked about the exclusion of workers who voluntarily resigned from work. Although Representative Quimbo explained that the Section targets workers affected by the COVID-19, Representative Gaite opined that some workers might have been forced to leave their jobs because of difficult circumstances due to the pandemic.

The Sponsor clarified that the Bill intends to cover all employees regardless of employment status; and assured her colleague that the measure primarily aims for job retention while at the same time finding a balance to benefit both employers and employees.

Thereafter, Representative Gaite asked about the Bill's proposed allocation for the Enhanced TUPAD Program which he said may not be enough to help the large portion of the affected labor force; and subsequently discussed with the Sponsor the Bill's provision for PhilHealth premium relief for OFWs and the inclusion of the transport network vehicle services or TNVS sector in the subsidies for the transportation sector.

Then stressing the need to address socioeconomic injustice in society, Representative Gaite proposed the following: expansion and strengthening of the public health system; implementation of an economic stimulus package that protects struggling Filipinos during the lockdown and includes safety nets; prioritization of support for domestic industries and agriculture; fund rechanneling from less productive budgetary items including the public debt amortization, to priority projects; and a progressive tax system.

Representative Quimbo took note of the same.

On motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair recognized Rep. Cristopher V.P. de Venecia for his interpellation.

## **INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DE VENECIA**

Initially, Representative de Venecia thanked Speaker Cayetano (A.P.) for recognizing in his message to the House the previous day that entertainment and live events were among the most heavily-impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and that Congress is committed into tackling measures to help them get back on track. He then thanked the Sponsors of PESA and the sponsoring Committee for crafting what he termed a groundbreaking and game-changing measure.

He thereafter cited figures in describing the financial plight of workers in the live events sector, most of whom were freelancers during the pandemic and would remain as such under the new normal.

*Whereupon, Deputy Speaker Estrella relinquished the Chair to Representative Palma.*

Speaking as a freelancer himself in the arts, culture, and entertainment industry, Representative de Venecia asked whether the Committee would consider adjusting wage subsidies for freelancers

under Section 7 of the Bill, from 75 percent to 100 percent of minimum wage.

Representative Garin cited budget constraints even as she said that she will refer the matter to the sponsoring Committee. She however said that freelancers can avail of the interest-free loans as well as assistance from the Department of Tourism.

*Representative Palma relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Estrella.*

Upon explaining the contributions of selected live events to the tourism industry, Representative de Venecia proposed to include MSMEs conducting live events under Section 20 of the Bill which provides for assistance in the tourism sector. The Sponsor reiterated the issue of fund limitations but said that the Committee would be willing to talk to the DOT regarding possible interventions.

*Thereupon, Deputy Speaker Estrella relinquished the Chair to Representative Palma.*

Representative de Venecia then said that at the proper time, he would propose amendments on Section 3(m), on the definition of tourism enterprises, and on Section 20, on assistance to tourism industry.

Thereafter, he described the audiovisual sector in which the film, television, and animation sectors belong, and like the other sectors he mentioned, he said that it generates billions of pesos in revenues; employs significant number of workers; and have become sources of export revenues. He then proposed for the inclusion of the audiovisual sector for assistance under Section 22 on the assistance to industry and service sectors.

To Representative de Venecia's query as to the implementing agency for the infrastructure supportive of creative industries under Section 26, Representative Garin said that it would be the Department of Public Works and Highways as supervised by the DOT and other agencies involved in the creative industry.

The former thus proposed the inclusion of the Film Development Council of the Philippines and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts in the proposed Economic Stimulus Board. If not favorably considered by the Committee, he asked

for the Sponsors' commitment to ensure that said agencies be given proper representation with the Department of Trade and Industry and the DOT. Representative Garin assured the latter that they will make due consultation and will give her colleague a feedback.

In closing, Representative de Venecia apprised the Body that the FDCP and the National Live Events Coalition had submitted to the Committee a list of the existing venues and infrastructure for creative industries which could benefit from the Enhanced "Build, Build, Build" Program.

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

### **INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CULLAMAT**

To the clarificatory questions of Representative Cullamat regarding the proposed PESA, Rep. Wilfrido Mark M. Enverga, to whom Representative Garin (S.) yielded the sponsorship of the measure, discussed the allocation for the agricultural sector under the Enhanced "Build, Build, Build" Program, and clarified that penalties for violations of standards of businesses are not covered by the Bill's provision on regulatory relief.

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

The Sponsor likewise said that loans for agricultural workers will be given through the Bill's Enhanced SURE Aid.

### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

On motion of Representative Enverga, the Chair declared a recess at 6:27 p.m.

### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 6:27 p.m., the session resumed.

### **INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CULLAMAT (Continuation)**

Upon resumption of session, Representative Enverga also explained the digital agriculture program that enables the Department of Agriculture

to communicate with its stakeholders and monitor the implementation of social distancing and community quarantine protocols, augment support for frontline workers, and disseminate information on the department's programs. Furthermore, he gave details about the agricultural programs in the urban sector and the Revitalized Gulayan Program in the rural areas.

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

In ending her interpellation, Representative Cullamat stressed the need to give assistance for farmers and fishermen.

On motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair next recognized Rep. Michael T. Defensor for his interpellation.

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

After congratulating the sponsors of the Bill, Representative Defensor discussed with Representatives Quimbo and Salceda the amounts appropriated for the three major components of the Bill.

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

Thereafter, Representative Defensor discussed with Representative Salceda the nature of funds for the programs on subsidies, loans, and infrastructure. The latter further explained that the ₱70 billion equity through the Philippine Guarantee Corporation would trigger relending, provide for wage subsidies for MSMEs, and other interventions such as training and market access.

Representative Defensor then inquired into the contribution of the total stimulus package to the country's gross domestic product and mentioned the share of the stimulus packages of other countries to their respective GDPs. He also asked about the possibility of setting up a program for more infrastructure projects such as railroads, railways, and dams in Mindanao and Visayas. Representative Salceda stressed that the proposed stimulus package essentially aims for survival of various sectors and that the suggestion of his colleague may be considered for the next stimulus package.



Representative Defensor asked for the comparative advantage of the Philippines in terms of the economy in natural resources. He pointed out that as a former Secretary of the DENR, he would consider logging and mining industries as two of the major resources that would contribute to the country's economic stimulus and cited countries whose economy have been resilient because of the contributions of their mining industry.

Next, Representative Defensor noted a provision in the Bill that would allow business owners suspension of principal payment on loans for one year. He then asked whether at the proper time, the Sponsor would also consider including a provision that would allow Pag-IBIG, SSS, GSIS members, and other institutions or individuals of non-payment of principal on their loans.

Representative Salceda stressed that the PESA measure was specifically designed to immediately provide employment support for MSMEs and the agricultural sector.

On motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair recognized Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate for his interpellation via Zoom videoconferencing.

## **INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE**

On Representative Zarate's initial queries, Representative Garin (S.) stated that PESA seeks to address closing or scaling down of businesses which would cause job layoffs; and thus, intends to protect both workers and businesses through a more sustainable solution. While the Sponsor agreed with Representative Zarate that the pandemic intensified the country's problems, she affirmed that there should be other stimulus plans and that there is a need to review policies and directions of agencies, as well as to take care of industries to make the economy more resilient in the future.

Thereafter, Representative Zarate opined that the proposed stimulus package could bring the country back to the old economic regime and that it is only a repackaging of old policies that exacerbated the crisis. The Sponsor pointed out that while she agreed that there is a need for more policy reforms, there should be an immediate government intervention after the enhanced community quarantine.

The Members' subsequent discussion focused on the Bill's funding source of the stimulus package, the relatively small allocation for the agriculture sector, and the possible extension of social amelioration under the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act. Representative Garin explained that the Bill is not an amelioration package but a financial assistance measure for businesses to fund operations and retain employees which would also require capital and investments.

Representative Zarate opined that the government should not focus on infrastructure projects but modernize the agricultural sector by first resolving the issue of land distribution and ownership under the Genuine Agrarian Reform Program. The two Members also discussed how the government could possibly condone the unpaid loan amortization payments of agrarian reform beneficiaries under the economic stimulus package.

As he inquired into the funding sources of the measure, Representative Zarate suggested fund rechanneling from infrastructure programs to wage subsidies, loans, and amelioration programs; and expressed concern about more tax measures. In ending his interpellation, he cited the need to adopt a progressive tax system in particular and a just socioeconomic system in general; to review pre-COVID-19 policies on borrowing and neoliberalism; and to consider lessons learned from the pandemic regarding environmental degradation and excessive greed and power of public officials and big businesses.

The Sponsor said that economic stimulus, fiscal, and monetary measures are all responses to the crisis; and agreed that the government should review its policies.

The Chair thereafter recognized Rep. Bernadette "BH" Herrera-Dy for her manifestation via Zoom videoconferencing, upon Representative Nieto's motion.

## **MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE HERRERA-DY**

Representative Herrera-Dy said that she will present some amendments to the Bill at the appropriate time. She disclosed that these amendments propose to expand the definition of medium, small, and



micro enterprises; to include technical-vocational institutions among the recipients of the assistance to be given to the education sector; to rephrase the provision on bank loan restructuring so that banks will consider all options thereon; and to specify grace periods and installment schemes for the payment of utility bills.

Saying that the sponsoring Committee will consult the agencies and stakeholders concerned, Representative Garin (S.) assured Representative Herrera-Dy of the consideration of her main concerns and proposed amendments.

#### **MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DAZA**

Next recognized by the Chair upon Representative Nieto's motion, Rep. Raul A. Daza manifested during the Zoom videoconference his intention to propose amendments on Section 33 of the Bill. Representative Garin (S.) said that the Committee will consider the same at the proper time.

With regard to Representative Daza's query on the current infrastructure projects under the 2020 General Appropriations Act, the Sponsor mentioned that the Committee would introduce amendments to the latest draft of the Bill to make sure that said projects will be implemented the soonest. Representative Daza added that this Enhanced "Build, Build, Build" Program will complement the Executive Department's recent Balik-Probinsiya Program.

#### **TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE**

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate.

#### **SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6815**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6815.

#### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Palma, the Chair suspended the session at 8:06 p.m.

#### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

The session resumed at 8:09 p.m.

#### **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 following Bills and Resolutions on First Reading, and Committee Reports, which the Chair referred to the appropriate committees indicated hereunder:

#### **BILLS ON FIRST READING**

House Bill No. 6778, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE DOMESTIC REPATRIATION OF MIGRANT WORKERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8042, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'MIGRANT WORKERS AND OVERSEAS FILIPINOS ACT OF 1995', AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representatives Gonzalez (Sandro) and Lusotan  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS  
AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 6779, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR MANDATORY IMMUNIZATION SERVICES FOR OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS, PENALIZING CERTAIN PROHIBITED ACTS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representatives Gonzalez (Sandro) and Lusotan  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS  
AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 6780, entitled:

"AN ACT RECOGNIZING SEAFARERS AS KEY WORKERS IN TIMES OF EPIDEMIC OR STATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY, PROVIDING EXEMPTION FROM MOVEMENT OR TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS TO SEAFARERS, MANDATING THE ISSUANCE OF ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS,

APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Gonzalez (Sandro) and Lusotan  
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6781, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A NATIONAL ANTI-  
ILLEGAL DRUG CAMPAIGN AND  
RESEARCH PROGRAM, APPROPRIATING  
FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Tutor  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON DANGEROUS DRUGS

House Bill No. 6782, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS  
OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11036,  
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MENTAL  
HEALTH ACT”

By Representative Tutor  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 6783, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING ALL NATIONAL,  
REGIONAL, AND PROVINCIAL  
GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS TO  
ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN  
A DIALYSIS WARD OR UNIT IN  
THEIR RESPECTIVE HOSPITAL  
AND PROVIDING FREE DIALYSIS  
TREATMENT TO INDIGENT PATIENTS”

By Representative Tutor  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 6784, entitled:

“AN ACT TO ENHANCE THE USE OF  
NATIONAL WEALTH FOR LOCAL  
DEVELOPMENT BY AMENDING  
CERTAIN PROVISIONS IN BOOK II OF  
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE  
KNOWN AS THE 'LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
CODE OF 1991' ”

By Representative Tutor  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 6785, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR BENEFITS TO  
MILITARY DEPENDENTS, CREATING  
THE MILITARY DEPENDENTS  
WELFARE OFFICE, APPROPRIATING  
FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES”

By Representative Tutor  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND  
SECURITY

House Bill No. 6786, entitled:

“AN ACT SUPPORTING THE GROWTH AND  
DEVELOPMENT OF DIGITAL CAREERS  
IN THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Tutor  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND  
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 6787, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A NATIONAL  
DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION POLICY  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Tutor  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND  
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 6788, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 3 AND 4  
OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1631,  
SERIES OF 1979 OR THE ACT CREATING  
THE LUNGSOD NG KABATAAN AS  
AMENDED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.  
893, SERIES OF 1983”

