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**JOURNAL NO. 28
Tuesday, November 19, 2019**

Prepared by the
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Plenary Affairs Bureau

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CALL TO ORDER

At 3:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Raneo “Ranie” E. Abu called the session to order.

PRAYER AND NATIONAL ANTHEM

The Members observed a minute of silent prayer and thereafter sang the National Anthem.

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

On motion of Rep. Lianda B. Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body deferred the calling of the Roll and the approval of the Journal of the previous session.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the Reference of Business.

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 5496, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE APPOINTMENT OF BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS IN EVERY BARANGAY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, FURTHER EXPANDING THE BENEFITS OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Nieto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 5497, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING ADDITIONAL BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES FOR SOLO PARENTS, AMENDING FOR THIS

PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED 8972”

By Representative Delos Santos
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 5498, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PERTINENT PROVISIONS OF BATAS PAMBANSA 881, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘OMNIBUS ELECTION CODE’, AS AMENDED, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Saulog
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

House Bill No. 5499, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING MULTI-SPECIES MARINE HATCHERIES IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BASILISA, IN THE LONE DISTRICT OF DINAGAT ISLANDS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Ecleo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 5500, entitled:

“AN ACT UPGRADING THE MINIMUM SALARY OF GOVERNMENT NURSES AND OTHER HEALTH CARE PERSONNEL”

By Representative Amante-Matba
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 5501, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE AGUSAN DEL NORTE PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL IN BUTUAN CITY, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL NORTE INTO A LEVEL III TEACHING AND TRAINING HOSPITAL TO BE KNOWN AS THE AGUSAN DEL NORTE GENERAL HOSPITAL AND TRAINING CENTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Amante-Matba
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 5502, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY SONGKOY IN

THE MUNICIPALITY OF KITCHARAO,
AGUSAN DEL NORTE”

By Representative Amante-Matba
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 5503, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE
KNOWN AS BARANGAY PANGAYLAN-IP
IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SANTIAGO,
AGUSAN DEL NORTE”

By Representative Amante-Matba
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 5504, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE
KNOWN AS BARANGAY CROSSING IN
THE MUNICIPALITY OF KITCHARAO,
AGUSAN DEL NORTE”

By Representative Amante-Matba
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 5505, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE REGISTRATION,
LICENSURE, AND PRACTICE OF
PHYSICAL THERAPY, PROVIDING
FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER
RELATED PURPOSES”

By Representative Gonzales (Aurelio)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND
PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 5507, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTING THE SECOND
PHASE OF AGRARIAN REFORM
IN THE COUNTRY THEREBY
COMPLETING THE COVERAGE OF
AGRICULTURAL LANDS UNDER THE
AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM,
PROVIDING STATE SUBSIDY IN THE
ACQUISITION AND DISTRIBUTION
OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS TO
AGRARIAN REFORM BENEFICIARIES
AND CREATING THE MECHANISMS
FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION AND OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Roman
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRARIAN REFORM

House Bill No. 5508, entitled:

“AN ACT TRANSFORMING THE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN
REFORM INTO 'DEPARTMENT OF
AGRARIAN REFORM AND RURAL
DEVELOPMENT' MANDATING ITS

FUNCTIONS, OPERATIONALIZING THE
2ND PHASE OF CARP IMPLEMENTATION,
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Roman
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON
AGRARIAN REFORM

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter dated October 17, 2019 of Caesar R. Dulay,
Commissioner, Bureau of Internal Revenue,
Department of Finance, submitting the Bureau’s
Consolidated Monthly Report of Disbursement
(FAR 4) and Statement of Approved Budget,
Utilizations, Disbursements and Balances for
Trust Receipts (FAR 6) for the quarter ending
September 30, 2019.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated October 23, 2019 of Atty. Romulo P.
Rivera, OIC-Regional Director, Regional Office
No. 1, Commission on Audit, transmitting a copy
of the Annual Audit Report of the Northern
Foods Corporation, Sarrat, Ilocos Norte, for the
fiscal year ended May 31, 2019.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated October 23, 2019 of Victor J. Yu,
Provincial Governor, Province of Zamboanga
del Sur, submitting the Report on Fund
Utilization and Status of Programs of the Project
Implementation for the Quarter Ended July to
September 2019 (Third Quarter) on the Local
Government Support Fund to Local Government
Units, to wit:

