



Journal of the House of Representatives

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**JOURNAL NO. 47
Monday, February 24, 2020**

Prepared by the
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Plenary Affairs Bureau

JOURNAL NO. 47
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CALL TO ORDER

At 3:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Johnny Ty Pimentel called the session to order.

INVOCATION AND NATIONAL ANTHEM

Rep. Shirlyn L. Bañas-Nogales led the invocation. Thereafter, the Members sang the National Anthem.

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

Thereupon, on successive motions of Rep. Kristine Singson-Meehan, 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 Singson-Meehan, 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, Messages from the Senate, and Committee Reports, which were referred to the appropriate committees indicated hereunder:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 6313, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF THE AGRICULTURE PROFESSION IN THE PHILIPPINES, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE A PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD FOR AGRICULTURISTS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Cojuangco
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 6314, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE PRACTICE OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING IN

THE PHILIPPINES AND INSTITUTING HIGHER STANDARDS OF REGULATION IN THE LICENSING AND REGISTRATION OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING PRACTITIONERS”

By Representative Baronda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 6315, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE USE OF BODY CAMERA BY LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

House Bill No. 6316, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR REGULATORY FRAMEWORK, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE, THE PHILIPPINE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 6317, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, DEFINING ITS POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Robes
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

House Bill No. 6318, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (CENR) OFFICE IN THE

MUNICIPALITY OF PRESIDENT ROXAS
AND REAPPORTIONING THE CURRENT
CENR OFFICES IN THE PROVINCE OF
COTABATO AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Tejada, Caoagdan and Sacdalan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 6319, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 443, 454,
AND 463 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'LOCAL
GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991' ”

By Representative Villa
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 6320, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE PROVINCE
OF SQUIJOR AS A RESPONSIBLE,
COMMUNITY-BASED CULTURAL
HERITAGE AND ECOTOURISM ZONE”

By Representative Villa
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 6321, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE EXPORTATION
OF BLACK SAND AND ITS DERIVATIVES
IN ITS RAW FORM TO OTHER
COUNTRIES”

By Representative Singson
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 6322, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING A HEALTH CARE
PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL
TEACHERS AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Vargas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND
CULTURE

House Bill No. 6331, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE
MANDATORY APPOINTMENT OF A
MUNICIPAL VETERINARIAN OFFICER,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 7160 OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS 'AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A LOCAL
GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991' ”

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

House Bill No. 6332, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ELECTION
OF SECTORAL REPRESENTATIVES TO
THE LEGISLATIVE BODIES OF LOCAL
GOVERNMENT UNITS”

By Representatives Cullamat, Zarate and Gaite
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 6334, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING EARLY
CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT
SYSTEM, REVISING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10410, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE 'EARLY YEARS ACT
OF 2013', AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR”

By Representative Tallado
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

House Bill No. 6335, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE IMPORTATION,
MANUFACTURE, DISTRIBUTION AND
SALE OF CHILDREN’S PRODUCTS
CONTAINING HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS,
AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR
VIOLATION THEREOF”

By Representative Barba
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

House Bill No. 6336, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A REVENUE
DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE BUREAU OF
INTERNAL REVENUE IN THE CITY OF
TANAUAN, PROVINCE OF BATANGAS
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR”

By Representative Collantes
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 6337, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PAG-IBIG
FUND FIELD OFFICE IN TANAUAN
CITY, PROVINCE OF BATANGAS AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Collantes
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 6338, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CAMPUS OF THE
CENTRAL BICOL STATE UNIVERSITY
OF AGRICULTURE (CBSUA) IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF DEL GALLEGO,
PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR, TO
BE KNOWN AS CBSUA-DEL GALLEGO

CAMPUS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR”

By Representative Andaya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL
EDUCATION

House Bill No. 6339, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE FILIPINO
YOUTH INVOLVEMENT IN AGRICULTURE
AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP”

By Representative Tan (Sharee)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS
DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 6340, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A COMPREHENSIVE
POLICY ENABLING YOUTH
PARTICIPATION IN ADOLESCENT
PREGNANCY PREVENTION”

By Representative Tan (Sharee)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS
DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 6341, entitled:

“AN ACT MAKING THE POSITION OF
BARANGAY SECRETARY AND
BARANGAY TREASURER PERMANENT
AND AS SUCH ENTITLED TO SECURITY
OF TENURE, BENEFITS AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Chatto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 6342, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MULTI-
SPECIES MARINE HATCHERY IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF BILIRAN, PROVINCE
OF BILIRAN AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Espina
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND
FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 6343, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER
TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE
FRANCHISE GRANTED TO MATI
TELEPHONE CORPORATION UNDER
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8675, ENTITLED 'AN
ACT GRANTING THE MATI TELEPHONE
CORPORATION, A FRANCHISE TO
CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH,
OPERATE AND MAINTAIN LOCAL
EXCHANGE NETWORK IN THE

PROVINCE OF DAVAO ORIENTAL AND
ALL CITIES THEREIN”

By Representative Almario
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 6344, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE
KNOWN AS BARANGAY BUTAC IN
MUNICIPALITY OF SUYO, PROVINCE
OF ILOCOS SUR”

By Representative Singson-Meehan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 6345, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE PRACTICE
OF AGRICULTURE PROFESSION IN
THE PHILIPPINES CREATING FOR THE
PURPOSE A PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY
BOARD FOR AGRICULTURISTS AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Bordado
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND
PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 6346, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING THE FRANCHISE
GRANTED TO THE UNIVERSITY
OF THE PHILIPPINES SYSTEM TO
CONSTRUCT, ESTABLISH, MAINTAIN,
AND OPERATE FOR EDUCATIONAL AND
OTHER RELATED PURPOSES, RADIO
AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING
STATIONS WITHIN THE UNIVERSITY
OF THE PHILIPPINES AND IN SUCH
OTHER AREAS WITHIN THE SCOPE OF
ITS OPERATION, UNDER REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 8160, TO ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE
(25) YEARS”