By Representative Tutor  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 6789, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY  
OF THE PHILIPPINE GENERAL  
HOSPITAL FROM ONE THOUSAND AND  
FIVE HUNDRED BEDS (1,500) TO TWO  
THOUSAND AND TWO HUNDRED BEDS  
(2,200) AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS  
THEREFOR”

By Representative Tutor  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 6790, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG) AND  
AMBISYON NATIN 2040 FUND”

By Representative Tutor  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT GOALS

House Bill No. 6791, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING SUPPORT  
MECHANISMS AND PROTECTION FOR  
PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AND  
PERSONNEL IN MATTERS OF STUDENT  
DISCIPLINE FOR CLASSROOM  
MANAGEMENT”

By Representative Tutor  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND  
CULTURE

House Bill No. 6792, entitled:

“AN ACT STANDARDIZING TOURISM SIGNS AND SYMBOLS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Tutor  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 6793, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE VIROLOGY SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

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

House Bill No. 6794, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING JULY 5 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BAMBANG, PROVINCE OF NUEVA VIZCAYA IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY TO BE KNOWN AS 'BAMBANG DAY' ”

By Representative Cuaresma  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 6795, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS UNIFIED INITIATIVES TO DISTRESSED ENTERPRISES FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY (GUIDE)”

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

House Bill No. 6796, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING HAZARD PAY TO ALL FRONTLINERS IN THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS AND OTHER ESSENTIAL WORKERS DURING PANDEMICS, EPIDEMICS, OUTBREAKS, NATURAL OR MAN-MADE DISASTERS AND OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES”

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

House Bill No. 6797, entitled:

“AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION TO DEFER THE START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR IN CASE OF A DECLARATION OF A STATE OF

EMERGENCY, STATE OF CALAMITY OR ANY SIMILAR OCCURRENCE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7797, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'AN ACT TO LENGTHEN THE SCHOOL CALENDAR FROM TWO HUNDRED DAYS TO NOT MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED TWENTY CLASS DAYS”

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

House Bill No. 6798, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE FRAMEWORK FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF VIROLOGY LABORATORIES IN THE PHILIPPINES, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE VIROLOGY SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE OF THE PHILIPPINES (VIP), APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

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

House Bill No. 6799, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING PROTECTED BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN LANES AND OTHER RELATED INFRASTRUCTURES IN METRO MANILA, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Reyes  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 6800, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN PHILIPPINES SATELLITE CAMPUSES IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF ALLEN, SAN ISIDRO, AND LAVEZARES IN NORTHERN SAMAR, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Daza  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

## RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 897, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY AND INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE SPIKE OF ELECTRICITY RATES AND THE

ADDITIONAL CHARGES OF MANILA ELECTRIC COMPANY (MERALCO) DURING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE”

By Representative Crisologo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 898, entitled:

“RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING THE INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE ON EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES (IATF) TO MODIFY ITS RESTRICTIONS ON THE CONDUCT OF RELIGIOUS GATHERINGS UNDER THE MODIFIED ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE (MECQ) AND GENERAL COMMUNITY QUARANTINE (GCQ)”

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

House Resolution No. 899, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE ON EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES (IATF-EID) TO ALLOW PEOPLE FROM THE SAME HOUSEHOLD TO BACKRIDE ON MOTORCYCLES IN AREAS UNDER GENERAL COMMUNITY QUARANTINE (GCQ)”

By Representative Ty (Diego)  
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Resolution No. 900, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONSIDER AND PRIORITIZE THE ACCREDITATION OF REGION 02 TRAUMA AND MEDICAL CENTER IN THE PROVINCE OF NUEVA VIZCAYA AS A LICENSED TESTING CENTER FOR CORONA VIRUS DISEASE AND BE AUTHORIZED TO ADMINISTER COVID 19 TESTING”

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

House Resolution No. 901, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO INSTITUTE MEASURES THAT WILL MAKE DIGITAL EDUCATION AVAILABLE

AND ACCESSIBLE TO ALL STUDENTS AMID THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) PANDEMIC IN THE PHILIPPINES”

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

House Resolution No. 902, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE POSSIBLE DEFERMENT OF THE OPENING OF SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021 IN ALL PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OFFERING BASIC EDUCATION IN THE COUNTRY, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF REPEALING SECTION 3 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7797 DUE TO THE IMPACT OF THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 PANDEMIC IN THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Cabochan  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Committee on Health and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 311), re H.B. No. 6803, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE PROVISION OF COMPREHENSIVE RENAL REPLACEMENT THERAPY (RRT) TO PATIENTS WITH END STAGE RENAL DISEASE IN NATIONAL, REGIONAL, AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS, INCREASING FOR THE PURPOSE THE PHILHEALTH PACKAGE RATE FOR MEMBERS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 163, 169, 197, 218, 251, 391, 436, 532, 862, 1190, 1339, 1392, 1563, 2120, 2200, 2682, 3818 and 3972

Sponsors: Representatives Tan (Angelina), Yap (Eric), Belmonte and Suansing (Estrellita)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 315), re H.B. No. 6824, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA)-



ADMINISTERED POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ROSALES, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN, TO BE KNOWN AS THE EASTERN PANGASINAN POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 6110

Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark), Yap (Eric) and Estrella

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

## ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 316), re H.B. No. 6827, entitled:

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

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 776

Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark), Yap (Eric) and Collantes

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Legislative Franchises (Committee Report No. 317), re H.B. No. 6834, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING KAISSAR BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC. (KBNI) A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 6124

Sponsors: Representatives Alvarez (Franz) and Enverga

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Legislative Franchises (Committee Report No. 318), re H.B. No. 6835, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO METRO MANILA TURF CLUB, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7978, ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING THE METRO MANILA TURF CLUB, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A RACE TRACK FOR HORSE RACING IN THE CITY OF KALOOKAN', AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8298”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 6407 and 6408

Sponsors: Representatives Alvarez (Franz), Macapagal Arroyo, Romualdo and Collantes

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Legislative Franchises (Committee Report No. 319), re H.B. No. 6836, entitled:

“AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO THE DAVAO LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY, INC., UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8960, ENTITLED 'AN ACT FURTHER EXTENDING THE TERM OF THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO DAVAO LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY, INC. TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN AN ELECTRIC LIGHT, HEAT AND POWER SYSTEM IN DAVAO CITY AND THE MUNICIPALITIES OF CARMEN, PANABO, DUJALI, AND SANTO TOMAS, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL NORTE, FOR A PERIOD OF TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES' ”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 6769

Sponsors: Representatives Alvarez (Franz), Duterte, Ungab, Garcia (Vincent) and Gonzalez (Sandro)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

## BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 314 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6817

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 6817 contained in Committee Report No. 314 as submitted by the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee.



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

“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST PERSONS WHO ARE DECLARED CONFIRMED, SUSPECT, PROBABLE, AND RECOVERED CASES OF COVID-19, REPATRIATED FILIPINOS, HEALTHCARE WORKERS, RESPONDERS, AND SERVICE WORKERS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF.”

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 Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Rep. Narciso R. Bravo Jr., a co-chairperson of the Peace and Order Subcommittee of the DCC, to sponsor the measure.

#### **SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE BRAVO**

Citing several incidents of discriminatory acts and attacks against health care workers, Representative Bravo stated that even though several local government units have issued ordinances prohibiting COVID-19-related discrimination, enacting a law that would penalize violators would deter bigoted people from committing such reprehensible acts.

Speaking as co-chairperson of the Peace and Order Subcommittee of the DCC, he said that House Bill No. 6817, principally authored by Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte, seeks to grant full and inviolable protection to COVID-19 patients as well as health care workers and relieve them of unnecessary mental anguish and emotional burden.

In the spirit of the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act, Representative Bravo then urged his colleagues to immediately approve the instant Bill.

#### **APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6817**

On successive motions of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on House Bill No.

6817 in the absence of interpellations; terminated the period of amendments in the absence of committee and individual amendments; and approved the measure on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting.

#### **BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 295 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6595**

On successive motions of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 6595 contained in Committee Report No. 295 as submitted by the Committee on Higher and Technical Education, mandating the inclusion of a foreign language other than English, as an elective course in the higher education curriculum; dispensed with the reading of the text of the measure without prejudice to its insertion into the records of the House, as copies thereof had been previously distributed to the Members; adopted the Explanatory Note of the Bill as the sponsorship remarks on the measure, upon motion of Rep. Mark O. Go, chairperson of the sponsoring Committee; terminated the period of sponsorship and debate in the absence of interpellations; and terminated the period of amendments in the absence of committee and individual amendments.

#### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

At this point, the session was suspended at 8:27 p.m. upon motion of Representative Palma.

#### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

The session resumed at 8:28 p.m.

#### **APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6595 (Continuation)**

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved House Bill No. 6595 on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting.

#### **BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 309 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6756**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading

House Bill No. 6756 contained in Committee Report No. 309 as submitted by the Committee on Higher and Technical Education and the Committee on Appropriations.

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

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP AND RETURN SERVICE PROGRAM FOR DESERVING STUDENTS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.”

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.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Representative Go (M.), chairperson of the sponsoring Committee, for his sponsorship speech.

#### **SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE GO (M.)**

Representative Go stressed that the House must pass House Bill No. 6756, which was a consolidation of 19 measures, to bolster the population of doctors in the country especially in the midst of a pandemic. He cited figures on the low doctor-to-patient ratio and the number of active licensed physicians many of whom chose to work abroad as doctors or nurses. He rued the fact that many areas especially in far-flung localities did not even have a single doctor; and that some doctors have refused to go to rural areas.

He subsequently pointed out that the measure responds to the constitutional mandate to respond to the health needs and problems of the country and provides access to medical education especially to financially-disadvantaged students aspiring to become doctors. He explained the mechanics of the Bill's Medical Scholarship and Return Service Program and cited various kinds of benefits, such as free tuition, accommodation, and transportation allowance, to be enjoyed by its scholars.

Representative Go then urged his colleagues to join him in appealing for the immediate passage of the

measure that would honor the country's frontliners for their services and pay it forward by providing scholarship to the next generation of medical doctors, their future frontliners, and heroes.

#### **SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6756**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6756.

#### **BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 302 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6654**

On successive motions of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 6654 contained in Committee Report No. 302 as submitted by the Committee on Economic Affairs, reorganizing and converting the Insurance Commission into a collegial body; dispensed with the reading of the text of the measure without prejudice to its insertion into the records of the House, as copies thereof had been previously distributed to the Members; adopted the Explanatory Note of the Bill as the sponsorship remarks on the measure, upon motion of Representative Garin (S.), chairperson of the sponsoring Committee; terminated the period of sponsorship and debate in the absence of interpellations; terminated the period of amendments in the absence of committee and individual amendments; and approved the measure on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting.

#### **ADDITIONAL COAUTHOR FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 6654**

Upon the request of Deputy Speaker Luis Raymund “LRay” F. Villafuerte Jr. as manifested by Representative Garin (S.), the Body approved to include the Deputy Speaker as an additional coauthor of House Bill No. 6654.

#### **BUSINESS FOR THURSDAY AND FRIDAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 296 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6596**

On successive motions of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered on

Second Reading House Bill No. 6596 contained in Committee Report No. 296 as submitted by the Committee on Higher and Technical Education, renaming the Compostela Valley State College in Compostela, Compostela Valley to the Davao de Oro State College; dispensed with the reading of the text of the measure without prejudice to its insertion into the records of the House, as copies thereof had been previously distributed to the Members; adopted the Explanatory Note of the Bill as the sponsorship remarks on the measure; terminated the period of sponsorship and debate, in the absence of interpellations; approved the amendments as manifested on the floor by Representative Palma; terminated the period of amendments; and approved the measure on Second Reading, as amended, through *viva voce* voting.