1. Social Services Program;
2. Conditional Matching Grant Program;
3. Bottom-Up Budgeting (BUB) Projects; and
4. Kalsada Projects.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated October 28, 2019 of Usec. Bernardo C.
Florece, Jr., Officer-in-Charge, Department of
the Interior and Local Government, submitting to
the House of Representatives the Department’s
CY 2019 Performance-based Challenge Fund
2nd Quarter Progress Report.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Letter dated 31 October 2019 of Ryan R.
Enriquez, Chairperson and CEO, National
Youth Commission, informing the House of

Representatives that the Commission's Report on the Utilization of Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) Mandatory and Continuing Training Fund FAR 1 – Statement of Appropriations, Allotments, Obligations, Disbursements and Balances as of the quarter ending July 31 and September 30, 2019 have been posted to the agency's website – Transparency Seal on October 28, 2019.
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated 5 November 2019 of Maria Catalina E. Cabral, Ph.D., CESO I, Undersecretary for Planning and Public-Private Partnership (PPP), Office of the Secretary, Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), submitting to the House of Representatives the Project Briefers, including the List of Priority Projects of PPP of the DPWH and Toll Regulatory Board (TRB), for implementation, ongoing, and completed by the DPWH.
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project Implementation for the Quarter ended September 2019 of the Municipality of Laua-an, Province of Antique on the Local Government Support Fund attested by Capt. Francisco G. Baladjay, Jr., Municipal Mayor.
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

2020 People's Proposed Budget of the Department of Budget and Management.
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Financial Accountability Reports (FARs) and Budget Accountability Reports (BARs) of the Supreme Court of the Philippines and the Lower Courts (SCPLC) and the Presidential Electoral Tribunal (PET) for the third quarter of 2019 that were posted in the Supreme Court website on November 5, 2019.
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
COMMITTEE REPORT

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Committee on Health and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 83), re H.B. No. 1477, entitled:

“AN ACT UPGRADING THE CARAGA REGIONAL HOSPITAL IN BARANGAY WASHINGTON, SURIGAO CITY, SURIGAO DEL NORTE INTO A TERTIARY LEVEL HOSPITAL, INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY FROM ONE HUNDRED

FIFTY (150) TO FIVE HUNDRED (500) BEDS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval without amendment
Sponsors: Representatives Tan (Angelina), Barbers and Ungab
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 70 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 5070

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 5070 contained in Committee Report No. 70 as reported out by the Committee on Disaster Management.

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

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR FREE FREIGHT SERVICES IN THE TRANSPORTATION OF RELIEF GOODS TO CALAMITY-STRICKEN AREAS.”

As copies of the Bill had been distributed to the Members, on motion of Representative Bolilia, 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 Bolilia, the Chair recognized Rep. Florida “Rida” P. Robes, principal author of the Bill, to sponsor the measure.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ROBES

Representative Robes sought the approval of House Bill No. 5070 which she said would be beneficial to all, particularly in times of natural and human-induced disasters. She stressed that the Bill would enable benefactors and donors to extend assistance to calamity victims through free freight services for the donations.

APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5070

On successive motions of Representative Bolilia, 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 on Second Reading House Bill No. 5070 through *viva voce* voting.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Bolilia, the Chair suspended the session at 3:13 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 3:24 p.m.

BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 61 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 4952

On motion of Representative Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 4952 contained in Committee Report No. 61 as reported out by the Committee on Basic Education and Culture.

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

“AN ACT DECLARING THE WALINGWALING ORCHID AS THE NATIONAL ORCHID OF THE PHILIPPINES.”

As copies of the Bill had been distributed to the Members, on motion of Representative Bolilia, 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 Bolilia, the Chair recognized Rep. Roman T. Romulo, chairperson of the sponsoring Committee, for his sponsorship remarks.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE ROMULO

Representative Romulo explained that House Bill No. 4952 declaring Walingwaling as the national orchid of the Philippines, is a substitute bill for House Bill No. 3506 which was filed by Rep. Vincent J. Garcia. He then moved that the Explanatory Note of Representative Garcia on House Bill No. 3506 be adopted as the sponsorship speech on the substitute measure.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE LAGMAN

Recognized by the Chair on motion of Representative Bolilia, Rep. Edcel C. Lagman

inquired whether the Sponsor was adopting the Explanatory Note of House Bill No. 3506 which proposes to replace Sampaguita with Walingwaling as the national flower of the Philippines.