By Representative Go (Mark)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 6347, entitled:

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

By Representative Yap (Eric)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL
EDUCATION

House Bill No. 6348, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING SURVIVORSHIP
BENEFITS TO THE SURVIVING

LEGITIMATE SPOUSE AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN OF A DECEASED RETIRED MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL PROSECUTION SERVICE (NPS), APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Flores
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 6349, entitled:

“AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE ROLE OF PRIVATE BASIC EDUCATION IN THE PHILIPPINES BY CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE PARTNERSHIP IN PRIVATE EDUCATION BOARD, AND THE PARTNERSHIP FUND FOR PRIVATE EDUCATION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Romualdez (Yedda) and Romualdez (Ferdinand)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 6350, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING THE CITY GOVERNMENT OF DAVAO, A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS IN DAVAO CITY AND OTHER AREAS IN THE DAVAO REGION”

By Representatives Romualdez (Ferdinand), Duterte, Garcia (Vincent) and Ungab
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 6351, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO PHILIPPINE COLLECTIVE MEDIA CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9773 TO EXPAND THE COVERAGE OF THE FRANCHISE GRANTED AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Romualdez (Yedda) and Romualdez (Ferdinand)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 725, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, REGARDING THE

DECLINE OF THE LEVEL OF LITERACY IN THE COUNTRY”

By Representative Villa
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Resolution of Both Houses No. 5, entitled:

“RESOLUTION OF BOTH HOUSES PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO THE 1987 CONSTITUTION”

By Representative Salceda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

House Joint Resolution No. 28, entitled:

“JOINT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE FRANCHISE OF ABS-CBN CORPORATION UNTIL THE END OF THIS 18TH CONGRESS ON JUNE 30, 2022”

By Representative Del Mar
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Message dated February 17, 2020, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed Senate Bill No. 1224, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING COMPREHENSIVE VALUES EDUCATION IN THE K TO 12 CURRICULUM AS A CORE SUBJECT INCLUDING GOOD MANNERS AND RIGHT CONDUCT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

in which it requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated February 17, 2020, informing the House of Representatives that on even date the Senate designated Senators Win Gatchalian, Juan Miguel “Migz” F. Zubiri, Joel Villanueva, Panfilo M. Lacson and Risa Hontiveros as conferees to the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 1224, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING COMPREHENSIVE VALUES EDUCATION IN THE K TO 12 CURRICULUM AS A CORE SUBJECT INCLUDING GOOD MANNERS AND RIGHT CONDUCT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”;

and House Bill No. 5829, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING VALUES EDUCATION IN THE CURRICULUM BY INCORPORATING ‘GOOD MANNERS

AND RIGHT CONDUCT' AS A SUBJECT
IN KINDERGARTEN UP TO THE GRADE
3 LEVEL”.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Committee on Local Government
(Committee Report No. 242), re H.B. No. 6363,
entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING JULY 2 OF EVERY
YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING
HOLIDAY IN PASIG CITY TO BE KNOWN
AS THE 'ANNIVERSARY DAY OF PASIG
CITY' ”

recommending its approval in substitution of
House Bill No. 3146

Sponsors: Representatives Villanueva (Noel) and
Romulo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Health and the Committee
on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 243),
re H.B. No. 6365, entitled:

“AN ACT UPGRADING THE SIARGAO
DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF DAPA, PROVINCE
OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE INTO A
LEVEL II GENERAL HOSPITAL TO BE
KNOWN AS THE SIARGAO ISLAND
MEDICAL CENTER, INCREASING
ITS BED CAPACITY, UPGRADING
ITS PROFESSIONAL HEALTH
CARE SERVICES AND FACILITIES,
AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF
ITS MEDICAL PERSONNEL AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of
House Bill No. 1996

Sponsors: Representatives Tan (Angelina), Ungab
and Matugas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

APPROVAL OF JOURNAL NO. 45

On motion of Representative Singson-Meehan,
there being no objection, the Body approved Journal
No. 45 dated February 18, 2020.

PRIVILEGE HOUR

The day being a Monday, on successive motions
of Representative Singson-Meehan, there being no
objection, the Chair declared a Privilege Hour and

thereafter recognized Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr. for
his privilege speech.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE BORDADO

Representative Bordado spoke about a recent
newspaper headline which claimed that an alarming
number of elementary students from the Bicol region
cannot read in both English and Filipino, according
to the findings of the Philippine Informal Reading
Inventory or Phil-IRI. He pointed out that this was
also reflective of the results of several international
studies showing that the Philippines ranked the lowest
in reading, mathematics, and science categories.

In this regard, he stressed the urgent need to
reevaluate the quality of basic education not only in
the Bicol Region but in the entire country as well.
This, as he also noted that providing access to quality
education has always been the topmost priority of
the government. He added that given the dismal
results of the pretests on reading comprehension
done by Phil-IRI on more than 70,000 Bicol pupils,
the government has started initiatives to improve
this handicap through its K-12 Program, which
was deemed as a promising step towards achieving
good quality education and produce competent and
globally competitive individuals in the future.

Considering that all these concerns need urgent
action, Representative Bordado stressed that the
government should focus on revitalizing and
improving the teaching profession; encouraging and
producing teachers who are competent and well-
equipped to guide their students, and establishing
a suitable, comfortable, and accessible learning
environment and facilities for the citizenry. In
closing, he stressed that given the funding, programs,
projects, and the right mind set in place, he is
confident that these numbers would soon improve
through the tireless and unceasing efforts of the
government to improve and strengthen the nation's
educational system.

MOTION TO ADJOURN OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Stating that the Body cannot muster enough
numbers on the floor as his own count only totaled 78
Members, Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. moved to adjourn
the session. He lamented that there was no sense in
continuing with the proceedings and tackle important

measures as well as listen to the speeches of his colleagues in the absence of a quorum.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Rep. Juan Pablo “Rimpy” P. Bondoc, the Chair suspended the session at 3:26 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 3:36 p.m.

