



# Committee Daily Bulletin

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## COMMITTEE MEETING ON HOUSE MEASURES

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Natural Resources	HB 1124	Rep. Almario	Declaring Davao Oriental a mining-free zone	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Elpidio Barzaga Jr. (4<sup>th</sup> District, Cavite), approved HB 1124.</p> <p>Rep. Joel Mayo Almario (2<sup>nd</sup> District, Davao Oriental), author of HB 1124, mentioned that a bill with similar subject matter was approved on Third Reading in the previous Congress.</p>
	HB 430	Rep. Rodriguez	Declaring the City of Cagayan de Oro a mining-free zone	<p>The Committee will again deliberate on HB 430 after the conduct of an investigation on the extent of mining activities in Cagayan de Oro.</p> <p>The Mines and Geosciences Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (MGB-DENR) was tasked to conduct the investigation and to submit to the Committee a report on the result of the same in two weeks time.</p>
	HB 5619	Rep. Go (M.)	Declaring the City of Baguio as a mining-free zone and providing penalties for violation thereof	<p>The Committee will deliberate further on HB 5619 in its next meeting.</p> <p>Baguio City Rep. Mark Go, author of HB 5619, reported that small-scale mining and other related activities are rampant in certain barangays in Baguio City.</p> <p>DENR Undersecretary Benny Antiporda manifested that the MGB has not issued any mining permit to any mining entity within the City of Baguio. Antiporda said that the MGB will submit a certification stating the same. The DENR will likewise submit its position paper on the bill, he added.</p> <p>The Secretariat was directed to invite in its next meeting the local chief executive of the City of Baguio and concerned DENR officials to shed light on the reported rampant mining activities in the area.</p>

## TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETINGS

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Transportation (Technical Working Group)	HB 922	Rep. Fernando	Regulating the use of roads for safe, fast, and economic transport	The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Navotas City Rep. John Reynald Tiangco, will deliberate further on HB 922 in its next meeting.

<p>Continuation... Transportation (Technical Working Group)</p>				<p>Rep. Tiangco informed the body that a similar bill – HB 8763 – was filed by the author in the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress. He said that the purpose of the bill is to lay down clear and uniform guidelines, standards, and rules for the optimal provision, management and utilization of the country's road system that will ultimately promote the public interest through the safe, fast, convenient, and affordable transport of people and goods.</p> <p>Rep. Bayani Fernando (1<sup>st</sup> District, Marikina City), author of HB 922, added that the bill will help solve traffic problems by defining and delineating the functions and role of the national and local government agencies, as well as the private entities, in the design, construction, maintenance, management, and regulation of the road system.</p> <p>According to Rep. Fernando, a provision in his bill which some quarters may find controversial is the one declaring the parking of vehicles along the entire road right-of-way of all government roads and private roads as illegal. He stressed that 20% of these roads are not being utilized because of illegal parking and other road obstructions.</p> <p>Expressing their support for the bill were representatives from the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Transportation (DOTr) and its sectoral and attached agencies Land Transportation Office (LTO), Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB), and Toll Regulatory Board (TRB), Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA), and the National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA).</p> <p>DOTr Undersecretary Mark Richmond de Leon suggested that the bill should include a provision that limits the power of local government units (LGUs) pertaining to the issuance of public transport franchises. He also proposed the inclusion in the bill of a provision establishing uniform traffic rules and regulations in all LGUs.</p> <p>Likewise, Philippine National Police-Highway Patrol Group (PNP-HPG) Intelligence Division Chief Gil Francis Tria recommended that the conflicting traffic rules and regulations being implemented by the PNP-HPG and the LGUs be addressed, and that the PNP-HPG be allowed to hire more personnel to implement the proposed law fully and effectively.</p> <p>Catanduanes Rep. Hector Sanchez requested the TWG to invite a representative from the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD) in the succeeding TWG meetings to provide inputs regarding the design and implementation of an effective</p>
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Continuation... Transportation (Technical Working Group)				<p>urban development program that will enhance the traffic management program of the government.</p> <p>The resource persons were requested to submit their respective position papers for the TWG's reference in its deliberations on the bill.</p>
Ways and Means (Technical Working Group)	HB 783	Rep. Biazon	Providing for a classification system for third parties under RA 10863, otherwise known as the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA)	The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Sharon Garin (Party-List, AAMBIS-OWA), will deliberate further on the six bills in its next meeting.
	HB 784	Rep. Biazon	Providing for the acquisition of the services of a private auction house that shall undertake all public auctions at the Bureau of Customs (BOC), amending for this purpose RA 10863	Rep. Jose Atienza Jr. (Party-List, BUHAY), author of HB 2591, alleged that RA 10863 or the CMTA is a watered-down version of the bill that was approved by the House in 2015, which made the law largely ineffective, hence in need of amendments. Rep. Atienza also claimed that the BOC has chosen not to implement some of the CMTA's key provisions which has resulted in massive revenue losses for the government.
	HB 800	Rep. Biazon	Amending RA 10863 (by including a new provision that would allow the BOC to use part of its income for its modernization program)	
	HB 2591	Rep. Atienza	Amending Section 440 of RA 10863 (by establishing a mandatory advance customs clearance and control on containerized cargoes)	Deputy Speaker Rodante Marcoleta (Party-List, SAGIP), author of HB 5278, supported Rep. Atienza's claims and told the BOC that no amount of modernization will be successful if it cannot operate with integrity.
	HB 5278	Deputy Speaker Marcoleta	Requiring the declaration of the value of imported goods in shipping and airline documents and prohibiting fraudulent alteration of cargo manifest, Bill of Lading, and airway bill, amending for the purpose RA 10863	Muntinlupa City Rep. Rozzano Rufino Biazon, author of HBs 783, 784 and 800, said that Customs modernization is not merely confined to the acquisition of new technology. It includes an examination and streamlining of the BOC's processes in order to eliminate areas that are conducive to corruption and increase the efficiency and transparency of the Bureau, Rep. Biazon added.
	HB 5548	Rep. Garin (S.)	Amending for the purpose Sections 102, 119, 201, 307, 402, 405, 407, 431, 802, 806, 1135, 1100, 1129, 1147, 1400, and 1226 and deleting Section 709 of RA 10863 (by simplifying and clearly defining some processes in the customs clearance of imported goods and setting stricter provisions in granting the authority to operate a customs facilities warehouse, among others)	<p>The BOC delegation, headed by Deputy Commissioner Vener Baquiran, expressed support for the six bills. Baquiran reported that the BOC's modernization program will start in 2022 and will be completed in 2024. The program, which will cost P5 billion, includes the modernization of BOC's information and communications technology (ICT), improvement of customs facilities, and establishment of a Philippine Customs Academy.</p> <p>Rep. Atienza reiterated that customs inspections should start right from the ports of origin and not in the country's local ports. Baquiran said that the BOC is willing to do this but advised that it will require the permission of the countries where the Bureau personnel will be conducting the inspections.</p> <p>Deputy Speaker Marcoleta proposed that a vessel or aircraft from a foreign port must declare in the inward cargo manifest, bill of lading or airway bill the value of the articles or goods as they appear in the commercial</p>