Representative Romulo clarified that when he moved for the adoption of the Explanatory Note of House Bill No. 3506, he mentioned that its author, Representative Garcia (V.) had agreed during the committee deliberations to replace the words “national flower” with “national orchid” wherever they appear in the Bill.

With the clarification thereon, Representative Lagman joined the Sponsor in the swift passage of House Bill No. 4952.

APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4952

On successive motions of Representative Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate in the absence of other interpellations; terminated the period of amendments in the absence of committee and individual amendments; and approved on Second Reading House Bill No. 4952 through *viva voce* voting.

BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 60 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 4953

On motion of Representative Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 4953 contained in Committee Report No. 60 as reported out by the Committee on Basic Education and Culture.

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

“AN ACT DECLARING THE BALANGAY AS THE NATIONAL BOAT OF THE PHILIPPINES.”

As copies of the Bill had been distributed to the Members, on motion of Representative Bolilia, 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 Bolilia, the Chair recognized anew Representative Romulo to sponsor the Bill.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE ROMULO

Representative Romulo explained that Rep. Lawrence “Law” H. Fortun had been the champion of the Bill, and then moved to adopt the Explanatory Note of the latter’s House Bill No. 1943 as the sponsorship speech thereon.

There being no objection, the Body approved the same.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

On motion of Representative Bolilia, the Chair recognized Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. who discussed with Representative Romulo the importance of the instant measure.

To Representative Atienza’s queries, Representative Romulo explained the historical relevance of the *Balangay* or *Butuan* boat, the first of which was excavated in Mindanao and was considered as the oldest Hispanic watercraft found in the country. He also emphasized that this boat was made in the Philippines.

The Members then talked about the cost-efficiency of the production of the *Balangay* boat and its practicability and seaworthiness.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Abu relinquished the Chair to Rep. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo.

Representative Atienza asked the reason for choosing *Balangay* instead of other local boats, to which the Sponsor explained that historical documents suggest that the *Balangay* is endemic in the country. He added that making *Balangay* as the national boat would bring pride to the country and inspire the youth as the boat represents the creativity and innovativeness of Filipinos.

Representative Atienza voiced his concern that the proposal would result in other local boat makers seeking the same recognition. He then commended the chairperson of the sponsoring Committee for his nationalistic research and intentions.

APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4953

On successive motions of Representative Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body terminated the

period of sponsorship and debate in the absence of other interpellations; terminated the period of amendments in the absence of committee and individual amendments; and approved on Second Reading House Bill No. 4953 through *viva voce* voting.

ROLL CALL

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

Abante	Bustos
Abaya	Cabatbat
Abellanos	Cabochan
Abu	Cabredo
Abueg-Zaldivar	Cagas
Acop	Calderon
Acosta	Calixto
Acosta-Alba	Caminero
Advincula	Canama
Agabas	Cari
Agarao	Castelo
Aglipay	Castro (F.L.)
Albano	Castro (F.H.)
Almario	Cayetano (A.P.)
Alvarez (F.)	Cayetano (M.L.)
Alvarez (G.)	Celeste
Alvarez (P.)	Chatto
Amante-Matba	Chipeco
Amatong	Chungalao
Andaya	Co (E.)
Angara	Crisologo
Aragones	Cua
Arenas	Cuaresma
Atienza	Cullamat
Babasa	Dagooc
Balindong	Dalipe
Barba	Daza
Barbers	De Jesus
Baronda	Defensor (L.)
Bascug	Defensor (M.)
Bautista	Del Mar
Bautista-Bandigan	Delos Santos
Belmonte	Deloso-Montalla
Benitez	Dimaporo (A.)
Biazon	Dimaporo (M.K.)
Billones	Duterte
Bolilia	Dy (F.)
Bondoc	Dy (I.P.)
Bordado	Ebcas
Bravo	Elago
Brosas	Enverga