#### **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. 710, on the continuing violence against workers and criminalization of labor disputes – to the Committee on Labor and Employment;
2. House Resolution No. 714, on the implementation of Republic Act No. 7305, otherwise known as “The Magna Carta of Public Health Workers” – to the Committee on Health;
3. House Resolution No. 717, on the alleged violations of Presidential Decree No. 1529, otherwise known as the “Property Registration Decree” with respect to Case 10 of the Baras Cadastre – to the Committee on Justice;
4. House Resolution No. 719, on the implementation of the Foreign Service Act and the Civil Service Law and the Government Reorganization Plans for 1986 and 1972 – to the Committees on Civil Service and Professional Regulation, and Foreign Affairs;
5. House Resolution No. 722, on urging the National Historical Commission of the Philippines, Commission on Higher Education, and Department of Education to report to Congress regarding their programs and activities in compliance with their mandates under Republic Act No. 11304 or the “Philippine-American War Memorial Day Act” – to the Committees on Basic Education and Culture, and Higher and Technical Education;
6. House Resolution No. 725, on the decline of the level of literacy in the country – to the Committee on Basic Education and Culture;
7. House Resolution No. 726, on directing the Department of Public Works and Highways to present to the House Committee on Mindanao Affairs the compliance with the Bangsamoro Organic Law – to the Committee on Mindanao Affairs;
8. House Resolution No. 727, on directing the National Economic and Development Authority and the Department of Transportation to submit to the House Committee on Mindanao Affairs the feasibility study of the Mindanao Railway Project – to the Committee on Mindanao Affairs;
9. House Resolution No. 728, on directing the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines and Department of Transportation to present to the House Committee on Mindanao Affairs the operational status and decongestion plan of all the airports in Mindanao – to the Committee on Mindanao Affairs;
10. House Resolution No. 729, on the implementation of Department of the Interior and Local Government Memorandum Order No. 121, Series of 2019, and its effects on the welfare of sidewalk vendors – to the Committees on Poverty Alleviation, and Local Government;
11. House Resolution No. 762, on the reported increasing cases of depression and mental health issues among minors and youth in the

- country and to submit legislative approaches to curb the alarming social concern and promote the well-being and welfare of young Filipinos – to the Committee on Health;
12. House Resolution No. 763, on the indiscriminate firing on a Lumad community by suspected elements of the 75th IB, 36th IB and 9th SFC Philippine Army in Diatagon, Lianga, Surigao del Sur – to the Committee on National Defense and Security;
  13. House Resolution No. 765, on the reported nefarious practice of age discrimination in the recruitment, selection and employment of Filipino seafarers – to the Committee on Overseas Workers Affairs;
  14. House Resolution No. 767, on the unabated smuggling of petroleum products in Subic and other economic freeport zones vis-a-vis the fuel-marking program of the government – to the Committee on Ways and Means;
  15. House Resolution No. 768, on telecommunications, internet, and cable television service providers relative to mandating rebates to consumers for periods of system failure or non-access to services subscribed – to the Committee on Information and Communications Technology;
  16. House Resolution No. 769, on the V-Mall hostage incident on March 2, 2020 to adopt the necessary reforms in existing laws and enact relevant new laws to safeguard the right to life – to the Committee on Public Order and Safety;
  17. House Resolution No. 770, on the massive suspension and revocation of driver's licenses of public utility vehicle drivers – to the Committee on Transportation;
  18. House Resolution No. 772, on the delayed implementation of market transformation through introduction of energy efficient electric vehicles project or the e-Trikes Project – to the Committee on Transportation;
  19. House Resolution No. 773, on the vilification, red-tagging and harassment of members of the Gabriela Women's Party by the DILG, elements of the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the Armed Forces of the Philippines – to the Committees on Public Order and Safety, and National Defense and Security;
  20. House Resolution No. 774, on the effect of COVID-19 on employment and industries, and on measures being implemented by the concerned government agencies to save lives and jobs – to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;
  21. House Resolution No. 777, on the guidelines set by the Commission on Audit in its conduct of audit on the utilization of the Special Education Fund by the Provincial, City and Municipal Local School Boards – to the Committee on Local Government;
  22. House Resolution No. 778, on various human rights violations and forced surrender of farmers and members of Indigenous Peoples Group Kalinga Tribe perpetrated by elements of the 17th Infantry Battalion Philippine Army and the PNP-Cagayan in Lagum, Lipatan, Sto. Nino, Cagayan Valley, Cagayan – to the Committees on National Defense and Security, and Public Order and Safety;
  23. House Resolution No. 779, on the alleged harassment against Rural Missionaries of the Philippines by the Anti-Money Laundering Council – to the Committee on Banks and Financial Intermediaries;
  24. House Resolution No. 781, on the implementation of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 11364, otherwise known as the 'Cooperative Development Authority Charter of 2019' – to the Committee on Cooperatives Development;
  25. House Resolution No. 782, on the status of the implementation of the Oil Palm Financing Program of the Land Bank of the Philippines – to the Committee on Banks and Financial Intermediaries;
  26. House Resolution No. 810, to study and recommend a sectoral approach policy in gradually lifting the lockdown in order to dampen the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) to the economy without



- increasing the spread of infection – to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;
27. House Resolution No. 811, on the preparedness of Higher Education Institutions, students and faculty to shift to online modes of learning in light of the continuing threat of the COVID-19 and the status of the internet connectivity in the country – to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;
28. House Resolution No. 813, on the killing of peasant leader Nora Apique in San Miguel, Surigao del Sur – to the Committees on National Defense and Security, and Public Order and Safety;
29. House Resolution No. 814, on the arrest of human rights worker Teresita “Tessie” Naul in Lanao del Sur – to the Committees on National Defense and Security, and Public Order and Safety;
30. House Resolution No. 815, on the arrest of Lumad leader and National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPC) Indigenous People’s Sector Council Member Gloria Campos Tumalon – to the Committees on National Defense and Security, and Public Order and Safety;
31. House Resolution No. 816, on the killing of peasant advocate Marlon Maldos in De la Paz, Cortes, Bohol – to the Committees on National Defense and Security, and Public Order and Safety;
32. House Resolution No. 817, on the immediate review of R.A. No. 11223, or the “The Universal Health Care Act” particularly on the increase and mandatory payment of premium contributions imposed upon overseas Filipino members and to suspend the implementation of the relevant provisions of R. A. No. 11223 and its pertinent rules and regulations as issued by the Department of Health and Philippine Health Insurance Corporation – to the Committee on Health;
33. House Resolution No. 820, on the implementation of Executive Order No. 51, and R. A. Nos. 10028, 11148, and 10821 in light of the COVID-19 pandemic – to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;
34. House Resolution No. 823, on the alleged anomalies/corruption in the implementation of the Social Amelioration Program – to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;
35. House Resolution No. 824, on the reported bird flu outbreak in Jaen, Nueva Ecija and the preparedness of the government to contain the disease in the country – to the Committee on Agriculture and Food;
36. House Resolution No. 826, 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 – to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;
37. House Resolution No. 827, on R. A. No. 11223 or the Universal Health Care Act in light of complaints of overseas Filipino workers regarding PhilHealth’s mandatory premium collection and premium rate hike, and to suspend the implementation of relevant provisions of R. A. No. 11223 and its rules and regulations pending review of the law – to the Committees on Health, and Good Government and Public Accountability;
38. House Resolution No. 832, on the human rights violations perpetrated during the implementation of the community quarantine – to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;
39. House Resolution No. 833, on the deployment of PNP officers to violently disperse the people’s barricade and facilitate the entry of fuel tanks for Oceana Gold’s illegal mining operations – to the Committee on Public Order and Safety;
40. House Resolution No. 834, on the current status of the implementation of R. A. No. 11055, otherwise known as the “Philippine Identification System Act” – to the



- Committee on Population and Family Relations;
41. House Resolution No. 835, on the gun-pointing incident made by the Chinese warship towards the BRP Conrado Yap – to the Committee on National Defense and Security;
  42. House Resolution No. 840, on the alleged presentation of Coca-Cola workers as rebel surrenderees amid the COVID-19 pandemic crisis – to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;
  43. House Resolution No. 841, on 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 – to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;
  44. House Resolution No. 842, on 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 – to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;
  45. House Resolution No. 844, on the 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 and the Department of Labor and Employment through the Philippine Overseas Labor Office, Overseas Workers’ Welfare Administration and Philippine Overseas Employment Administration, and need for an overseas employment plan in the light of massive job loss worldwide – to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;
  46. House Resolution No. 845, on the April 30, 2020 killing of Bayan Muna coordinator Jose Reynaldo “Jory” Porquia in Iloilo City – to the Committee on Public Order and Safety;
  47. House Resolution No. 847, on 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 – to the Committee on Health;
  48. House Resolution No. 848, on the repercussions to workers in government of Memorandum Circular No. 580 released by the Department of Budget and Management – to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;
  49. House Resolution No. 850, 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 – to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;
  50. House Resolution No. 852, on the impact of COVID-19 pandemic on Philippine agriculture to determine the status of food security in the country post the implementation of community quarantine – to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;
  51. House Resolution No. 860, 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 – to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;
  52. House Resolution No. 863, on admonishing the National Telecommunications Commission on its failure to comply with their commitment under oath and on possible measures to be taken on the matter – to the Committees on Legislative Franchises, and Good Government and Public Accountability;
  53. House Resolution No. 866, on the rising cases of State-sponsored violence and

abuse against women, children and the LGBTQ+ since the implementation of the enhanced community quarantine, and to recommend measures to ensure their protection especially during the period of the COVID-19 pandemic – to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;

54. House Resolution No. 870, on the alleged mishandling in the implementation of the Social Amelioration Program provided for under R. A. No. 11469, otherwise known as the “Bayanihan to Heal as One Act” – to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;

55. House Resolution No. 871, on the illegal mass arrest of six farmers under the Samahan ng mga Magsasaka sa Coral ni Lopez (SAMACOLO) on May 9, 2020 in Coral ni Lopez, Calaca, Batangas by the combined elements of the PNP, Philippine Air Force and Philippine Army – to the Committees on Public Order and Safety, and National Defense and Security;

56. House Resolution No. 875, on the plight of health workers affected by the deployment ban in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic – to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;

57. House Resolution No. 879, on the sudden big spike in the Manila Electric Company (Meralco) electricity rates and bills despite the overcapacity of electricity supply – to the Committee on Good Government and Public Accountability;

58. House Resolution No. 882, calling upon the Energy Regulatory Commission and Meralco on the sudden increase in electricity rates and interruptions during the enhanced community quarantine and general community quarantine – to the Committee on Good Government and Public Accountability; and

59. House Resolution No. 885, on the surge of COVID-19 infection among repatriated displaced OFWs and reported risky and dismal situation in quarantine facilities, and recommend urgent measures to protect and support OFWs – to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee.

## **CHANGE OF REFERRAL OF HOUSE MEASURES**

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Nieto, there being no objection, the Body changed the referral of the following House measures to the committees specified hereunder:

1. House Bill No. 6674 – from the Committee on Housing and Urban Development to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;
2. House Bill No. 6703 – from the Committee on Agriculture and Food to the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee;
3. House Bill Nos. 84, 3795, and 4137 – from the Committees on Civil Service and Professional Regulation, and Higher and Technical Education to the Committees on Higher and Technical Education, and Civil Service and Professional Regulation; and
4. House Bill Nos. 510, 1099, and 3340 – from the Committees on Civil Service and Professional Regulation, and Higher and Technical Education to the Committees on Higher and Technical Education, and Civil Service and Professional Regulation.

## **ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS**

On motion of Representative Nieto, there being no objection, the Body approved to include as additional coauthors of House Bill Nos. 6554, 6555, 6570, 6589, 6590, 6591, 6593, 6595, 6599, 6610, 6654, 6756, 6768, 6815, 6816, 6817, 4786, 6586, 6585, 6596, 6597, 6598, 6727, 6728, 6729, 6730, 6731, 6753, and House Resolution Nos. 783, 784, and 789 the names of the Members contained in the list to be submitted by the Committee on Rules.

## **REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE PALMA**

At this point, Representative Palma reminded the Members of their plenary session on Thursday, May 28, 2020.

## **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

Whereupon, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the session was suspended until three o'clock in the afternoon of Thursday, May 28, 2020.

It was 8:56 p.m. of Wednesday, May 27, 2020.

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

The session resumed at 3:00 p.m. of Thursday, May 28, 2020, with Deputy Speaker Deogracias Victor “DV” B. Savellano presiding.

**ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

On motion of Rep. Wilter "Sharky" Wee Palma II, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the Additional Reference of Business.