ROLL CALL

On motion of Senior Deputy Majority Leader Jesus Crispin C. Remulla, there being no objection, the Chair directed the Secretary General to call the Roll and the following Members were present:

Abante	Bulut	Dujali	Macapagal Arroyo
Abaya	Bustos	Duterte	Maceda
Abellanosa	Cabatbat	Dy (F.)	Madrona
Abu	Cabochan	Dy (F.M.C.)	Malapitan
Acop	Cabredo	Ebcas	Mangudadatu
Acosta	Cagas	Ecleo	Marcoleta
Acosta-Alba	Calderon	Elago	Mariano-Hernandez
Agabas	Calixto	Enverga	Mariño
Agarao	Campos	Erice	Marquez
Aglipay	Caoagdan	Eriguel	Martinez
Albano	Castelo	Ermita-Buhain	Mendoza
Almario	Castro (F.L.)	Escudero	Mercado
Alvarez (F.)	Castro (F.H.)	Espina	Momo
Alvarez (G.)	Cayetano (A.P.)	Estrella	Natividad-Nagaño
Andaya	Cayetano (M.L.)	Fariñas (R.C.)	Nava
Angara	Celeste	Fariñas I (R.C.)	Nieto
Aragones	Chatto	Fernandez	Noel
Arenas	Chipeco	Ferrer (L.)	Nogralas (J.J.)
Atienza	Chungalao	Flores	Oaminal
Balindong	Co (A.N.)	Fortuno	Ong (J.)
Baños-Nogralas	Co (E.)	Frasco	Ortega
Barba	Collantes	Gaite	Pacquiao (A.)
Barbers	Cua	Garbin	Pacquiao (R.)
Baronda	Cuaresma	Garcia (J.E.)	Padiernos
Barzaga	Cullamat	Garcia (P.J.)	Palma
Bascug	Dagooc	Garin (S.)	Pancho
Belmonte	Dalog	Gatchalian	Panotes
Bernos	Datol	Gato	Peña
Biazon	Daza	Geron	Pimentel
Billones	De Jesus	Go (E.C.)	Pineda
Bolilia	Defensor (L.)	Go (M.)	Plaza
Bondoc	Del Mar	Gonzales (A.)	Puno
Bordado	Delos Santos	Gonzales (N.)	Quimbo
Bravo	Deloso-Montalla	Gonzalez	Ramirez-Sato
Brosas	Dimaporo (A.)	Guico	Ramos
		Guya	Remulla
		Hataman	Revilla
		Hernandez	Reyes
		Herrera-Dy	Rivera
		Jalosjos	Rodriguez
		Javier	Romualdez (F.M.)
		Jimenez	Romualdez (Y.M.)
		Kho (W.)	Romulo
		Lacson	Roque
		Lacson-Noel	Sacdalan
		Lagman	Sagarbarria
		Lagon	Salceda
		Lara	Salimbangan
		Leachon	Salo
		Legarda	Sanchez
		Lim	Sangcopan
		Limkaichong	Santos-Recto
		Loyola	Sarmiento
		Lusotan	Saulog

Savellano	Uy (J.)
Silverio	Uy (R.)
Singson-Meehan	Valeriano
Suansing (E.)	Valmayor
Suansing (H.)	Vargas Alfonso
Suntay	Velasco
Taduran	Velo
Tallado	Vergara
Tambunting	Villafuerte
Tan (A.S.)	Villanueva (N.)
Tejada	Villar
Tiangco	Villarica
Tolentino	Violago
Tulfo	Zamora (R.)
Tupas	Zarate
Ty (A.)	Zubiri
Ty (D.)	
Umali (M.V.)	

With 212 Members responding to the Call, including those deemed present in accordance with Section 71, Rule XI of the Provisional House Rules, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum. (See Appendix)

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Upon Representative Remulla's motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. who remarked that the Secretariat's count was 212 Members and they counted those outside of the Session Hall and considered them as present. He then asked how many Members were outside of the Session Hall.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon Representative Remulla's motion, the Chair declared a recess at 3:50 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:51 p.m., the session resumed.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE REMULLA

Upon resumption of session, Representative Remulla stated that 32 Members were attending committee meetings authorized by the Committee on Rules; eight were attending the meeting of the Commission on Appointments; and six were on official business. He added that 166 Members were present or showed up in the Session Hall while 46 Members were deemed present.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Representative Atienza said that his own staff counted only 113 Members on the floor; and claimed that adding the aforementioned 40-plus Members who were deemed present to 113 Members, would not yield a total that would constitute a quorum.

He appealed to the Secretariat employees, whom he said did not seem to understand the repercussion of their continuing differences in counting the Members who were present, to perform the counting accurately or else he would continue to question the integrity of their count. He said that he was willing to apologize if he was wrong; but that said staff should be fired if they were wrong inasmuch as they were employees of Congress while he was elected by the people.

Pursuing his point that the Secretariat's count that was adopted by the Majority Leader was not accurate, he then moved that the Body conduct a head count to prove whether it was he or the Secretariat that was telling a lie.

RULING OF THE CHAIR

At this point, the Chair said that he had already announced the presence of a quorum based on the submission of the Secretary General.

APPEAL OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Representative Atienza appealed the ruling of the Chair.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Remulla, the Chair suspended the session at 3:53 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:54 p.m., the session resumed.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE REMULLA

Thereupon, Representative Remulla clarified that Representative Atienza appealed the ruling of the Chair on the presence of a quorum as well as sought a division of the House thereon. Endorsing the motion to divide the House, he said it would finish the controversy once and for all and further prevent the casting of aspersion

on the character of the people from the Office of the Secretary General who do their jobs on a daily basis.

Representative Remulla explained that those who would say “Aye” would sustain the declaration of a quorum in accordance with the figures that were cited and those who would say “Nay” would agree with Representative Atienza’s position.