Continuation... Ways and Means (Technical Working Group)				<p>invoice or letter of credit, or both. Baquiran said that while the BOC supports the suggestion, the owners of shipping lines are opposing this proposal.</p> <p>The BOC was asked to review the proposed amendments under the bills and to submit its comments and recommendations to the Committee Secretariat.</p>
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AGENCY BRIEFING		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Natural Resources	Update on the Manila Bay rehabilitation and the cleanup of water tributaries leading to it, as ordered by President Rodrigo R. Duterte and by the Supreme Court through a writ of continuing mandamus	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Elpidio Barzaga Jr. (4<sup>th</sup> District, Cavite), listened to the briefing of the Manila Bay Task Force (MBTF) on the status of the Manila Bay rehabilitation and cleanup of its tributaries.</p> <p>In view of the Writ of Continuing Mandamus issued by the Supreme Court (SC) to restore the water quality of the Manila Bay, the MBTF was created to ensure a quick response to this mandamus. The President issued Administrative Order No. 16, series of 2019, expediting the rehabilitation and restoration of the coastal and marine ecosystem of the Manila Bay and creating the MBTF.</p> <p>The MBTF is chaired by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and is composed of national government agencies, local government units (LGUs) concerned, and the Metro Manila water concessionaires – Manila Water and Maynilad.</p> <p>DENR Undersecretary Juan Miguel Cuna reported that there are significant improvements in the water quality in Manila Bay and its tributaries. Cuna said that the efforts of national and local government agencies coupled with the help of non-government organizations (NGOs) paved the way for the significant decrease in fecal coliform levels in the Bay from one billion mpn (most probable number) per 100 ml to tens of thousands mpn per 100 ml. This means that the water in the Bay can now be categorized as “swimmable,” Cuna added.</p> <p>In addressing the pollution in the Manila Bay area and facilitating its cleanup, the DENR’s existing operational plan includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Liquid waste management – to ensure that water discharges into the Bay complies with standards;</li> <li>• Solid waste management – to reduce solid wastes ending up in Manila Bay;</li> <li>• Informal settler families and illegal structure management – to permanently clear areas along the Bay and its tributaries from illegal dwellings and structures; and</li> <li>• Habitat and resources management – to protect the biodiversity of Manila Bay.</li> </ul>