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

**BILLS ON FIRST READING**

House Bill No. 6801, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NETWORK OF POP-UP BICYCLE LANES AND EMERGENCY PATHWAYS FOR USE DURING THE DURATION OF THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) PANDEMIC”

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

House Bill No. 6802, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A UNIVERSAL, COMPREHENSIVE, RELIABLE AND ACCESSIBLE WIRELESS INTERNET CONNECTION IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE DELIVERY OF DIGITAL EDUCATION AMID THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) PANDEMIC”

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

House Bill No. 6804, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NETWORK OF POP-UP BICYCLE LANES AND EMERGENCY PATHWAYS FOR USE DURING THE DURATION OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Zamora (Ronaldo)  
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6805, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE CONSOLIDATION OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS, TITLING OF

UNTITLED AGRICULTURAL LANDS, PROVIDING FOR POST-HARVEST FACILITIES TO RICE FARMERS, ESTABLISHING IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM TO LAND OWNER/FARMER

FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Gonzales (Aurelio)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 6806, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11036, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MENTAL HEALTH ACT”

By Representative Angara  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 6807, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 3 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7797, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'AN ACT TO LENGTHEN THE SCHOOL CALENDAR FROM TWO HUNDRED (200) DAYS TO NOT MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED TWENTY (220) CLASS DAYS'”

By Representative Gatchalian  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 6808, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE VIROLOGY SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Tan (Angelina)  
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6809, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTING THE MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

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

House Bill No. 6810, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NETWORK OF POP-UP BICYCLE LANES AND EMERGENCY PATHWAYS FOR USE DURING THE DURATION OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

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

House Bill No. 6811, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT 11469 OR 'AN ACT DECLARING THE EXISTENCE OF A NATIONAL EMERGENCY ARISING FROM THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) SITUATION AND A NATIONAL POLICY IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, AND AUTHORIZING THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FOR A LIMITED PERIOD AND SUBJECT TO RESTRICTIONS, TO EXERCISE POWERS NECESSARY AND PROPER TO CARRY OUT THE DECLARED NATIONAL POLICY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES' BY EXTENDING ITS EFFECTIVITY FOR ANOTHER THREE MONTHS”

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

House Bill No. 6812, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NETWORK OF POP-UP BICYCLE LANES AND EMERGENCY PATHWAYS FOR USE DURING THE DURATION OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Fariñas (Ria) and Fariñas (Rudys Caesar)  
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6813, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING ALL EMPLOYERS, BARANGAYS, CITIES OR MUNICIPALITIES TO ACCOUNT AND REGISTER ALL STRANDED OR DISPLACED WORKERS WITHIN THEIR TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION DURING TIMES OF LOCKDOWN OR COMMUNITY QUARANTINE DUE TO CALAMITIES AND PANDEMICS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

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

House Bill No. 6814, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING THE ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND MANAGEMENT OF E-WASTE IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romulo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 6818, entitled:

“AN ACT IMPOSING FOR A MANDATORY MORATORIUM ON THE ENFORCEMENT OF MONTHLY PRINCIPAL PAYMENTS OR MONTHLY AMORTIZATIONS ON ALL LOANS, CREDIT ACCOMMODATIONS, OR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS TO FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS OR FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES ENGAGED IN THE LENDING AND BORROWING OF MONEY FOR THE ENTIRE DURATION OF THE NATIONAL HEALTH EMERGENCY AND FOR 180 DAYS FROM THE TIME OF ITS TERMINATION OR LIFTING”

By Representative Gonzales (Aurelio)  
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6819, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING ADDITIONAL DIVISIONS IN THE COURT OF APPEALS, INCREASING THE NUMBER OF COURT OF APPEALS JUSTICES FROM SIXTY-NINE (69) TO SEVENTY-EIGHT (78), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 129, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Suarez (David)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 6820, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE PLANNING, DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, OCCUPANCY, AND MAINTENANCE OF BUILDINGS, PROMOTING BUILDING RESILIENCE VERSUS FIRE, FLOOD, STORM, EARTHQUAKE AND MULTIPLE HAZARDS, ENACTING A NEW PHILIPPINE BUILDING ACT, THEREBY REPEALING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1096, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Suarez (David)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 6821, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTING THE MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Suarez (David)  
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE



House Bill No. 6822, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING ONE ADDITIONAL DIVISION IN THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS COMMISSION, INCREASING THE NUMBER OF COMMISSIONERS FROM FOURTEEN (14) TO SEVENTEEN (17), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Suarez (David)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 6823, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A UNIFIED SYSTEM FOR SEPARATION, RETIREMENT, AND PENSION OF THE MILITARY AND UNIFORMED PERSONNEL (MUP) SERVICES OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES, CREATING THE MILITARY AND UNIFORM PERSONNEL RETIREMENT FUND AUTHORITY, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Suarez (David)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 6825, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING ARTICLES 183 AND 184 OF ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE”

By Representative Deloso-Montalla  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 6826, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE CHILDREN’S MEDICAL CENTERS IN VISAYAS AND IN MINDANAO AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Oaminal  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 6828, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF IGNACIO L. ARROYO SR. MEMORIAL DISTRICT HOSPITAL (ILASMDH) FROM TWENTY-FIVE (25) TO ONE HUNDRED (100) BEDS, AND

APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Arroyo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 6829, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO NEWS AND ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8197 OR 'AN ACT GRANTING THE NEWS AND ENTERTAINMENT CORPORATION, A FRANCHISE TO ESTABLISH, CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, MAINTAIN, AND OPERATE FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES CABLE/ COMMUNITY ANTENNAE TELEVISION SYSTEMS AND MULTIMEDIA SERVICES IN THE PHILIPPINES' FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT”

By Representative Legarda  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 6830, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO THE ASSOCIATION FOR ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICE COOPERATIVE, UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8090, ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING THE ASSOCIATION FOR ISLAMIC DEVELOPMENT SERVICE COOPERATIVE A FRANCHISE TO INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO BROADCASTING STATION IN THE PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR' ”

By Representative Babasa  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 6831, entitled:

“AN ACT TO BOLSTER THE PRODUCTION AND POST HARVEST SUPPORT OF THE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE INDUSTRY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Savellano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 6832, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING MASS TESTING, CONTACT TRACING, AND INFECTION

PREVENTION PROTOCOLS AND  
DISEASE SURVEILLANCE MEASURES  
FOR THE SAFE REOPENING OF  
SCHOOLS”

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

House Bill No. 6833, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS  
OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7305, OTHERWISE  
KNOWN AS THE MAGNA CARTA OF  
PUBLIC HEALTH WORKERS, AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Revilla  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 6837, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR ONE DOCTOR  
AND ONE NURSE FOR EVERY PUBLIC  
ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL”

By Representatives Castro (France), Zarate, Gaité,  
Cullamat, Brosas and Elago  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND  
CULTURE

House Bill No. 6838, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE  
PHILIPPINE VIROLOGY SCIENCE  
AND TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

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

House Bill No. 6839, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING R.A. NO. 9262  
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'AN ACT  
DEFINING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN  
AND THEIR CHILDREN, PROVIDING  
FOR PROTECTIVE MEASURES FOR  
VICTIMS, PRESCRIBING PENALTIES  
THEREFORE, AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES', EXPANDING ITS COVERAGE  
AND COVERED ACTS PRESCRIBING  
PENALTIES THEREFORE, AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Lopez  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND GENDER  
EQUALITY

House Bill No. 6840, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NETWORK  
OF POP-UP BICYCLE LANES AND  
EMERGENCY PATHWAYS FOR USE  
DURING THE DURATION OF THE

COVID-19 PANDEMIC, AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES”

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

House Bill No. 6841, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NETWORK  
OF POP-UP BICYCLE LANES AND  
EMERGENCY PATHWAYS FOR USE  
DURING THE DURATION OF THE  
COVID-19 PANDEMIC, AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES”

By Representative Cayetano (Maria Laarni)  
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 903, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CALLING FOR ENDING  
THE CURRENT ACADEMIC TERM  
AND FOR A UNIVERSAL PASS POLICY  
DUE TO COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH  
EMERGENCY”

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

House Resolution No. 904, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE  
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF  
LEGISLATION, THE HUMAN RIGHTS  
VIOLATIONS PERPETRATED DURING  
THE COMMUNITY QUARANTINE AND  
TO BRING THE PERPETRATORS TO  
JUSTICE”

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

House Resolution No. 905, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE NATIONAL  
ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT  
AUTHORITY, DEPARTMENT OF  
FINANCE, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET  
AND MANAGEMENT, DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
AND EMPLOYMENT, DEPARTMENT OF  
SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT,  
COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION,  
AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND  
SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, TO  
ESTABLISH AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS  
FOR SUBSIDY AND LOAN PROGRAMS  
FOR THE TEACHING AND NON-

TEACHING STAFF AND PERSONNEL OF PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, AND CONTRACTUAL AND JOB ORDER TEACHING AND NON-TEACHING STAFF AND PERSONNEL OF THE PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN TIMES OF STATE EMERGENCIES, CALAMITIES, AND OTHER SIMILAR CIRCUMSTANCES”

By Representative Gonzales (Aurelio)  
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Resolution No. 906, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, TO ENSURE THE CONTINUED SAFE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MANDATED NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM (NIP) FOR CHILDREN DESPITE THE CHALLENGES POSED BY THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, AND, TO SECURE AND ENSURE A STABLE SUPPLY OF AVAILABLE VACCINES THROUGH CONTINUED CONDUCT OF OPEN, FAIR, AND COMPETITIVE BIDDING, THEREBY PREVENTING OUTBREAKS OF VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASES DURING THE TIME OF THIS PANDEMIC ('OUTBREAK WITHIN AN OUTBREAK')”

By Representatives De Jesus, Dagooc, Guya and Ebcas  
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Resolution No. 907, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT, SEC. SILVESTRE H. BELLO III, TO IMMEDIATELY IMPLEMENT MEASURES TO ADDRESS THE NON-ACCOMMODATION OF ELIGIBLE BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS FOR THE COVID-19 ADJUSTMENT MEASURES PROGRAM (CAMP)”

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

House Resolution No. 908, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXTENDING HIGHEST RECOGNITION AND COMMENDATION TO SECOND LIEUTENANT GEMALYN DEOCARES SUGUI FOR EARNING THE HIGHEST HONOR AS CLASS VALEDICTORIAN OF CLASS 2020

'MASIDLAWIN' OF THE PHILIPPINE MILITARY ACADEMY”

By Representative Albano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

House Resolution No. 909, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE AGENCIES CONCERNED TO ENCOURAGE AND ENHANCE THE PARTICIPATION OF THE CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS (CSOs) IN THE AGRI-INDUSTRIALIZATION DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, IN LINE WITH THE 'BALIK PROBINSYA, BAGONG PAG-ASA' PROGRAM DURING THIS TIME OF PANDEMIC”

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

House Resolution No. 910, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE EFFECTIVITY OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11469 OR THE BAYANIHAN TO HEAL AS ONE ACT UNTIL SUCH TIME THAT A CURE OR A VACCINE FOR THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 19 (COVID-19) HAS BEEN DEVELOPED”

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

House Resolution No. 911, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE HOUSE COMMITTEE(S) TO IMMEDIATELY INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE SUDDEN INCREASE IN MERALCO ELECTRICITY RATES AND BILLS, WITH THE END IN VIEW THAT CORRECTIVE MEASURES BE IMPLEMENTED TO ENSURE THAT CONSUMERS ARE CHARGED BASED ON THEIR ACTUAL ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION”

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

House Resolution No. 912, entitled:

“RESOLUTION ON THE PROPOSED MANDATORY QUARANTINE OF SENIOR CITIZENS”

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

House Resolution No. 913, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING EXECUTIVE SECRETARY SALVADOR MEDIALDEA

AND THE COVID-19 INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES TO INCLUDE IN THE COVERAGE OF THE SECOND TRANCHE OF THE SOCIAL AMELIORATION PROGRAM (SAP) AREAS UNDER GENERAL COMMUNITY QUARANTINE (GCQ)”

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

House Resolution No. 914, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CONDEMNING IN THE STRONGEST TERMS THE ILLEGAL ARRESTS, DETENTION, AND OTHER VIOLATIONS OF RIGHTS UNDER THE 1987 CONSTITUTION AND LAWS AGAINST SEVERAL TEACHERS AMIDST THE COMMUNITY LOCKDOWNS DURING THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY DUE TO COVID-19 AND URGING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT AN IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE SAME”

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

House Resolution No. 915, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND OTHER RELEVANT AGENCIES TO COME UP WITH A NATIONAL POLICY GUIDELINES FOR PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS THAT WILL BALANCE THE INTEREST OF LEARNERS, SCHOOLS, TEACHERS AND PARENTS IN THE RETURN TO SCHOOL PROCESS IN THE INCOMING ACADEMIC YEAR”

By Representative Nograles (Juan)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 916, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION TO POSTPONE THE OPENING OF CLASSES UNTIL THERE IS AN ESTABLISHED FRAMEWORK AND CLEAR GUIDELINES FOR AN ALTERNATIVE LEARNING SYSTEM DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC”

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

House Resolution No. 917, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SUPPORT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE PRONOUNCEMENT OF PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE NOT TO OPEN SCHOOLS WITHOUT A VACCINE FOR CORONAVIRUS DISEASE-19 (COVID-19) TO PROTECT STUDENTS FROM POSSIBLE INFECTIONS”