DIVISION OF THE HOUSE

There being no objection to Representative Remulla’s motion, the Chair called for a division of the House. With majority of the Members voting in favor, the motion was carried and the Chair reiterated the presence of a quorum.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE BORDADO

On motion of Rep. Michael Edgar Y. Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body referred Representative Bordado’s privilege speech to the Committee on Rules for appropriate action.

ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVE YAP (E.) AS COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRPERSON

On motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body elected Rep. Eric Go Yap as vice chairperson of the Committee on Good Government and Public Accountability.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Thereafter, Representative Aglipay acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Speaker Alan Peter “Compañero” S. Cayetano and Deputy Speaker Luis Raymund “LRay” F. Villafuerte Jr. as well as of Reps. Anthony Peter “Onyx” D. Crisologo, and Henry S. Oaminal.

On motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair then recognized Rep. Eufemia “Ka Femia” C. Cullamat for her privilege speech.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE CULLAMAT

Representative Cullamat pointed out that 30 years had passed since the so-called EDSA Revolution against the Marcos dictatorship. Having described the situation during the military rule of the late President Ferdinand E. Marcos which led to his downfall,

she then compared what she called the dictatorial regime of both Presidents Marcos and Rodrigo Roa Duterte which, she said, bore several similarities in terms of rampant corruption, widespread poverty, and unstoppable killings. She noted that similar to the declaration of martial law during the Marcos administration, the Duterte government’s implementation of Executive Order (E.O.) No. 70 institutionalized abduction, killings, and curtailment of human rights and even gave the military the authority to close down schools established by indigenous communities which would only create more illiterates among them thereby making them easy subjects of deception and exploitation by mining companies who want to possess their ancestral lands. She then reported the recent incident of military strafing in Surigao del Sur, causing shrapnel wounds on the son and relatives of a Lumad farmer.

Representative Cullamat also stated that amendments were being introduced to the Human Security Act to expand the powers of the State security forces, including the warrantless incarceration of criminal suspects for 30 days and the non-requirement of appearance before the court of their abducted victims. She concluded that the joint implementation of E.O. No. 70 and the Human Security Act amendments would further heighten military abuse. She also pointed out that the current administration desecrated the EDSA spirit as the change they had promised was not happening at all. She then ended her speech by reminding her colleagues that the future of the nation rests in their hands and this could be done by enacting laws which promote the national sovereignty.

On motion of Rep. Marissa Andaya, the Chair recognized Representative Atienza for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

Representatives Atienza and Cullamat discussed the significance of the 1986 People Power or EDSA Revolution and recalled the events which led the people to overthrow the Marcos regime. Representative Cullamat in particular narrated her experience during the martial law period as a child growing up in their ancestral lands who witnessed the military operations in their communities and imbibed the teaching that she should defend their right to self-determination, especially on their land because

it was their life. She likewise recounted how, just like before, mining and logging firms would grab their ancestral lands but that as a community, they would defend them because they believe that the degradation of the mountains would also affect the water supply not only of those living in the uplands but those in the lowlands as well.

Representative Atienza next asked whether Representative Cullamat believes that Congress is an essential pillar of democracy; that the Members can also protect and defend the country's democracy inside the halls of Congress by diligently and seriously performing their duty and responsibility of crafting laws to protect and help improve the lives of the people. He said that no Member can claim to be patriotic than the other if they would not do their task and fight for the rights of the people. He noted that the Senate has taken upon themselves to do the task of Congress because the latter has been remiss of its duty and asked whether the Body should already tackle the issue of the ABS-CBN franchise.

Considering that the issue of the ABS-CBN franchise had been openly discussed in public, Representative Cullamat opined that she sees no law being violated by the said network and supported the renewal of its franchise. She explained that she took the floor to discuss the plight of her constituents and the indigenous peoples as a whole and that Congress should tackle the pressing issues besetting the government. While she admitted that she still needed to further her studies when it comes to lawmaking, she emphasized that she and her colleagues should do their sworn task to help improve the lives of the people.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE CULLAMAT

On motion of Representative Andaya, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Representative Cullamat and the interpellation thereon to the Committee on Rules.

On further motion of Representative Andaya, the Chair recognized Rep. Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento for his privilege speech.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY OF REPRESENTATIVE SARMIENTO

Before proceeding with his speech, Representative Sarmiento recalled that when he was a member of the 17th Congress, they started

the plenary session with the singing of the National Anthem before the invocation. He cited Section 73 of the House Rules thereon. He then inquired whether the 18th Congress would be consistent with following the Rules on the first order of the day because he noted that the present Congress has always started with an invocation before the National Anthem.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Bondoc, the Chair suspended the session at 4:36 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 4:41 p.m.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE SARMIENTO

Upon resumption of session, Representative Sarmiento said that upon discussing thoroughly his concern with the acting majority leader, he was withdrawing his earlier inquiry with regard to Section 73 of the House Rules but expressed hope that should the question be asked again in the future, a proper response would be given.

Thereafter, the Chair recognized Representative Sarmiento for his privilege speech upon motion of Representative Remulla.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE SARMIENTO

Representative Sarmiento's speech delved on his request for mandatory drug testing for driver's license applicants of public utility vehicles as he recounted the incident that happened in Makati the previous week when a jeepney driver rammed on students crossing the pedestrian lane that caused the death of a 14-year old and injury to seven others. He said that the reckless driver tested positive and confessed to using illegal drugs.

While the duration of the validity of a driver's license was extended during the 17th Congress, Representative Sarmiento said that no consideration was made to be stricter in giving out licenses especially to public utility drivers who are responsible for the lives of their passengers. He then sought to bring back the mandatory drug testing requirement that was abolished by Republic Act No. 10586.

**REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH
OF REPRESENTATIVE SARMIENTO**

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

EXTENSION OF PRIVILEGE HOUR

Thereupon, on motion of Rep. Josephine Veronique R. Lacson-Noel, there being no objection, the Body approved to extend the Privilege Hour for another hour.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative Lacson-Noel acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Minority Leader Bienvenido M. Abante Jr., Speaker Cayetano (A.P.), Rep. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo, Deputy Speaker Paolo Z. Duterte and Rep. Elias C. Bulut Jr.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Andaya, the Chair recognized Minority Leader Abante for his privilege speech.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Pimentel relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Raneó "Ranie" E. Abu.

**PRIVILEGE SPEECH
OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE**

Minority Leader Abante talked about the recent decision of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte to end the Visiting Forces Agreement between the Philippines and the United States of America. He expressed his support to the President's decision which he believed would benefit the country as he quoted Father Joaquin Bernas who once said that the VFA is an insult to the Filipino intelligence.

Thereafter, he asked his colleagues to reexamine the VFA and its revisions to have a better appreciation of the President's decision, especially with regard to (1) pursuing an independent foreign policy, (2) issues regarding jurisdiction of U.S. personnel found to have violated Philippine laws, (3) lack of clarity regarding the entry of nuclear vessels and weapons in Philippine territory, and (4) absence of provision in the VFA regarding environmental protection.

The minority leader further pointed out that abrogating the VFA was consistent with the Constitution, had long been overdue, and the rightful

thing to do. He underscored that while the country may have availed of military aid from the U.S. under said agreement, it must be willing to end mendicancy and explore other alternatives without compromising the values, laws, and welfare of the people in order to protect the national sovereignty and pursue a truly independent foreign policy.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 5:03 p.m., on motion of Representative Bondoc.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:03 p.m., the session resumed.

Upon resumption of session, on motion of Representative Andaya, the Chair recognized Rep. France L. Castro for her interpellation.

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

Representative Castro sought clarification on Minority Leader Abante's various concerns regarding the VFA being an unfavorable military agreement for the Philippines and the U.S. military bases' failure to bring economic profits to the country. They also discussed the growing number of human rights violations, issues of sexual harassment and abuses, and continued destruction and pollution of natural resources, that the presence of these foreign bases had caused in the country.

Representative Castro also inquired whether terminating the VFA required Senate concurrence, which Minority Leader Abante affirmed. The former then expressed hope that affected Filipinos would have a fair chance to speak about the ill effects of the VFA on the country.

On motion of Representative Andaya, the Chair next recognized Rep. Ferdinand R. Gaite to interpellate Minority Leader Abante.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE GAITE**

Representative Gaite discussed with Minority Leader Abante the role of the Senate in the government's action to terminate the VFA that the Senate once ratified, and the provisions and impact of the bilateral agreements called VFA-1 and VFA-2 to the nation's sovereignty. Among other related issues, Representative Gaite exchanged views with his colleague on what he called the lopsided provisions

of the VFA. Both Members agreed to abrogate not only the VFA treaty but also the other one-sided agreements between the Philippines and the United States considering their unequal treatment in favor of protecting only the interests of the latter and in order to assert the former's national sovereignty.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Andaya, the Chair recognized Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Minority Leader Abante and Representative Elago talked about the possibility of the government pursuing another military agreement with other countries wherein both Members agreed that the country should pursue instead an independent foreign policy that would benefit the interest of the Filipinos.

Representative Elago then called for a study and review of existing treaty agreements as they should be mutually beneficial to both parties.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUEST

At this point, Representative Lacson-Noel acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guest of Speaker Cayetano (A.P.).

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Andaya, the Chair recognized Rep. Sergio C. Dagooc for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DAGOOC

Representative Dagooc and Minority Leader Abante's discussion centered on the vulnerability of the country in case of a domestic or international armed conflict, with the abrogation of the VFA; the implications of the VFA abrogation to the country in terms of provision of military equipment and generation of local employment; problems that may arise on military intelligence gathering; and the distinction between an executive agreement and a treaty. Minority Leader Abante stated that when the country lost five US military bases, the country did not suffer economically because some of the bases, such as the one in Subic turned out to be a lucrative development area and the one in Clark, a productive trading one.

To Representative Dagooc's final query, Minority Leader Abante said he opposes any negotiation for a new military agreement with the U.S.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE LAGMAN

Recognized by the Chair upon motion of Representative Aglipay, Rep. Edcel C. Lagman asked Minority Leader Abante about the overriding and major reasons cited by those opposed to the VFA. Minority Leader Abante explained that among the major reasons given were human rights violations and intrusion to Philippine sovereignty. However, for his own personal reasons, the minority leader stated that in order for the country to have an independent foreign policy, it should refrain from forging a military agreement or treaty with any other country, because this for him is not mutually beneficial to both parties.

Thereafter, Representative Lagman cited the reasons given by the VFA oppositors, namely: (1) the VFA is offensive to the Philippine sovereignty; (2) it is an unequal agreement which is against the interest of the country; and (3) the Philippines considers the VFA as a treaty while for the U.S., a mere executive agreement. Considering the reasons stated, he then asked Minority Leader Abante to confirm if the reason given by President Duterte for terminating the VFA was based on any of the major and overriding reasons. Minority Leader Abante said that one probable reason was the revocation of the visa of a certain senator and thereafter concurred with Representative Lagman that the reasons he cited were the same reasons he espoused to abrogate the VFA.

In closing, Representative Lagman asked Minority Leader Abante to substantiate if the decision of the President to abrogate the VFA was a retaliatory act in relation to the cancellation of the U.S. visa of Senator Ronald "Bato" M. Dela Rosa. Minority Leader Abante said he was not in a position to judge the decision made by the President and would not in any way confirm or deny his given reason. Representative Lagman then stated for the record that the President's sole reason for the abrogation was ludicrous because it was not based on a major and overriding cause.

REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF MINORITY LEADER ABANTE

On motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body referred Minority Leader Abante's privilege speech as well as the interpellations thereon to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

EXTENSION OF PRIVILEGE HOUR

On motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body approved to extend the Privilege Hour for another 30 minutes.

On another motion of Representative Aglipay, the Chair recognized Deputy Speaker Aurelio “Dong” D. Gonzales, Jr. for his privilege speech.

**PRIVILEGE SPEECH
OF DEPUTY SPEAKER GONZALES (A.)**

Deputy Speaker Gonzales spoke about the illegal sale of the Paskuhan Village, a cultural heritage site located in San Fernando, Pampanga, which featured a variety of attractions such as a museum, a market, cultural attractions, and an exhibition site for Pampanga artworks such as the giant lanterns whose designs can only be found in Central Luzon. He disclosed that the sale was initiated by the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority or TIEZA in a public bidding held on December 7, 2014 wherein four corporations participated and was won by the Premier Central Inc. or PCI over three bidders owned by SM Investments Corporation.

He explained that when the land being occupied by the Paskuhan Village was sold by the owners to the Philippine Tourism Authority, the PTA promised to establish a world-class cultural, historical, and commercial center in Central Luzon to support the arts and culture workers as well as entrepreneurs in the region. He however emphasized that after a decade, businesses in the Paskuhan Village began to decline and the Commission on Audit opined that its continued operation would no longer be beneficial for the government. To maintain its cultural value, the COA recommended the following: (1) rehabilitate the Paskuhan Village facilities; (2) remarket; and (3) devolve its operation to the local government.

After detailing the events that subsequently transpired including Congress’ investigation in accordance with a resolution he filed; the Office of the Solicitor General’s case for nullification; and the compromise agreement among the PCI, the city government of San Fernando, and TIEZA, Deputy Speaker Gonzales refuted reports on his alleged support for any agreement. He also questioned the regularity, fairness, and legitimacy of the regional trial court’s issuance of a decision on the OSG’s case; the OSG’s role in and the notarization of, said agreement; and the PCI’s donation of part of the Paskuhan Village to the City of San Fernando.

He subsequently stressed that the courts should not overlook or disrespect the House; and the government should defend its rights as well as the interest of the people. Clarifying that he did not want to fight anyone, he said that he only wanted Paskuhan Village to be returned to the government and to be rehabilitated so as to continue showing to the world the Philippines’ unique way of celebrating Christmas.

Deputy Speaker Gonzales also called on President Rodrigo Roa Duterte to support him in his fight to redeem the Paskuhan Village for the benefit of the Filipino people. He also moved that the Body direct the Committee on Justice to conduct an investigation on (1) the circumstances surrounding the Paskuhan Village case which was lodged before Regional Trial Court Branch 42 of San Fernando, Pampanga; (2) the manner how the Court resolved the case; and (3) how the Court’s ruling proved detrimental to the Filipino people. He likewise requested that copies of his speech be sent to the Office of the President; the Supreme Court; Office of the Court Administrator; the Department of Tourism; the COA; and the Provincial Government of Pampanga. He informed the Body that he filed a resolution thereon which was coauthored by Deputy Speaker Pimentel.

**REFERRAL OF PRIVILEGE SPEECH
OF DEPUTY SPEAKER GONZALES (A.)**

On motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body referred Deputy Speaker Gonzales’ privilege speech to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

TERMINATION OF PRIVILEGE HOUR

On subsequent motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body terminated the Privilege Hour.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 210
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6134**

On motion of Representative Aglipay, there being no objection, the Body resumed the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6134 contained in Committee Report No. 210 as submitted by the Committee on Banks and Financial Intermediaries.

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

“AN ACT MANDATING BANKING INSTITUTIONS TO STRENGTHEN THE FINANCING SYSTEM FOR AGRICULTURAL, FISHERIES AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES.”

Representative Aglipay stated that the parliamentary status was that the Bill was in the period of sponsorship and debate. On his motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Junie E. Cua, chairperson of the Committee on Banks and Financial Intermediaries, to sponsor the Bill, and Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

To Representative Zarate’s query, Representative Cua clarified that the Bill at hand was the answer to the failure of Republic Act No. 10000 or the Agri-Agra Reform Credit Act of 2009 to fulfill its mandate to finance agricultural farmers and agrarian reform beneficiaries. He explained that a special fund was included, to be managed by the Agricultural and Fisheries Finance and Capacity-Building Council, to capacitate farmers to organize themselves into viable groups, with the end in view of making them become qualified clients of banks which generally do not take the risk to lend to small farm holders.

Both Representatives then discussed the reasons why the banks did not bother to lend to these groups; the target beneficiaries of the Bill under Section 5 thereof, including big corporations or big cooperatives; a possible amendment to Section 5 to include individuals as among those to be capacitated to become viable client-borrowers; and the avilment of credit quota by big corporations, particularly agribusiness enterprises linked with farmers, fishermen and agrarian reform beneficiaries.

The two Members next discussed the definition of an agrarian reform beneficiary and whether the holders of stock distribution offer and landowners can be beneficiaries of the financial facility for the special fund; and whether a company that enters into a profit or production-sharing agreement with an agrarian reform beneficiary can also avail of the financing facility under the special fund.

Representative Zarate opined that the instant Bill does not change the status quo between the agrarian

reform beneficiaries and the company because the farmers are forced to enter into an arrangement since they lack financial capacity; and the gap was not being addressed to make the farmers to be independent from the control of their previous landowners.

Representative Cua said that the kind of arrangement Representative Zarate would like is more within the purview of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program which would be difficult to amend as he opined that House Bill No. 6134 is not the right bill to change such concept. The latter disagreed thereto, arguing that given the expiration of the CARP extension, the Bill could at least address the gap in the subject Agri-Agra Law.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Abu relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Rodante D. Marcoleta.

Representative Zarate inquired into the limit of the interest rate that may be charged against the farmers or an association involved in agribusiness should they avail of either the mandatory or special fund. The Sponsor replied that interest rates are set by the interplay of market forces.