Eriguel	Malapitan	Suansing (H.)	Umali (M.V.)
Ermita-Buhain	Mangaoang	Suarez (A.)	Unabia
Escudero	Mangudadatu	Suarez (D.)	Ungab
Espina	Mariano-Hernandez	Suntay	Uy (J.)
Espino	Mariño	Taduran	Uy (R.)
Estrella	Marquez	Tallado	Valeriano
Fernandez	Momo	Tambunting	Vargas
Fernando	Nieto	Tan (A.S.)	Vargas Alfonso
Ferrer (J.M.)	Noel	Tan (A.)	Veloso
Ferrer (L.)	Núñez-Malanyaon	Tan (S.)	Vergara
Flores	Oaminal	Tan (S.A.)	Villafuerte
Fortuno	Ong (J.)	Tejada	Villanueva (N.)
Frasco	Ong (R.)	Teves (A.)	Villar
Fuentebella	Ortega	Teves (J.)	Villaraza-Suarez
Gaite	Ouano-Dizon	Tiangco	Villarica
Garbin	Pacquiao (A.)	Tolentino	Violago
Garcia (J.E.)	Pacquiao (R.)	Torres-Gomez	Yap (E.)
Garin (J.)	Padiernos	Tulfo	Yu
Garin (S.)	Paduano	Tutor	Zamora (R.)
Gasataya	Palma	Ty	Zarate
Gatchalian	Pancho	Umali (A.)	Zubiri
Gato	Panotes		
Geron	Peña		
Go (E.C.)	Pichay		
Go (M.)	Pimentel		
Gonzaga	Pineda		
Gonzales (A.)	Plaza		
Gonzales (N.)	Puno		
Gonzalez	Quimbo		
Gorriceta	Ramirez-Sato		
Guico	Ramos		
Gullas	Revilla		
Guya	Reyes		
Haresco	Rivera		
Hernandez	Robes		
Herrera-Dy	Rodriguez		
Hofer	Roman		
Jalosjos	Romero		
Jimenez	Romualdez (F.M.)		
Kho (E.)	Romualdez (Y.M.)		
Kho (W.)	Romualdo		
Labadlabad	Romulo		
Lacson	Roque		
Lacson-Noel	Sacdalan		
Lagman	Sagarbarria		
Lagon	Salimbangon		
Lara	Salo		
Lazatin	Sanchez		
Leachon	Santos-Recto		
Legarda	Sarmiento		
Lim	Savellano		
Lopez	Singson		
Lusotan	Singson-Meehan		
Macapagal Arroyo	Sinsuat		
Madrona	Suansing (E.)		

With 234 Members responding to the Call, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum. (See Appendix)

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this juncture, Rep. Marissa Andaya acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Reps. Eddiebong G. Plaza, Alfel M. Bascug, and Eufemia “Ka Femia” C. Cullamat.

Likewise, Rep. Alfred C. Delos Santos acknowledged the presence of his guests and those of Speaker Alan Peter “Compañero” S. Cayetano, Reps. Edcel C. Lagman, Joey Sarte Salceda, Fernando T. Cabredo, Alfredo A. Garbin Jr., Ronnie L. Ong, and Geraldine B. Roman.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 21 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 4664

On motion of Rep. Kristine Singson-Meehan, there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4664 contained in Committee Report No. 21 as submitted by the Committees on Government Reorganization, Ways and Means, and Appropriations.

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

“AN ACT INSTITUTING REFORMS IN
REAL PROPERTY VALUATION AND

ASSESSMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES,
REORGANIZING THE BUREAU OF
LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.”

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, the Chair recognized Rep. Mario Vittorio “Marvey” A. Mariño, chairperson of the Committee on Government Reorganization, to defend the measure and Rep. Arlene D. Brosas for her interpellation.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE BROSAS**

At the outset, Representative Brosas sought clarification on the current and the Bill’s proposed mechanism in determining real property valuation, how this would affect the power of the local government units (LGUs) to set and collect real property taxes, as well as the rationale of the proposed measure.

Representative Brosas then inquired into the true objectives of the measure – whether this would expand the tax base or increase revenue generation; and its association with the Build, Build, Build Program of the Duterte administration.

At this juncture, Representative Romualdo relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Neptali M. Gonzales II.

Representatives Brosas and Mariño debated on issues relating to right-of-way compensation; legal disputes in the valuation of properties; the difference between the terms “prevailing market value” and “fair market value”; and the target beneficiaries of the measure. Representative Brosas expressed concern that by standardizing the valuation system, the Bill will hasten Build, Build, Build projects thus benefitting mostly big foreign and local companies, contractors of infrastructure projects, and owners of large estates as promised by the Duterte administration. Thus, she believed that this will further exacerbate the demolition and dislocation of communities due to investments of business owners.

The Members then exchanged views on whether House Bill No. 4664 could be regarded as highly regressive and anti-poor, and a tax reform measure prescribed by the International Monetary Fund; and if there was an assessment done on the implementation of the International Valuation Standard system among the different government agencies down to the LGUs.

On motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, the Chair next recognized Representative Atienza for his interpellation.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA**

Representative Atienza sought clarification on the Bill’s intent to ensure a just, equitable, and effective real property valuation system and correct the defects of the current valuation system; as well as its effect on the taxation powers of LGUs. He also asked on the rationale for involving the Department of Finance in property valuation as he pointed out that (1) the Bureau of Internal Revenue, which is under said Department’s supervision, is already authorized to do the same; (2) the Constitution provides for the right to autonomy of LGUs; and (3) the primary cause of the delay in the implementation of government projects is corruption and not right-of-way taxation issues as cited by the Sponsor.

Representatives Atienza and Mariño then debated on how the Bill would affect the autonomy of LGUs, with the former questioning the need for the involvement of national agencies and stressing the full promotion of local autonomy since local governments would know the conditions and needs at the local level. He also believed that adding another layer of the government in the process of property assessment could potentially lead to corruption.

Representative Mariño then explained the merits of standardizing market values, which could be subjected to political decision. He said that the new market values would lead to increased revenues, especially for LGUs that could not update their market value system. He further said that the proposed creation of a database system would benefit LGUs in building their capacity to update their real properties’ market values. He believed that uniform market values could also address disputes and even corruption, among the different government agencies.

Believing that the Bill intends to allow the intervention of the national government, Representative Atienza argued that a property valuation system is based on various factors primarily on the developments within the LGU. He then suggested to use as guide the LGUs with best practices on real estate valuation and learn from their local chief executives who he believed are the experts on the matter.

Representative Atienza appealed to the Members to further study the Bill as he believed that

strengthening local autonomy should be prioritized before reshaping the property valuation system which should be left to the responsibility of local officials who are directly chosen by the people to serve.

TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

There being no other Member who wished to interpellate, on motion of Representative Singson-Meehan, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate and thereafter proceeded to the period of amendments.

PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

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

REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

The Chair advised the Members who wished to propose individual amendments that the Body would proceed page-by-page for orderly proceedings.

AMENDMENTS OF REPRESENTATIVE LAGMAN

As proposed by Representative Lagman and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved the amendments on pages 4, 10, 11, and 12 of the Bill.

AMENDMENTS OF REPRESENTATIVE GARIN (S.)

As proposed by Rep. Sharon S. Garin and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved the amendments on pages 5, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, and 19.

AMENDMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE GO (M.)

As proposed by Rep. Mark O. Go and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved the amendment on page 10.

TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no other individual amendments, on motion of Rep. Michael Edgar Y. Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of amendments.

APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4664, AS AMENDED

On motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body approved on Second Reading House Bill No. 4664, as amended, through *viva voce* voting.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

At 5:40 p.m., the Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:40 p.m.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Upon resumption of session, Representative Aglipay acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests from the Parliament of the Republic of Uganda led by Hon. Herbert Edmund Ariko.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session at 5:41 p.m. in order for the House Members to welcome the guests.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:42 p.m., the session resumed.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Delos Santos acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Rep. Kristine Alexie B. Tutor and Deputy Speaker Henry S. Oaminal.

BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 73 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 59

On motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body proceeded with the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 59 contained in Committee Report No. 73 as submitted by the Committee on Trade and Industry.

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

“AN ACT SETTING THE MINIMUM PAID-UP
CAPITAL AND LOCALLY PRODUCED
STOCK INVENTORY REQUIREMENTS

FOR FOREIGN RETAIL BUSINESS ENTERPRISES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8762, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'RETAIL TRADE LIBERALIZATION ACT OF 2000'."

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair recognized Rep. Weslie T. Gatchalian, chairperson of the sponsoring Committee, to sponsor the same.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE GATCHALIAN

Representative Gatchalian initially stressed that the proposed amendments to the current Retail Trade Liberalization Act of 2000 were necessary considering the low investment of foreign retailers in the country; and proceeded to discuss the salient points of House Bill No. 59 which was certified as urgent by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Gonzales (N.) relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Rodante D. Marcoleta.

Representative Gatchalian argued that further liberalizing the retail industry would induce growth in the retail industry, including local retailers; House Bill No. 59 would improve both retail and tourism industries in the country; the Bill would end the economic dominance of selected oligarchs and capitalists over retailers; and the measure would generate more jobs for Filipinos not just in the retail sector but in other industries as well.