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

## COMMUNICATION

Letter dated 18 May 2020 of Janice G. Ayson-Zales, Deputy Director, Office of the General Counsel and Legal Services, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), transmitting to the House of Representatives duly certified electronic copies of the following BSP issuances:

1. Circular No. 1083 dated 22 April 2020;
2. Circular No. 1084 dated 28 April 2020;
3. Circular No. 1085 dated 29 April 2020;
4. Circular Letter No. CL-2020-019 dated 14 April 2020;
5. Circular Letter No. CL-2020-020 dated 7 April 2020;
6. Circular Letter No. CL-2020-021 dated 7 April 2020;
7. Circular Letter No. CL-2020-022 dated 23 April 2020;
8. Circular Letter No. CL-2020-023 dated 27 April 2020;
9. Circular Letter No. CL-2020-024 dated 27 April 2020;
10. Circular Letter No. CL-2020-025 dated 27 April 2020;
11. Memorandum No. M-2020-017 dated 1 April 2020;
12. Memorandum No. M-2020-018 dated 6 April 2020;
13. Memorandum No. M-2020-019 dated 6 April 2020;
14. Memorandum No. M-2020-020 dated 7 April 2020;
15. Memorandum No. M-2020-021 dated 7 April 2020;
16. Memorandum No. M-2020-022 dated 8 April 2020;
17. Memorandum No. M-2020-023 dated 8 April 2020;
18. Memorandum No. M-2020-024 dated 8 April 2020;



19. Memorandum No. M-2020-025 dated 13 April 2020;
  20. Memorandum No. M-2020-026 dated 14 April 2020;
  21. Memorandum No. M-2020-027 dated 21 April 2020;
  22. Memorandum No. M-2020-028 dated 22 April 2020;
  23. Memorandum No. M-2020-029 dated 23 April 2020;
  24. Memorandum No. M-2020-030 dated 24 April 2020;
  25. Memorandum No. M-2020-031 dated 25 April 2020;
  26. Memorandum No. M-2020-032 dated 27 April 2020;
  27. Memorandum No. M-2020-033 dated 27 April 2020;
  28. Memorandum No. M-2020-034 dated 28 April 2020;
  29. Memorandum No. M-2020-035 dated 28 April 2020;
  30. Memorandum No. M-2020-036 dated 29 April 2020; and
  31. Memorandum No. M-2020-037 dated 30 April 2020.
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education (Committee Report No. 320), re H.B. No. 6842, entitled:

“AN ACT RENAMING THE SURIGAO DEL SUR STATE UNIVERSITY (SDSSU) IN THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR TO NORTH EASTERN MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY (NEMSU)”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 6500

Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark) and Pichay  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 321), re H.B. No. 6843, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTERS IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF CATAINGAN, CAWAYAN, PLACER AND

USON, LOCATED IN THE PROVINCE OF MASBATE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 4935

Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark), Yap (Eric) and Kho (Wilton)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 322), re H.B. No. 6844, entitled:

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

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 5050

Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark), Yap (Eric) and Olivarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 323), re H.B. No. 6845, entitled:

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

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 5291

Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark), Yap (Eric) and Tallado

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 324), re H.B. No. 6846, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA)

TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER  
IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LOON,  
PROVINCE OF BOHOL, TO BE KNOWN  
AS THE LOON TESDA TRAINING  
AND ASSESSMENT CENTER, AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of  
House Bill No. 4143

Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark), Yap (Eric)  
and Chatto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Health and the Committee  
on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 325),  
re H.B. No. 6849, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY  
OF THE BENGUET GENERAL HOSPITAL  
IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LA TRINIDAD,  
PROVINCE OF BENGUET FROM TWO  
HUNDRED (200) TO FOUR HUNDRED  
(400) BEDS, PLACING THE HOSPITAL  
UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISION AND  
CONTROL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS  
THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of  
House Bill No. 6171

Sponsors: Representatives Tan (Angelina) and Yap  
(Eric)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Health and the Committee  
on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 326),  
re H.B. No. 6850, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A GENERAL  
HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF  
ROSALES, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN  
TO BE KNOWN AS THE EASTERN  
PANGASINAN REGIONAL MEDICAL  
AND TRAUMA CENTER, AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of  
House Bill No. 6159

Sponsors: Representatives Tan (Angelina), Yap  
(Eric) and Estrella

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 313 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6816**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being  
no objection, the Body resumed the consideration on  
Second Reading of House Bill No. 6816 contained

in Committee Report No. 313 as reported out by the  
Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee.

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

“AN ACT ENSURING PHILIPPINE FINANCIAL  
INDUSTRY RESILIENCY AGAINST THE  
COVID-19 PANDEMIC.”

Representative Palma stated that the  
parliamentary status was that the Bill was in the  
period of sponsorship and debate.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative  
Palma, the Chair recognized Rep. Junie E. Cua,  
chairperson of the Committee on Banks and Financial  
Intermediaries, to sponsor the measure, and Rep.  
Ferdinand R. Gaite to interpellate thereon, via Zoom  
teleconference.

#### **INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE**

Representative Gaite asked on the similarity of  
House Bill No. 6816 or the Financial Institutions  
Strategic Transfer (FIST) Bill to the Special Purpose  
Vehicle Act (SPV) of 2002, and on the rationale for  
crafting the former.

Representative Cua explained that despite the  
SPV Act’s good concept, it had become ineffective  
to stem the rampant filing of cases and issuance  
of temporary restraining orders in the transfer of  
nonperforming assets, thus adversely affecting the  
liquidity of banks; and to address the intention  
of foreign investors to participate in transactions  
on the transfer of nonperforming assets given the  
constitutional limits on property ownership.

Representative Gaite then asked why the private  
sector, through the proposed Financial Institutions  
Strategic Transfer Corporation (FISTC), will manage  
the transferred assets rather than government which  
can be more lenient in the same. Citing the plight  
of micro, small, and medium enterprises during the  
pandemic, he asked how the Bill could protect and  
promote their interest and proposed the grant of  
moratorium on their loans, and assets which were  
nearing foreclosure.

Representative Cua said that the proposed  
Philippine Economic Stimulus Act or PESA could

better address his colleague's concern regarding MSMEs, as he clarified that the goal of the FIST Bill was to free bank capital in non-performing assets.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Rep. Teodorico T. Haresco Jr. in the Zoom videoconference for his manifestation.

### **MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE HARESCO**

Representative Haresco lauded the goal of the Bill in providing more liquidity to the economy. He however expressed concern about the injection of funds to the private sector under the premise of trust and efficiency as he pointed out that in the Cory Aquino Administration, he witnessed top corporations charging huge overhead costs for government projects.

He thus proposed that the Executive Department adopt financial and monetary oversight and special performance audit committees, similar to those in the United States, to monitor the use and flow of funds and address biases in the selection of business-borrowers and fraudulent activities.

### **REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE CUA**

While Representative Cua took note of the proposal of Representative Haresco, he said that this would be better included in the proposed PESA. He reiterated that the FIST Bill pertains to the transfer of private assets to a private special purpose vehicle.

### **TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE**

There being no other interpellations, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on House Bill No. 6816.

### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

At 3:51 p.m., the Chair suspended the session upon Representative Palma's motion.

### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

The session resumed at 3:52 p.m.

### **RECONSIDERATION OF TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE**

Upon resumption of session, Representative Palma withdrew his previous motion to terminate the period of sponsorship and debate on House Bill No. 6816. There being no objection, the motion was carried.

Thereafter, on Representative Palma's motion, the Chair recognized anew Representative Cua to sponsor the measure and Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate for his interpellation via Zoom teleconferencing.

### **INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE**

Representative Zarate first discussed with Representative Cua the difference between the instant Bill and the SPV Act of 2002. The latter explained that a new law was needed to address the rampant issuance of temporary restraining orders for cases of nonperforming assets as well as the intention of foreign investors to manage transferred assets.

Representative Zarate then asked about the wisdom of passing the measure instead of addressing the root cause of the financial crisis in general and of providing alternatives to micro, small, and medium enterprises or MSMEs adversely affected by the pandemic, in particular. He also cautioned that the Bill might give way to a crisis that occurred in the United States when commercial papers on the transfer of nonperforming assets were used to offer subprime loans in the housing industry.

Representative Cua opined that the economic stimulus package bill or PESA could better address his colleague's concerns and stressed that banks will close without their lifeblood which is liquidity. He also pointed out that the Bill provided for certain safety nets.

In closing, Representative Zarate pointed out that when pushing for bills during the pandemic, the House should have as its overriding consideration the protection and recovery of the people in general and the MSMEs in particular; and should disregard measures that would only complicate their condition.

Representative Cua clarified that the Bill's objective was to establish a mechanism to make the

financial sector liquid, healthy, and resilient so it could survive during the crisis; and that its framework had been proven effective in other economies.

**ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS  
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6816**

As manifested by Representative Cua and on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved to include Deputy Speakers Loren Legarda and Luis Raymund “LRay” F. Villafuerte Jr., and Rep. Raul V. Del Mar as additional coauthors of House Bill No. 6816.

**APPROVAL ON SECOND READING  
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6816**

Thereafter, on successive motions of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate, there being no further interpellations; terminated the period of amendments in the absence of committee and individual amendments; and approved the measure on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting.

**BUSINESS FOR THE DAY:  
COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 310  
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6768**

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 6768 contained in Committee Report No. 310 as submitted by the Committee on Banks and Financial Intermediaries.

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

“AN ACT AFFORDING MORE PROTECTION  
TO CONSUMERS OF FINANCIAL  
PRODUCTS AND SERVICES.”

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.

The Chair then recognized Representative Cua, chairperson of the sponsoring Committee, to sponsor the measure.

**SPONSORSHIP REMARKS  
OF REPRESENTATIVE CUA**

Upon request of Representative Cua, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved to consider the Explanatory Note of the Bill as the sponsorship remarks on the measure.

**TERMINATION OF PERIOD  
OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE**

There being no 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.

**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

The Chair suspended the session at 4:29 p.m., upon Representative Palma’s motion.

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 4:30 p.m., the session was resumed.

**APPROVAL ON SECOND READING  
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6768**

On successive motions of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of amendments in the absence of committee and individual amendments; and approved House Bill No. 6768 on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting.

**RECONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL  
ON SECOND READING  
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6816**

Representative Palma informed the Body that House Bill No. 6816 had been approved earlier but a Member recently signified his intent to interpellate the Sponsor thereon. On his successive motions, there being no objection, the Body thus reconsidered the approval on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6816 as well as the termination of its period of amendments and period of sponsorship and debate.

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized anew Representative Cua to



sponsor the measure and Rep. Edcel C. Lagman to interpellate him via Zoom videoconferencing.

### **INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE LAGMAN**

Representative Lagman initially thanked the acting Majority Leader for accommodating his request to reopen the period of sponsorship and debate as well as to reconsider the approval of House Bill No. 6816 on Second Reading and clarified that he had manifested his desire to interpellate thereon prior to the termination of the period of sponsorship and debate.

Representatives Lagman and Cua then delved into the issue of behest loans with worthless collaterals. Representative Lagman asked if standards for disqualifying foreclosed collaterals from being considered as nonperforming assets, are provided for in the Bill; and opined that such provision should be laid out in the Bill. Representative Cua said that he will consider his colleague's clarificatory amendment.

Thereupon, the two Members analyzed the Bill's provision allowing foreign investors to participate in the transfer of nonperforming assets given the constitutional limits on land ownership to Filipino citizens only; and the liabilities of a borrower once nonperforming assets are transferred to another management company.

When Representative Cua read into the records the second paragraph of Section 4 of the Bill which provides for a specific time within which foreign investors should dispose of land that is transferred to them, Representative Lagman remarked that his copy of the measure was a different one. He asked for an updated copy thereof to prepare a perfecting amendment, subject to style, that will disqualify foreclosed properties from being considered as nonperforming assets if they were products of collusion or behest loans.

Representative Cua assured his colleague that the Committee will consider his proposal as a committee amendment.

### **TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE**

There being no other Member who wished to interpellate the Sponsor, on motion of Representative

Palma, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of sponsorship and debate.

### **SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6816**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6816.

### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

On further motion of Representative Palma, the Chair declared a recess at 4:57 p.m.

### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

The session resumed at 5:02 p.m.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 309 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6756**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6756 contained in Committee Report No. 309 as reported out by the Committees on Higher and Technical Education, and Appropriations.

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

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP AND RETURN SERVICE PROGRAM FOR DESERVING STUDENTS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.”

Representative Palma stated that the parliamentary status was that the Bill was in the period of sponsorship and on his motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Angelina “Helen” D.L. Tan, MD for her sponsorship speech.