At this point, Deputy Speaker Marcoleta relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Abu.

Representative Zarate noted that the financing program of the Bill meant to “corporatize” the farms and opined that not setting a ceiling for interest rates under the proposed financing facility would be disadvantageous especially for the small farmers as the problem of lack of financing would then cause them to go to financiers who charge usurious rates. He also expressed belief that the Bill at hand is in some way a social justice bill by addressing the gaps in R.A. No. 10000. In reply, Representative Cua then explained the major difference between the Bill and the said law.

Representatives Zarate and Cua then talked about the alternative compliance of the mandatory financing for agri-agra credit; the practice of several banks of resorting to alternative compliance to avoid complying with the mandatory requirement of the law to extend financing to farmers and fisherfolks, because of the risk and high cost of lending to small farmers; and the expansion of the types of loan purpose under the alternative compliance, such as lending for the construction of farm-to-market roads and promotion of the agricultural value chain.

Representative Zarate expressed his reservations on the Bill as it still has alternative modes that give more leeway for banks to ensure a profitable return of their capital. He then sought clarification from the Sponsor on whether the ₱10 billion special fund is exclusive only to beneficiaries with active financing or loan accounts or for beneficiaries who still want to apply to access the financing facility; who will manage the said fund; and whether the fund would come solely from the penalties paid for by the banks for noncompliance or under compliance with the law, and not from other sources such as proceeds from the collection of levies or from the general appropriations act.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6134

On motion of Representative Bondoc, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6134.

BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 218 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6192

On motion of Representative Bondoc, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 6192 contained in Committee Report No. 218 as submitted by the Committee on Youth and Sports Development.

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

“AN ACT PRESERVING THE INDIGENOUS
GAMES OF THE PHILIPPINES.”

On further motion of Representative Bondoc, the Chair recognized Rep. Eric M. Martinez, chairperson of the sponsoring Committee, for his sponsorship speech.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE MARTINEZ

Representative Martinez shared how well the indigenous athletes represented Australia in the Olympics since 1964 as well as how the Philippines' indigenous peoples – the Aeta, Dumagat, Ifugao, and Mangyan – had proven their athletic prowess in the historic first-ever World Indigenous Games held in Brazil, and the First Asian Games Indigenous Tribal Games held in Sabah, Malaysia.

Stressing that it was vital to preserve the country's sociocultural heritage and enrich the identity as a race of the indigenous peoples, Representative Martinez thereafter called on his colleagues to consider, vote, and approve House Bill No. 6192.

TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

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

TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no committee and individual amendments, on motion of Representative Bondoc, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of amendments.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6192

Whereupon, on motion of Representative Bondoc, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 6192.

DESIGNATION OF HOUSE CONFEREES

On motion of Rep. Lianda B. Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body designated Rep. Roman T. Romulo, Deputy Speaker Evelina G. Escudero, Reps. Jocelyn F. Fortuno, Resurreccion M. Acop, and Stella Luz A. Quimbo as members of the conference committee to reconcile the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 5829 and Senate Bill No. 1224, institutionalizing values education in the curriculum by incorporating Good Manners and Right Conduct as a subject in the Kindergarten up to Grade 3 level.

RECONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5887

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body reconsidered the approval on Second Reading of House Bill No. 5887, entitled: “AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF INFRASTRUCTURE

PROJECTS IN CEBU CITY AND CEBU PROVINCE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,” in order to introduce perfecting amendments therein.

PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

On motion of Representative Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the period of amendments.

AMENDMENT TO THE TITLE

As proposed by Representative Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body approved to amend the title of the Bill to read as follows: “AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN UNDERSEA TUNNEL OR BRIDGE FROM CEBU CITY TO THE MUNICIPALITY OF CORDOVA AND A COASTAL ROAD-EXPRESSWAY TO THE MACTAN-CEBU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.”

TERMINATION OF PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

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

APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5887, AS AMENDED

On further motion of Representative Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body approved on Second Reading House Bill No. 5887, as amended, through *viva voce* voting.

RECONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NOS. 5855 AND 5945

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Bolilia, there being no objection, the Body reconsidered the approval on Second Reading of the following measures:

1. House Bill No. 5855, entitled: “AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SECOND DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF COMPOSTELA, PROVINCE OF COMPOSTELA VALLEY,

AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”; and

2. House Bill No. 5945, entitled: “AN ACT DECLARING MARCH 8 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF COMPOSTELA VALLEY.”

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

Subsequently, on motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the Additional Reference of Business.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General referred the following Committee Reports to the appropriate committee indicated hereunder:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Committee on Legislative Franchises (Committee Report No. 244), re H.B. No. 6371, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION, PRESENTLY KNOWN AS BAYAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC., UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3259, ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO ESTABLISH RADIO STATIONS FOR DOMESTIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS, RADIOPHONE, BROADCASTING AND TELECASTING' AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NOS. 4905 AND 7633”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 5797

Sponsors: Representatives Alvarez (Franz) and Tejada

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Legislative Franchises (Committee Report No. 245), re H.B. No. 6373, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO TANDAG ELECTRIC AND TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8715, ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING THE

TANDAG ELECTRIC AND TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, ESTABLISH, INSTALL, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE LOCAL EXCHANGE NETWORK IN THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR' ”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 906

Sponsors: Representatives Alvarez (Franz) and Pimentel

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Legislative Franchises (Committee Report No. 246), re H.B. No. 6374, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO CACERES BROADCASTING CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8106 ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING CACERES BROADCASTING CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE ISLAND OF LUZON AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES' ”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 1737

Sponsors: Representatives Alvarez (Franz) and Villafuerte

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

CHANGE OF REFERRAL OF MEASURES

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

1. House Bill No. 11 – from the Committees on Economic Affairs, and Trade and Industry to the Committees on Local Government, and Government Enterprises and Privatization;
2. House Bill Nos. 1287 and 4705 - from the Committee on Public Works and Highways to the Committee on Transportation;
3. House Bill No. 5075 – from the Committee on Legislative Franchises to the Committee on Transportation;

4. House Bill No. 5281 - from the Committee on Justice to the Committee on Youth and Sports Development; and


5. House Bill No. 5976 - from the Committee on Trade and Industry to the Committee on Banks and Financial Intermediaries.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

Subsequently, on motion of Representative Lacson-Noel, there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until three o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday, February 26, 2020.