He added that opening the retail industry to foreigners would increase foreign direct investments that would redound to the country's economic growth, and at the same time, ensure the protection of the local retail industry and growth of Filipino-owned micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

On motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair thereafter recognized Rep. Victor A. Yap for his sponsorship remarks.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE YAP (V.)

Representative Yap stated that he had prepared a sponsorship speech for House Bill No. 59, which he would just submit to the Committee on Rules in the interest of time and given that the chairperson of the Committee on Trade and Industry had already

coherently and completely laid out the arguments for the Bill.

He then moved that a copy of his sponsorship speech be inserted into the records; and there being no objection, the motion was carried.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

At 5:56 p.m., the Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:56 p.m.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 59

On subsequent motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 59.

PRIVILEGE HOUR

With leave of the House, on successive motions of Representative Delos Santos, there being no objection, the Chair declared a Privilege Hour and thereafter recognized Rep. Eufemia "Ka Femia" C. Cullamat to deliver her privilege speech.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE CULLAMAT

Representative Cullamat stated how the entry of a logging company in the mountains of Lianga, Surigao del Sur had caused disorder in their community, culture, and livelihood.

She lamented and expressed her concern over the possible entry of mining exploration in their areas which would further worsen the conditions of lumad communities as they would be forced to leave their ancestral lands through militarization and human rights abuses. She stated that the purpose of militarization in the Andap Valley Complex is not to promote peace but to remove any opposition against the entry of coal mining companies into the ancestral lands of the lumads.

As their ancestral land is the root of their existence and history as a community, she stressed that the lumads would not be deterred by such activity and that they are even determined to protect their ancestral lands from environmental destruction due to coal mining. She added that the fight for their

ancestral lands is a fight for the protection of the environment and their right to self-determination.

In closing, Representative Cullamat called on the government to respect their rights as a community, stop the ongoing militarization in lumad areas, and oppose the destruction of the environment.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE CULLAMAT

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Delos Santos, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Representative Cullamat to the Committee on Rules.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 6:11 p.m. upon motion of Representative Delos Santos.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 6:17 p.m.

CHANGE OF REFERRAL OF HOUSE BILLS

On motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body changed the referral of the following bills to the committees specified hereunder:

1. House Bill No. 1911 – from the Committee on Civil Service and Professional Regulation to the Committee on Trade and Industry;
2. House Bills No. 3953 and 4908 – from the Committee on Aquaculture and Fisheries Resources to the Committee on Cooperatives Development; and
3. House Bills No. 287, 619, 1058, 2436, 2851, and 3024 – from the Committee on Local Government to the Committee on Cooperatives Development.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Thereafter, the session was suspended at 6:18 p.m. upon motion of Representative Aglipay.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 6:22 p.m.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Delos Santos acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Minority Leader Bienvenido M. Abante Jr.; and upon the former's subsequent motion, the Chair recognized the latter for his privilege speech.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

Minority Leader Abante initially acknowledged the group of pastors in the plenary from the Bible Believers League for Democracy. He then spoke about the issue of gasoline price hike by almost all oil companies in the country, a practice which according to him has been going on for years and a result of collusion among giant oil companies.

Thereupon, Minority Leader Abante relayed that these oil companies blamed the price increases to the series of attacks on oil tanks in Saudi Arabia that significantly knocked the country's oil capacity. He observed the simultaneous surge in oil prices among oil companies and the abrupt and frequent changes in the rates despite the pronouncement from the Department of Energy (DOE) that the country has adequate fuel supplies, which for him defeats the whole objective of deregulating the oil industry.

Minority Leader Abante said that the collusion was a violation of the Philippine Competition Act which prohibits pricing agreements resulting in an uncompetitive market. He urged the Philippine Competition Commission to act on the complaints lodged against these oil companies and called on the DOE to fulfill its mandate to protect consumer welfare; step up in their defense to prevent exploitation for profit gain and become victims of corporate greed; and ensure fair oil industry practices.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair recognized Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Minority Leader Abante agreed with Representative Zarate that the passage of the Oil Deregulation Law neither brought about fair competition nor destroyed the oil monopoly. As the two Members observed that the major oil companies in the country raise and lower oil prices at the same time, they asked why the latter immediately raised

prices despite their buffer stocks when oil facilities in Saudi Arabia were recently bombed.