### **SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE TAN (A.)**

Representative Tan expressed the need to fast-track the approval of the Bill especially in the time of the COVID-19 pandemic. She cited statistics

on shortages among medical doctors, problems on compensation, and the high cost of medical studies. She stressed the need to address them through medical scholarship and a return of service program for deserving students.

Thereafter, she described some of the salient features of the scholarship program such as financial and educational resource support mechanisms; higher post-graduate internship in state universities and colleges or private institutions; student integration into the public health service system with appropriate rank and salary; and a return of service program.

On behalf of medical professionals, Representative Tan appealed to the Chamber to enact the proposed Medical Scholarship and Return Service Program Act.

#### **SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6756**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6756.

#### **APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILLS UNDER THE BUSINESS FOR THE DAY**

On successive motions of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading the following House Bills calendared under the Business for the Day contained in various committee reports as reported out by the committees indicated hereunder; dispensed with the reading of the texts of the measures without prejudice to their insertion into the records of the House, as copies thereof had been previously distributed to the Members; adopted the Explanatory Notes of the Bills as the sponsorship remarks on the measures; terminated the period of sponsorship and debate in the absence of interpellations; terminated the period of amendments in the absence of committee and individual amendments; and approved the measures on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting:

1. House Bill No. 6803 contained in Committee Report No. 311 as submitted by the Committee on Health, mandating the provision of comprehensive renal replacement therapy to patients with end stage renal disease in national, regional,

and provincial government hospitals, and increasing for the purpose the PhilHealth package rate for members; and

2. House Bill No. 6599 contained in Committee Report No. 300 as submitted by the Committee on People's Participation, establishing a framework for citizens participation in legislative policymaking through the use of information and communications technology platforms.

#### **BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 281 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6555**

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 6555 contained in Committee Report No. 281 as reported out by the Committee on People's Participation.

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

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING VOLUNTEERISM AS A STRATEGY FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND DECLARING DECEMBER AS NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 12 AND 13 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9418, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'VOLUNTEER ACT OF 2007'. ”

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.

Upon Representative Palma's motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Florida “Rida” P. Robes, chairperson of the sponsoring Committee, to sponsor the measure.

#### **SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE ROBES**

Upon request of Representative Robes, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved to consider the Explanatory Note of the Bill as the sponsorship remarks on the measure.

## **INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO**

On motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago who discussed with Representative Robes the Bill's rationale, difference from existing volunteer programs in terms of mobilization of volunteers, and provisions on the fund source, lead agency, and activities regarding the celebration of National Volunteer Month every December of the year.

Subsequently, Representative Elago underscored the need for recognizing the efforts of volunteers and strongly protecting their interests, especially the youth, and asked to be allowed to introduce a provision thereon. Representative Robes gave her assurance of support for volunteerism.

## **TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE**

There being no other Member who wished to interpellate, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate.

## **SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6555**

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6555.

## **BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 280 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6554**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 6554 contained in Committee Report No. 280 as reported out by the Committee on Revision of Laws.

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

“AN ACT DECLARING JANUARY 22 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY TO BE KNOWN AS 'NATIONAL FARMERS' DAY'. ”

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.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Rep. Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla, chairperson of the sponsoring Committee, for her sponsorship speech via Zoom videoconferencing.

## **SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE DELOSO-MONTALLA**

Representative Deloso-Montalla sought her colleagues' support for House Bill No. 6554, a measure filed as early as the 14th Congress. She said that it will give recognition to the farmers of the country, stressing that they have been providing for the nation's nutrition and sustenance especially during the pandemic and have been struggling for social justice for a long time. She explained that the killing of peasants during a rally in Mendiola, Manila on January 22, 1987, was a contributory factor to the passage of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law.

She then asked for the immediate passage of the Bill.

On motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Representative Elago for a manifestation.

## **MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO**

As one of the coauthors of the measure, Representative Elago agreed that it is high time to devote a day for the recognition of farmers and to advocate for their protection and empowerment, as they are the ones who significantly contribute to the country's development. She said that many farmers still do not fully profit or benefit from their labors and some even fall victims whenever they speak up for their rights. She then expressed hope that more measures will be crafted for reforms on justice, livelihood, land, and peasant rights.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Representative Zarate for a manifestation via Zoom videoconferencing.

## **MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE**

Representative Zarate stated that while he lauded the measure that would recognize the role of farmers, more legislation must be pushed for genuine agrarian

reform and free land distribution. He reminded the Body, as it deliberated on economic and other bills to address the effects of the pandemic, that the Philippines was an agricultural country whose foundation was the farming sector.

As he recalled the so-called Mendiola Massacre of January 22, 1987, he rued the fact that most farmers still do not own the land that they till although billions of money have been poured in agrarian reform.

Representative Zarate then thanked Representative Deloso-Montalla for sponsoring the Bill.

On motion of Representative Palma, the Chair next recognized Rep. France L. Castro for her manifestation via Zoom videoconferencing.

#### **MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)**

As she expressed her appreciation for the measure, Representative Castro recalled witnessing the Mendiola Massacre on January 22, 1987. She said that it hurts to think that farmers would end up dying for trying to fight for their right to land and improve their livelihood. She stressed that the farmers are the ones who feed the nation.

Speaking on behalf of the ACT Teachers Party-List, she expressed appreciation for the effort to give value to the farming sector by declaring January 22 as National Farmers Day.

#### **TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE**

There being no other Member who wished to make a manifestation or interpellate the Sponsor, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on House Bill No. 6554.

#### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

On motion of Representative Palma, the Chair suspended the session at 5:36 p.m.

#### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

The session resumed at 5:37 p.m.

#### **APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6554**

Thereupon, on successive motions of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of amendments in the absence of committee and individual amendments; and approved on Second Reading House Bill No. 6554 through *viva voce* voting.

#### **BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 289 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6570**

On further motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 6570 contained in Committee Report No. 289 as reported out by the Committee on Revision of Laws.

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

“AN ACT DECLARING THE CHINESE NEW YEAR'S DAY A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PHILIPPINES.”

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.

Upon Representative Palma's motion, the Chair recognized Representative Deloso-Montalla, chairperson of the sponsoring Committee, to sponsor the measure.

#### **SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE DELOSO-MONTALLA**

Representative Deloso-Montalla stated that the celebration of the Chinese New Year or the Lunar New Year is considered as the most important and elaborately celebrated holiday for the Filipino-Chinese community in the country. To materialize various attempts in the previous Congresses and with the unanimous support of different agencies and stakeholders as well as the present administration, she said it is time to pass a law that would permanently declare the celebration of Chinese New Year in the country as a special nonworking holiday. This, she explained, is in solidarity with the Filipino-



Chinese brethren in the country and in recognition of the enormous possibilities that it may bring to the business and tourism sectors.

Representative Deloso-Montalla then appealed to her colleagues to immediately pass, without amendments, House Bill No. 6570.

#### **APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6570**

Thereafter, on successive motions of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate in the absence of interpellations; terminated the period of amendments in the absence of committee and individual amendments; and approved the measure on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting.

#### **BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 266 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6470**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 6470 contained in Committee Report No. 266 as reported out by the Committee on Suffrage and Electoral Reforms.

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

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10366, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS TO ESTABLISH PRECINCTS ASSIGNED TO ACCESSIBLE POLLING PLACES EXCLUSIVELY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND SENIOR CITIZENS'.”

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 Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Rep. Juliet Marie de Leon Ferrer, chairperson of the Committee on Suffrage and Electoral Reforms, for her sponsorship of the measure.

#### **SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE FERRER (J.M.)**

Upon request of Representative Ferrer, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved to consider the Explanatory Note of the Bill as the sponsorship remarks on the measure.

#### **TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE**

There being no Member who wished to interpellate the sponsor, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate.

#### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

The Chair suspended the session at 5:44 p.m., upon motion of Representative Palma.

#### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 5:54 p.m., the session resumed.

#### **SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6470**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6470.

#### **OMNIBUS APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILLS UNDER THE BUSINESS FOR THURSDAY AND FRIDAY**

On an omnibus motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading the following House Bills calendared under the Business for Thursday and Friday contained in various committee reports as submitted by the committees indicated hereunder; dispensed with the reading of the texts of the measures without prejudice to their insertion into the records of the House, as copies thereof had been previously distributed to the Members; adopted the Explanatory Notes of the Bills as the sponsorship remarks on the measures; terminated the period of sponsorship and debate in the absence of interpellations; terminated the period of amendments in the absence of committee and

individual amendments; and approved the measures on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting:

1. House Bill No. 4786 contained in Committee Report No. 286 as submitted by the Committees on Transportation, and Appropriations, establishing a district branch of the Land Transportation Office (LTO) in Liloan, Cebu;
2. House Bill No. 6569 contained in Committee Report No. 288 as submitted by the Committees on Transportation, and Appropriations, establishing a regular LTO district office in Bantay, Ilocos Sur;
3. House Bill No. 6585 contained in Committee Report No. 290 as submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, classifying the San Fernando Bypass Road and San Fernando Bypass Extension Road in La Union, into national roads;
4. House Bill No. 6597 contained in Committee Report No. 297 as submitted by the Committees on Higher and Technical Education, and Appropriations, establishing the Siargao, Surigao del Norte Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Training and Assessment Center in Dapa, Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte;
5. House Bill No. 6598 contained in Committee Report No. 299 as submitted by the Committee on Local Government, converting the Municipality of Calaca in the Province of Batangas into a component city to be known as the City of Calaca;
6. House Bill No. 6727 contained in Committee Report No. 303 as submitted by the Committees on Health, and Appropriations, increasing the bed capacity of the Sinait District Hospital in Sinait, Ilocos Sur from twenty-five (25) beds to one hundred (100) beds;
7. House Bill No. 6728 contained in Committee Report No. 304 as submitted by the Committees on Health, and Appropriations, increasing the bed capacity of East Avenue Medical Center in Diliman, Quezon City from six hundred (600) to one thousand (1,000) beds;
8. House Bill No. 6729 contained in Committee Report No. 305 as submitted by the Committees on Health, and Appropriations, increasing the bed capacity of Rosario District Hospital in Rosario, La Union from twenty-five (25) to fifty (50) beds;
9. House Bill No. 6730 contained in Committee Report No. 306 as submitted by the Committees on Health, and Appropriations, increasing the bed capacity of the Mayor Hilarion A. Ramiro Sr. Medical Center in Misamis Occidental from five hundred (500) to one thousand (1,000) beds, upgrading its professional health care services and facilities, and authorizing the increase of its medical personnel;
10. House Bill No. 6731 contained in Committee Report No. 307 as submitted by the Committees on Health, and Appropriations, establishing the Bacolod City General Hospital in Bacolod, Negros Occidental;
11. House Bill No. 6753 contained in Committee Report No. 308 as submitted by the Committees on Health, and Appropriations, converting the Medina Extension Hospital in Medina, Misamis Oriental into the First Misamis Oriental General Hospital;
12. House Bill No. 6824 contained in Committee Report No. 315 as submitted by the Committees on Higher and Technical Education, and Appropriations, establishing a TESDA-administered Polytechnic Institute in Rosales, Pangasinan, to be known as the Eastern Pangasinan Polytechnic Institute;
13. House Bill No. 6827 contained in Committee Report No. 316 as submitted by the Committees on Higher and Technical Education, and Appropriations, establishing the Tanauan City TESDA Training and Assessment Center in Tanauan City, Batangas;
14. House Bill No. 6835 contained in Committee Report No. 318 as submitted by the Committee on Legislative Franchises,

renewing for another twenty-five (25) years the franchise granted to Metro Manila Turf Club, Inc. under Republic Act No. 7978; and

15. House Bill No. 6836 contained in Committee Report No. 319 as submitted by the Committee on Legislative Franchises, extending for another twenty-five (25) years the franchise granted to the Davao Light and Power Company, Inc. under R.A. No. 8960.

## **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

On motion of Representative Palma, the session was suspended at 5:58 p.m.

## **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

The session resumed at 6:07 p.m.

## **RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6816**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6816 contained in Committee Report No. 313 as reported out by the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee, entitled:

“AN ACT ENSURING PHILIPPINE FINANCIAL INDUSTRY RESILIENCY AGAINST THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.”

## **PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS**

On Representative Palma's successive motions, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the period of amendments, and the Chair recognized Representative Cua, chairperson of the Committee on Banks and Financial Intermediaries, to sponsor the measure.

There being no committee amendments, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to consider individual amendments, and the Chair recognized Representative Lagman for his individual amendment.

## **PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE LAGMAN**

Subject to its proper location in the measure, Representative Lagman proposed to insert the following provision:

ANY COLLATERAL TO SECURE A BANK LOAN WHICH IS ACCEPTED BY THE CREDITOR BANK UPON COLLUSION WITH THE BORROWER DESPITE ITS LACK OF ADEQUATE VALUE, AS WELL AS BEHEST LOANS, SHALL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO BE CONSIDERED AS NONPERFORMING ASSETS AND/OR NONPERFORMING LOANS.