It was 7:35 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.


JOSE LUIS G. MONTALES
Secretary General

Approved on March 2, 2020.

DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED

Printed copies of the following measures were distributed to the Members during the session:

1. House Bill No. 78, entitled: “AN ACT MODERNIZING THE PUBLIC SERVICE ACT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 146, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'PUBLIC SERVICE ACT', AS AMENDED”
2. House Bill No. 1338, entitled: “AN ACT INCREASING THE SERVICE INCENTIVE LEAVE OF EMPLOYEES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE 95 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”
3. House Bill No. 6228, entitled: “AN ACT MANDATING ALL BARANGAYS TO CREATE A REGISTRY OF SKILLED WORKERS”

4. House Bill No. 6312, entitled:“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SPORTS SYSTEM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”
5. House Bill No. 6167, entitled:“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TUBOD, PROVINCE OF LANA DEL NORTE, TO BE KNOWN AS THE TUBOD TESDA TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”
6. House Bill No. 6181, entitled:“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION (PRC) OFFICE IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD, PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”
7. House Bill No. 6216, entitled:“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN THE CITY OF ANTIPOLLO, PROVINCE OF RIZAL, TO BE KNOWN AS THE ANTIPOLLO CITY TESDA TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”
8. House Bill No. 6218, entitled:“AN ACT RENAMING THE MALITA DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN BARANGAY POBLACION, MUNICIPALITY OF MALITA, PROVINCE OF DAVAO OCCIDENTAL TO MALITA WOMEN’S AND CHILDREN’S WELLNESS CENTER”
9. House Bill No. 6227, entitled:“AN ACT CREATING A NEW DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE IN THE THIRD LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”
10. House Bill No. 6255, entitled:“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO ROMEO CABRESTANTE SERVANDO, PRESENTLY KNOWN AS ROLIN BROADCASTING ENTERPRISES, INC., UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8202, ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING ROMEO CABRESTANTE SERVANDO, A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PROVINCE OF PALAWAN' ”

Congress of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Philippines

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE

Journal No. 47

Monday, February 24, 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	***	OUANO-DIZON	****	SUAREZ (D.)
***	HOFER	PACQUIAO (A.)		SUNTAY
JALOSJOS		PACQUIAO (R.)	****	SY-ALVARADO
JAVIER		PADIERNOS		TADURAN
JIMENEZ	****	PADUANO		TALLADO
***	KHO (E.)	PALMA	**	TAMBUNTING
KHO (W.)	**	PANCHO		TAN (A.S.)
****	KHONGHUN	PANOTES	****	TAN (A.)
****	LABADLABAD	PEÑA	****	TAN (SAMIER)
LACSON	****	PICHAY	****	TAN (S.A.)
LACSON-NOEL		PIMENTEL	****	TAN (SHERNEE)
LAGMAN		PINEDA	**	TEJADA
LAGON		PLAZA	****	TEVES (A.)
LARA		PUNO	***	TEVES (J.)
***	LAZATIN	QUIMBO		TIANGCO
LEACHON	*	RADAZA		TOLENTINO
**	LEGARDA	RAMIREZ-SATO	*	TORRES-GOMEZ
LIM		RAMOS		TULFO
LIMKAICHONG		REMULLA		TUPAS
***	LOPEZ	**	****	TUTOR
**	LOYOLA	REVILLA	**	TY (A.)
LUSOTAN		REYES		TY (D.)
MACAPAGAL ARROYO	*	RIVERA	*	UMALI (A.)
MACEDA	**	ROBES		UMALI (M.V.)
MADRONA	***	RODRIGUEZ	***	UNABIA
MALAPITAN	*	ROMAN	****	UNGAB
*	MANGAOANG	**	**	UY (J.)
MANGUDADATU	**	ROMUALDEZ (F.M.)		UY (R.)
MARCOLETA	***	ROMUALDEZ (Y.M.)		VALERIANO
**	MARIANO-HERNANDEZ	ROMUALDO		VALMAYOR
**	MARIÑO	ROMULO	*	VARGAS
MARQUEZ		ROQUE	**	VARGAS ALFONSO
MARTINEZ		SACDALAN		VELASCO
****	MATBA	SAGARBARRIA	**	VELOSO
***	MATUGAS	SAKALURAN		VERGARA
MENDOZA		SALCEDA	****	VILLA
MERCADO		SALIMBANGON	****	VILLAFUERTE
MOMO		SALO	****	VILLANUEVA (E.)
**	NATIVIDAD-NAGAÑO	SANCHEZ		VILLANUEVA (N.)
**	NAVA	SANGCOPAN		VILLAR
NIETO	**	SANTOS-RECTO	****	VILLARAZA-SUAREZ
NOEL		SARMIENTO		VILLARICA
NOGRALES (J.J.)		SAULOG	**	VIOLAGO
***	NOGRALES (J.F.F.)	SAVELLANO	*	YAP (E.)
***	NOLASCO	SIAO	*	YAP (V.)
***	NUÑEZ-MALANYAON	SILVERIO	***	YU
OAMINAL	****	SINGSON	**	ZAMORA (R.)
****	OLIVAREZ	SINGSON-MEEHAN	***	ZAMORA (W.K.)
ONG (J.)	***	SINSUAT		ZARATE
****	ONG (R.)	SUANSING (E.)	**	ZUBIRI
ORTEGA	****	SUANSING (H.)		
		SUAREZ (A.)		

* 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)