They then stressed the need for transparency and promotion of the interest of the poor and marginalized as they concurred on the following: review of the aforesaid law; implementation of a DOE circular on the unbundling of oil prices, which was subject to a temporary restraining order upon the petition of the oil companies; re-nationalization of the government-owned Petron Corporation; and filing of petitions for price increases by oil companies such as what was being done by electric companies like Meralco.

The Members then discussed the passive regulation of concerned government agencies, with Representative Zarate emphasizing the oversight function of Congress to put pressure on these agencies to carry out their regulatory mandate for the protection of the consumers. Minority Leader Abante hoped that the government's passive attitude would not lead to corruption, pointing out possible circumvention of the law.

In closing, Representative Zarate recommended to revisit and examine the regime of privatization and deregulation policies, especially of the oil industry. He expressed disappointment over unfulfilled promises of the Duterte administration to benefit the people, while oligarchs from various sectors had continually benefitted from these industries. He hoped that Congress, especially the Minority, could help in pushing for important legislations that would address the needs of the people.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DAGOOC

On motion of Representative Delos Santos, the Chair recognized Rep. Sergio C. Dagooc who delved into the multiplier effect caused by the increase in oil prices. He explained that the oil price hike affects the cost of power generation, including taxes, and the fees paid by power distribution facilities, which ultimately cause adjustments in the prices of services that are delivered to end users.

Representative Dagooc concluded his explanation by highlighting that, in effect, service industries pass on the cost of production including electricity cost with a net profit, thereby imposing higher cost of services on the consumers.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ABANTE

On motion of Representative Delos Santos, there being no objection, the Body referred Representative Abante's privilege speech and interpellations thereon to the Committee on Rules.

TERMINATION OF PRIVILEGE HOUR

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

ADOPTION OF HOUSE RESOLUTION 386


Thereupon, on successive motions of Representative Delos Santos, there being no objection, the Body considered House Resolution No. 386 contained in Committee Report No. 69 as reported out by the Committee on Foreign Affairs, entitled: "RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE 2019 ASEAN-REPUBLIC OF KOREA COMMEMORATIVE SUMMIT (ARCS) AND WELCOMING THE BILATERAL SUMMIT BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA"; 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 distributed to the Members; and unanimously adopted the Resolution.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Delos Santos, there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until three o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday, November 20, 2019.

It was 7:14 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.


JOSE LUIS G. MONTALES
Secretary General

Approved on November 25, 2019.

Congress of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Philippines

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE

Journal No. 28

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

ABANTE	BORDADO	** DY (F.)
ABAYA	** BRAVO	**** DY (F.M.C.)
** ABELLANOSA	BROSAS	DY (I.P.)
ABU	**** BULUT	EBCAS
ABUEG-ZALDIVAR	BUSTOS	*** ECLEO
**** ABUNDA	CABATBAT	ELAGO
ACOP	CABOCHAN	** ENVERGA
ACOSTA	CABREDO	**** ERICE
ACOSTA-ALBA	** CAGAS	ERIGUEL
**** ADIONG	CALDERON	ERMITA-BUHAIN
** ADVINCULA	CALIXTO	** ESCUDERO
AGABAS	** CAMINERO	ESPINA
** AGARAO	**** CAMPOS	ESPINO
AGLIPAY	CANAMA	** ESTRELLA
**** AGUINALDO	**** CAOAGDAN	*** FARIÑAS (R.C.)
ALBANO	CARI	* FARIÑAS I (R.C.)
ALMARIO	CASTELO	FERNANDEZ
**** ALONTE	CASTRO (F.L.)	FERNANDO
ALVAREZ (F.)	CASTRO (F.H.)	** FERRER (J.M.)
** ALVAREZ (G.)	** CAYETANO (A.P.)	** FERRER (L.)
ALVAREZ (P.)	CAYETANO (M.L.)	FLORES
AMANTE-MATBA	CELESTE	**** FONGWAN
AMATONG	CHATTO	**** FORTUN
ANDAYA	CHIPECO	FORTUNO
ANGARA	CHUNGALAO	FRASCO
ARAGONES	*** CO (A.N.)	FUENTEBELLA
*** ARBISON	CO (E.)	GAITE
** ARENAS	**** COJUANGCO	GARBIN
**** ARROYO	**** COLLANTES	GARCIA (J.E.)
ATIENZA	CRISOLOGO	**** GARCIA (P.J.)
* AUMENTADO	CUA	* GARCIA (V.)
** BABASA	CUARESMA	** GARIN (J.)
**** BAGATSING	*** CUEVA	GARIN (S.)
BALINDONG	CULLAMAT	GASATAYA
**** BAÑAS-NOGRALES	DAGOOC	** GATCHALIAN
BARBA	DALIPE	GATO
BARBERS	*** DALOG	** GERON
BARONDA	DAZA	GO (E.C.)
**** BARZAGA	DE JESUS	GO (M.)
BASCUG	* DE VENECIA	GONZAGA
** BAUTISTA	DEFENSOR (L.)	GONZALES (A.)
** BAUTISTA-BANDIGAN	** DEFENSOR (M.)	GONZALES (N.)
BELMONTE	DEL MAR	GONZALEZ
BENITEZ	DELOS SANTOS	GORRICETA
* BERNOS	DELOSO-MONTALLA	** GUICO
** BIAZON	DIMAPORO (A.)	GULLAS
BILLONES	DIMAPORO (M.K.)	GUYA
**** BIRON	**** DUAVIT	HARESCO
BOLILIA	**** DUJALI	**** HATAMAN
BONDOC	** DUTERTE	** HERNANDEZ