## **APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE LAGMAN, AS AMENDED**

Representative Cua proposed to amend Representative Lagman's proposed amendment, which the latter accepted. Whereupon, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved Representative Lagman's proposed amendment, as amended by the Sponsor, on page 8, Section 13, line 7, to insert a new paragraph to read as follows:

IN THE TRANSFER OF NPAs, THE PARTIES SHALL EXERCISE THE REQUISITE DUE DILIGENCE AND ANY FRAUD, COLLUSION OR IRREGULARITY SHALL BE SUBJECT TO SECTION 24 OF THIS ACT, AS WELL AS OTHER PERTINENT LAWS, RULES, AND REGULATIONS(.)

## **REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE CUA**

Representative Cua clarified that a behest loan is part of a fraud as well as collusion and stated that he wanted to include said language in order to widen its application.

## **REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE LAGMAN**

Representative Lagman accepted the modification of Representative Cua subject to the fact that collusion and behest loans would be part of the broader terminology.

## **TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS**

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

## **APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6816, AS AMENDED**

On subsequent motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved on Second Reading House Bill No. 6816, as amended, through *viva voce* voting.

## **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

The session was suspended at 6:15 p.m. upon motion of Representative Palma.

## **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 6:32 p.m., the session was resumed.

## **RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6470**

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6470 contained in Committee Report No. 266 as submitted by the Committee on Suffrage and Electoral Reforms, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10366, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS TO ESTABLISH PRECINCTS ASSIGNED TO ACCESSIBLE POLLING PLACES EXCLUSIVELY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND SENIOR CITIZENS'.”

The Chair then recognized Representative Ferrer (J.M.), chairperson of the sponsoring Committee, to continue with her sponsorship of the measure, on motion of Representative Palma.

## **PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS**

Subsequently, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the period of amendments.

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

## **INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENT**

Thereupon, Representative Palma manifested on the floor an amendment by the author of House Bill No. 6470, and as accepted by the sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved to amend the title of the Bill by replacing the word “ESTABLISH” with the word DESIGNATE.

## **TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS**

There being no other 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. 6470, AS AMENDED**

On motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved on Second Reading House Bill No. 6470, as amended, through *viva voce* voting.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 312 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6815**

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6815 contained in Committee Report No. 312 as submitted by the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee.

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

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ECONOMIC STIMULUS STRATEGY FOR THE COUNTRY'S GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE AFTERMATH OF COVID-19, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR.”

Representative Palma stated that the parliamentary status was that the Bill was in the period of amendments. He then moved for the recognition of Reps. Stella Luz A. Quimbo, Sharon S. Garin, and Joey Sarte Salceda for sponsorship of the measure.



**PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS**

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the period of amendments.

There being no committee amendments, on successive motions of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of committee amendments and proceeded to the period of individual amendments.

**AMENDMENT BY SUBSTITUTION**

Pursuant to Section 104 of the Provisional Rules of the House, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body approved to amend by substitution the entire Bill as contained in Committee Report No. 312 with the contents of the substitute Bill, copies of which had been distributed earlier to all Members electronically, as well as physically to those present in the Session Hall.

Thereafter, the Body proceeded to consider individual amendments; and the Chair recognized Representative Garin (S.) to sponsor House Bill No. 6815.

**AMENDMENT OF  
REPRESENTATIVE GATCHALIAN**

As proposed by Rep. Wes Gatchalian and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved the amendment in Section 14 under "General Requirements and Provisions."

**REMARKS OF  
REPRESENTATIVE LAGMAN**

Recognized by the Chair upon Representative Palma's motion, Representative Lagman requested, through Zoom teleconferencing, that the Sponsor consider individual amendments on House Bill No. 6815 page by page.

**AMENDMENTS OF  
REPRESENTATIVE LAGMAN**

As proposed by Representative Lagman and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved the amendments in Section 3, page 4 on the definition of "mass testing" and in Section 7, page 11 regarding livelihood support for repatriated and displaced overseas Filipino workers.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS  
OF REPRESENTATIVE LAGMAN**

Representative Lagman then proposed amendments in Sections 9, and 24; as well as additional provisions on the continuing implementation of the DSWD's Sustainable Livelihood Program-Livelihood Assistance Grants, subsidies to local government units, and contingent fund.

Representative Garin (S.) stated that the Committee could not accept said proposed amendments, many of which were due to budget constraints. However, she said that the Committee will be amenable should it find enough justifications during the bicameral conference.

**AMENDMENT OF  
REPRESENTATIVE LAGMAN**

As further proposed by Representative Lagman and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved the amendment in Section 37 regarding "Penalty for Corrupt Practices."

**AMENDMENTS OF  
REPRESENTATIVE RODRIGUEZ**

As proposed by Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez, through Zoom teleconferencing, and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved the amendments in Section 3 on the definition of business entity and MSMEs, and in Section 11 on the "Extension of Principal Loan Payments."

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Rep. Jose Enrique "Joet" S. Garcia III for his individual amendments.

**AMENDMENTS OF  
REPRESENTATIVE GARCIA (J.E.)**

As proposed by Representative Garcia and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved the amendments in Section 28 (f) under "Socio-economic Policy Measures."

**AMENDMENT OF  
REPRESENTATIVE GAITE**

As proposed by Representative Gaité and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection

the Body approved the amendment in Section 7 on “Wage Subsidies.”

#### **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS OF REPRESENTATIVE GAITE**

Representative Gaite then proposed further amendments in Sections 7 and 10.

As Representative Garin (S.) said that the Committee could not accept the aforementioned proposed amendments, Representative Gaite hoped the OFWs would be given relief, and that his proposed amendments could be considered during the bicameral conference.

On motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Representative Elago for her individual amendment.

#### **AMENDMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO**

As proposed by Representative Elago and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved the amendment in Section 26, page 34 regarding the construction and improvement of public school clinics and all other facilities.

#### **PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO**

Representative Elago next proposed amendments in Section 3, page 4 regarding free and accessible testing and in Section 9, page 12 on extending emergency subsidy to tertiary students. She likewise proposed to insert additional provisions on the refund of unused fees for on-campus utilities and services, and moratorium on increases in tuition and other school fees.

Representative Garin (S.) stated that the committee could not accept the proposed amendments.

Thereafter, upon Representative Palma’s motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Mark O. Go.

#### **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS OF REPRESENTATIVE GO (M.)**

Representative Go, through zoom teleconferencing, proposed to amend Section 9 by

increasing the amount of subsidies for tertiary and senior high school students.

Representative Garin (S.) stated that the Committee could not accept the proposed amendments but said this would be considered during the bicameral conference once they recalculate the budgetary requirements of PESA.

Subsequently, on motion of Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Rep. Sol Aragonés.

#### **AMENDMENTS OF REPRESENTATIVE ARAGONES**

As proposed by Representative Aragonés in the Zoom videoconference, and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved the amendments in Section 3 on the definition of convention organizers and in Section 20 under “Assistance to the Tourism Industry.”

Upon Representative Palma’s motion, the Chair next recognized Representative Zarate.

#### **AMENDMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE**

As proposed by Representative Zarate through Zoom teleconferencing, and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved the amendment on Section 24, page 32 regarding the loan condonation for agrarian reform beneficiaries.

#### **SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6815**

Whereupon, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6815.

#### **ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

Subsequently, 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 Reports and

Bill on First Reading, which the Chair referred to the appropriate committees indicated hereunder:

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 327), re H.B. No. 6852, entitled:

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

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 1231

Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark), Yap (Eric) and Espina

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 328), re H.B. No. 6853, entitled:

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

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 3509

Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark), Yap (Eric) and Calderon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 329), re H.B. No. 6854, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE BALICUATRO COLLEGE OF ARTS AND TRADES IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ALLEN, PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR, INTO THE NORTHERN SAMAR

POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 2542

Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark), Yap (Eric) and Daza

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 330), re H.B. No. 6855, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN BARANGAY SANTA CRUZ, MAKATI CITY, TO BE KNOWN AS THE BARANGAY SANTACRUZ, MAKATI CITY TESDA TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 4617

Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark), Yap (Eric) and Peña

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education, the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Ways and Means (Committee Report No. 331), re H.B. No. 6858, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE BICOL STATE COLLEGE OF APPLIED SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY (BISCAT), IN THE CITY OF NAGA, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR, INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY, TO BE KNOWN AS THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 6414

Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark), Yap (Eric), Salceda and Villafuerte

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee (Committee Report No. 332), re H.B. No. 6864, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING POLICIES, REGULATIONS, AND PUBLIC HEALTH SAFEGUARDS FOR THE BETTER NORMAL IN THE WORKPLACE, PUBLIC PLACES AND COMMUNITIES

**TOWARD A SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY  
FROM COVID-19 PANDEMIC”**

recommending its approval in substitution of  
House Bill No. 6623

Sponsors: Representatives Cayetano (Alan Peter),  
Romualdez (Ferdinand), Villafuerte and  
Duterte

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee  
(Committee Report No. 333), re H.B. No. 6865,  
entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE CONDUCT  
OF BASELINE POLYMERASE CHAIN  
REACTION COVID-19 TESTING FOR  
THE VULNERABLE MEMBERS OF  
SOCIETY TO STOP THE TRANSMISSION  
OF THE DISEASE”

recommending its approval in substitution of  
House Bill No. 6707

Sponsors: Representatives Cayetano (Alan Peter),  
Romualdez (Ferdinand), Tan (Angelina) and  
Garin (Juliet)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee  
(Committee Report No. 334), re H.R. No. 925,  
entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE  
COMMITMENT OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES TO ENACT  
THE PROPOSED PHP 66-BILLION  
SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
TO SUPPORT ITS PROGRAMS IN  
ADDRESSING THE IMPACT OF THE  
COVID-19 PANDEMIC, PARTICULARLY  
IN THE AREAS OF FOOD & NUTRITION,  
SECURITY AND PRICE STABILITY”

recommending its adoption in substitution of  
House Resolution No. 821

Sponsors: Representatives Cayetano (Alan Peter),  
Romualdez (Ferdinand), Villafuerte, Torres-  
Gomez and Robes

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee  
(Committee Report No. 335), re H.R. No. 926,  
entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE NATIONAL  
GOVERNMENT TO FAST TRACK  
THE DISBURSEMENT OF THE  
SECOND TRANCHE OF THE SOCIAL  
AMELIORATION PROGRAM

EMERGENCY CASH SUBSIDY BY  
AUTHORIZING THE BARANGAY TO  
IDENTIFY THE BENEFICIARIES AND  
DISBURSE THE ALLOCATION FAIRLY,  
EFFICIENTLY AND RESPONSIBLY”

recommending its adoption in substitution of  
House Resolution No. 807

Sponsors: Representatives Cayetano (Alan Peter),  
Romualdez (Ferdinand), Villafuerte, Torres-  
Gomez and Fernando

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

**ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

House Bill No. 6868, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE EXISTENCE OF A  
CONTINUING NATIONAL EMERGENCY  
ARISING FROM THE CORONAVIRUS  
DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) SITUATION,  
AMENDING SECTION 9 OF REPUBLIC  
ACT NO. 11469, OTHERWISE KNOWN  
AS THE 'BAYANIHAN TO HEAL AS ONE  
ACT', AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Villafuerte and Romualdez  
(Ferdinand)

TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

The Chair suspended the session at 7:40 p.m., on  
motion of Representative Palma.

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 7:40 p.m., the session resumed.

**BUSINESS FOR THE DAY:  
COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 332  
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6864**

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Palma,  
there being no objection, the Body considered on  
Second Reading House Bill No. 6864 contained in  
Committee Report No. 332 as reported out by the  
Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee.

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

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING POLICIES,  
REGULATIONS, AND PUBLIC HEALTH  
SAFEGUARDS FOR THE BETTER  
NORMAL IN THE WORKPLACE, PUBLIC  
PLACES AND COMMUNITIES TOWARD



**A SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY FROM COVID-19 PANDEMIC.”**

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 Representative Palma, the Chair recognized Deputy Speaker Loren Legarda, chairperson of the New Normal DCC Subcommittee, to sponsor the same.

**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

At 7:41 p.m., the session was suspended upon Representative Palma’s motion.

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

The session resumed at 7:42 p.m.

**SPONSORSHIP SPEECH  
OF DEPUTY SPEAKER LEGARDA**

Upon recognition by the Chair in the Zoom videoconference, Deputy Speaker Legarda underscored the realizations and the impacts brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic in terms of vulnerability of the society and the economy; and pointed out how they can be countered by making decisive actions towards recovery and a better normal for the Filipino people. She emphasized that the next recovery measures of the government also support the country’s transition to a sustainable and climate-friendly future.

Citing the salient features of House Bill No. 6864, the Deputy Speaker stated that the measure (1) defines the “better normal” in the context of pandemic recovery; (2) specifies universal mandatory health and safety measures and protocols; (3) details policies on the management of spaces and public transport; (4) strengthens the synergy between and among national government agencies, local government units, and the private sector; and (5) seeks to develop digital infrastructure through the National Broadband Plan.

She added that the Bill would also address issues on water supply, sanitation, and waste management; provide protection of the vulnerable sectors of

society by helping them cope with the effects of the pandemic; and encourage adaptation behaviors to protect surroundings and nature.

Furthermore, Deputy Speaker Legarda pointed out that the Bill has a sunset clause making it effective for only three years after its enactment, or sooner upon official declaration that the pandemic has already been eradicated. She added that it also has a proviso indicating that the standards and protocols which have not been rendered useless and impractical by the eradication of the COVID-19 shall continue to be implemented.

As she expressed hope for the Bill’s immediate passage, she pointed out that the current crisis should be used as an opportunity to rise and do better, and for everyone to act with discipline, compassion, and consideration.

**SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION  
ON SECOND READING  
OF HOUSE BILL 6864**

At this point, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6864.

**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

On motion of Representative Palma, the Chair declared a recess at 7:53 p.m.

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 8:38 p.m., the session resumed.

**RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION  
ON SECOND READING  
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6864**

On motion of Representative Nieto, there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6864 contained in Committee Report No. 332 as submitted by the Defeat COVID-19 Ad Hoc Committee, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING POLICIES, REGULATIONS, AND PUBLIC HEALTH SAFEGUARDS FOR THE BETTER NORMAL IN THE WORKPLACE, PUBLIC

PLACES AND COMMUNITIES TOWARD  
A SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY FROM THE  
COVID-19 PANDEMIC.”

On motion of Representative Nieto, the Chair recognized Deputy Speaker Legarda to sponsor the measure and Representative Zarate to interpellate thereon.

**INTERPELLATION OF  
REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE**

Representative Zarate and Deputy Speaker Legarda agreed that the terms “new normal”, “better norm”, or “better normal” go beyond wearing face masks and practicing social distancing and pertain to a societal change in thinking, acting, and living.

Deputy Speaker Legarda stressed that such change is based on science and on the vulnerabilities, hazards, and risks that led to the pandemic. She pointed out that House Bill No. 6864 promotes not only the protection and conservation of natural resources but also includes a broader range of advocacies including social equity, cultural values, and good government. She added that it does not really require additional appropriations as long as government agencies perform their tasks effectively.

Representative Zarate emphasized that the change means a new framework that does away with a poverty-causing system and addresses environmental protection, food sufficiency, and national survival. Subsequently, he asked the Sponsor how the other economic measures that were filed to address problems brought about by the pandemic would jibe with House Bill No. 6864 if such proposals intend to go back to old policies such as neo-liberalism. He also inquired into the support funds for the implementation of the Bill, to which the Sponsor said that the implementation of the provisions of the measure will be charged against the current appropriations of the implementing agencies.

Representative Zarate noted the penal clause in the Bill and asked whether it includes a provision protecting human rights especially of the marginalized groups who would have difficulty in following protocols on social distancing or wearing of masks. Deputy Speaker Legarda affirmed such difficulty and challenge and suggested innovative and inexpensive ways to implement the same.

Representative Zarate pointed out that they must learn from the lessons brought forth by the pandemic and that the laws they needed to craft should address the system that gave birth to poverty, abuse of the natural resources, and human rights violations.

**INTERPELLATION OF  
REPRESENTATIVE GAITE**

Recognized by the Chair upon Representative Nieto’s motion, Representative Gaité asked for clarification about the work arrangements and health protection of returning workers once the enhanced community quarantine is modified.

Deputy Speaker Legarda cited the task of local government executives in building containment or isolation zones and testing centers; procuring COVID-19 testing kits, personal protective equipment, and other supplies; and establishing drive-thru testing centers and other contactless modes of virus detection. However, after Representative Gaité pointed out that LGUs and small businesses might not be able to afford mandated protocols, she said that they have the leeway to implement innovative systems.

As regards transportation services for returning workers, Deputy Speaker Legarda agreed with Representative Gaité that shuttle vehicles should be provided as well as cited a provision in the Bill for land use planning and zoning to enable people to be closer to their place of work.

In ending his interpellation, Representative Gaité stressed that the difficulties suffered during the pandemic were due to environmental abuse and government neglect of basic social services. Deputy Speaker Legarda said the Bill was not just a health but an environment and ecological measure

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

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

Initially, Representative Castro asked how the proposed measure envisions the “better normal” to be implemented especially in public schools. In reply, the Sponsor stated that it provides schools with the leeway to amend the opening of classes and

the Department of Education to adopt alternative and “hybrid” modes of learning such as online and digital platforms; and to implement flexible learning programs, taking into consideration the capabilities of the school, teachers, and students.

Thereupon, Representative Castro asked about the following: smaller class sizes to ensure quality learning; retention of the items of teachers even if they are transferred to other areas of work; loss of income among private school teachers; some leeway in the wearing of masks; and lack of water and toilet facilities. Deputy Speaker Legarda cited some provisions in the Bill that would address these issues and added that they could also be covered in the Bill’s implementing rules and regulations; and agreed that while the law should be reasonable and strict, it should also be compassionate.

Subsequently, both Members discussed the implementation by LGU of “new normal” permits in order to monitor and regulate mass gatherings even as Deputy Speaker Legarda gave the assurance that human rights will not be violated in the implementation of the measure.

#### **SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6864**

Due to the lateness of the hour and with the indulgence of the Sponsor and the Members, on motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6864.

#### **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 Reports which were referred to the appropriate committees indicated hereunder:

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Report of the Committee on Local Government (Committee Report No. 336), re H.B. No. 6866, entitled:  
“AN ACT DIVIDING BARANGAY MUZON IN THE CITY OF SAN JOSE DEL MONTE,

PROVINCE OF BULACAN INTO FOUR (4) SEPARATE AND INDEPENDENT BARANGAYS TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY MUZON PROPER, BARANGAY MUZON EAST, BARANGAY MUZON WEST AND BARANGAY MUZON SOUTH”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 2379 and 3546  
Sponsors: Representatives Villanueva and Robes  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Local Government (Committee Report No. 337), re H.B. No. 6867, entitled:

“AN ACT REAPPORTIONING THE PROVINCE OF BULACAN INTO SIX (6) LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS”  
recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 5866  
Sponsors: Representatives Villanueva, Silverio and Sy-Alvarado  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Local Government (Committee Report No. 338), re H.B. No. 3881, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING JUNE 18 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF STA. MARIA, PROVINCE OF DAVAO OCCIDENTAL, IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY”  
recommending its approval without amendment  
Sponsors: Representatives Villanueva and Bautista-Bandigan  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Government Enterprises and Privatization (Committee Report No. 339), re H.B. No. 6869, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE EASTERN VISAYAS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (EVDA), DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”  
recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 1155  
Sponsors: Representatives Romualdez (Yedda) and Romualdez (Ferdinand)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

**OMNIBUS APPROVAL  
OF HOUSE BILLS UNDER THE  
BUSINESS FOR THURSDAY AND FRIDAY**

On an omnibus motion of Representative Palma, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading the following House Bills calendared under the Business for Thursday and Friday contained in various committee reports as submitted by the committees indicated hereunder; dispensed with the reading of the texts of the measures without prejudice to their insertion into the records of the House, as copies thereof had been previously distributed to the Members; adopted the Explanatory Notes of the Bills as the sponsorship remarks on the measures; terminated the period of sponsorship and debate in the absence of interpellations; approved the amendments as contained in the Committee Reports, if any; terminated the period of amendments in the absence of committee and individual amendments; and approved the measures on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting:

1. House Bill No. 6842 contained in Committee Report No. 320 as submitted by the Committee on Higher and Technical Education, renaming the Surigao del Sur State University (SDSSU) in the Province of Surigao del Sur to North Eastern Mindanao State University (NEMSU);
2. House Bill No. 6844 contained in Committee Report No. 322 as submitted by the Committees on Higher and Technical Education, and Appropriations, establishing the Parañaque City Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Training and Assessment Center in Parañaque City;
3. House Bill No. 6845 contained in Committee Report No. 323 as submitted by the Committees on Higher and Technical Education, and Appropriations, establishing the Labo TESDA Training and Assessment Center in Labo, Camarines Norte;
4. House Bill No. 6846 contained in Committee Report No. 324 as submitted by the Committees on Higher and Technical Education, and Appropriations, establishing the Loon TESDA Training and Assessment Center in Loon, Bohol;
5. House Bill No. 6849 contained in Committee Report No. 325 as submitted by the Committees on Health, and Appropriations, increasing the bed capacity of the Benguet General Hospital in La Trinidad, Benguet from two hundred (200) to four hundred (400) beds, and placing the hospital under the direct supervision and control of the Department of Health;
6. House Bill No. 6850 contained in Committee Report No. 326 as submitted by the Committees on Health, and Appropriations, establishing the Eastern Pangasinan Regional Medical and Trauma Center in Rosales, Pangasinan;
7. House Bill No. 6852 contained in Committee Report No. 327 as submitted by the Committees on Higher and Technical Education, and Appropriations, establishing the Kawayan TESDA Training and Assessment Center in Kawayan, Biliran Province;
8. House Bill No. 6853 contained in Committee Report No. 328 as submitted by the Committees on Higher and Technical Education, and Appropriations, establishing the Badian, Cebu TESDA Training and Assessment Center in Badian, Cebu Province;
9. House Bill No. 6854 contained in Committee Report No. 329 as submitted by the Committees on Higher and Technical Education, and Appropriations, converting the Balicuatro College of Arts and Trades in Allen, Northern Samar into the Northern Samar Polytechnic Institute;
10. House Bill No. 6855 contained in Committee Report No. 330 as submitted by the Committees on Higher and Technical Education, and Appropriations, establishing the Barangay Santa Cruz, Makati City TESDA Training and Assessment Center in Santa Cruz, Makati City;
11. House Bill No. 6858 contained in Committee Report No. 331 as submitted by the Committees on Higher Technical Education, Appropriations, and Ways and Means, converting the Bicol State College of Applied



Sciences and Technology (BISCAST) in Naga City, Camarines Sur into the Southeast Asian University of Technology;

12. House Bill No. 6866 contained in Committee Report No. 336 as submitted by the Committee on Local Government, dividing Barangay Muzon in the City of San Jose del Monte, Bulacan into four (4) separate and independent barangays to be known as Barangays Muzon Proper, Muzon East, Muzon West, and Muzon South;
13. House Bill No. 3881 contained in Committee Report No. 338 as submitted by the Committee on Local Government, declaring June 18 of every year a special nonworking holiday in Sta. Maria, Davao Occidental, in commemoration of its founding anniversary; and
14. House Bill No. 6869 contained in Committee Report No. 339 as submitted by the Committee on Government Enterprises and Privatization, creating the Eastern Visayas Development Authority (EVDA), and defining its powers and functions.

#### 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, June 1, 2020.

It was 10:07 p.m. of Thursday, May 28, 2020.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

  
JOSE LUIS G. MONTALES  
Secretary General

Approved on June 2, 2020.

#### DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED

Printed copies of the following measures were distributed to the Members on May 28, 2020:

1. House Bill No. 6595, entitled: "AN ACT MANDATING THE INCLUSION OF A FOREIGN LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH, AS AN ELECTIVE COURSE IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION CURRICULUM"
2. House Bill No. 6654, entitled: "AN ACT REORGANIZING AND CONVERTING THE INSURANCE COMMISSION INTO A COLLEGIAL BODY, AMENDING SECTIONS 437, 438 AND 439 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10607, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'THE INSURANCE CODE', AS AMENDED"
3. House Bill No. 6817, entitled: "AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DISCRIMINATION AGAINST PERSONS WHO ARE DECLARED CONFIRMED, SUSPECT, PROBABLE AND RECOVERED CASES OF COVID-19, REPATRIATED FILIPINOS, HEALTHCARE WORKERS, RESPONDERS, AND SERVICE WORKERS AND PROVIDING PENALITIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF"
4. House Bill No. 6596, entitled: "AN ACT RENAMING THE COMPOSTELA VALLEY STATE COLLEGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF COMPOSTELA, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DE ORO TO THE DAVAO DE ORO STATE COLLEGE"

Congress of the Philippines  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City, Philippines

**MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE**

*Journal No. 58*

**Tuesday to Thursday, May 26 to 28, 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)