	HERRERA-DY	**	OUANO-DIZON	**	SUAREZ (A.)
	HOFER		PACQUIAO (A.)		SUAREZ (D.)
	JALOSJOS		PACQUIAO (R.)		SUNTAY
****	JAVIER		PADIERNOS	****	SY-ALVARADO
	JIMENEZ		PADUANO		TADURAN
	KHO (E.)		PALMA	**	TALLADO
	KHO (W.)	**	PANCHO		TAMBUNTING
****	KHONGHUN		PANOTES	**	TAN (A.S.)
	LABADLABAD		PEÑA		TAN (A.)
	LACSON		PICHAY		TAN (S.)
	LACSON-NOEL	**	PIMENTEL	**	TAN (S.A.)
	LAGMAN		PINEDA	****	TAN-TAMBUT
	LAGON		PLAZA		TEJADA
	LARA	**	PUNO		TEVES (A.)
	LAZATIN		QUIMBO		TEVES (J.)
	LEACHON	***	RADAZA		TIANGCO
	LEGARDA	**	RAMIREZ-SATO		TOLENTINO
	LIM		RAMOS		TORRES-GOMEZ
*	LIMKAICHONG	****	REMULLA		TULFO
	LOPEZ	**	REVILLA	***	TUPAS
****	LOYOLA		REYES		TUTOR
	LUSOTAN		RIVERA		TY
	MACAPAGAL ARROYO		ROBES		UMALI (A.)
*	MACEDA	**	RODRIGUEZ		UMALI (M.V.)
	MADRONA		ROMAN	**	UNABIA
	MALAPITAN	**	ROMERO		UNGAB
	MANGAOANG		ROMUALDEZ (F.M.)		UY (J.)
	MANGUDADATU		ROMUALDEZ (Y.M.)		UY (R.)
*	MARCOLETA		ROMUALDO		VALERIANO
**	MARIANO-HERNANDEZ		ROMULO	***	VALMAYOR
	MARIÑO		ROQUE		VARGAS
	MARQUEZ		SACDALAN		VARGAS ALFONSO
****	MARTINEZ		SAGARBARRIA	****	VELASCO
*	MATBA	***	SAKALURAN		VELOSO
*	MATUGAS	*	SALCEDA		VERGARA
****	MENDOZA	**	SALIMBANGON	****	VILLA
	MOMO		SALO		VILLAFUERTE
*	NATIVIDAD-NAGAÑO		SANCHEZ	****	VILLANUEVA (E.)
***	NAVA	***	SANGCOPAN		VILLANUEVA (N.)
	NIETO		SANTOS-RECTO		VILLAR
	NOEL		SARMIENTO		VILLARAZA-SUAREZ
****	NOGRALES (J.J.)	***	SAULOG		VILLARICA
****	NOGRALES (J.F.F.)	**	SAVELLANO	**	VIOLAGO
*	NOLASCO	*	SIAO	**	YAP (E.)
**	NUÑEZ-MALANYAON	***	SILVERIO	*	YAP (V.)
	OAMINAL		SINGSON		YU
***	OLIVAREZ		SINGSON-MEEHAN	**	ZAMORA (R.)
	ONG (J.)		SINSUAT	***	ZAMORA (W.K.)
	ONG (R.)		SUANSING (E.)		ZARATE
	ORTEGA		SUANSING (H.)		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)