



Feliciano Belmonte, Jr.
Speaker

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
15th CONGRESS
of the Republic of the Philippines



SECOND REGULAR SESSION
PERFORMANCE REPORT

July 2011 - June 2012

Championing Good Governance, Upholding Democracy



(First Row, from left) Deputy Speakers Raul A. Daza, Lorenzo R. Tañada III, Pablo P. Garcia, Arnulfo P. Fuentebella, (Second Row) Jesus Crispin C. Remulla, Maria Isabelle G. Climaco, Majority Leader Neptali M. Gonzales II, and Minority Leader Danilo E. Suarez

The House of Representatives capped its Second Regular Session on June 6, 2012 riding on the crest of the highest public satisfaction and trust ratings ever garnered by the institution, affirming its continuing commitment to fulfill the nationwide clamor for a legislature that serves the people with utmost competence and integrity.

Speaker Belmonte succeeded in bringing to fruition his inaugural promise to transform the 285-member House into a bastion of authentic reform and outstanding legislative performance. By the adjournment of the Second Regular Session of the 15th Congress, House Members have filed a total of 8,884 bills and resolutions, of which 3,398 measures have been processed in the span of 128 session days, achieving a processing rate of 27 measures for each session day for two regular sessions. Of the processed measures, 27 became Republic Acts, three bicameral reports were ratified, and 776 were approved on Third Reading. Also adopted were 11 concurrent resolutions, 268 regular resolutions and 1,180 resolutions authorizing the conduct of inquiries in aid of legislation, while 12 bills were passed on Second Reading.

New Laws Enacted

For the duration of the Second Regular Session from July 26, 2011 up to June 6, 2012, 11 new laws were enacted, on top of the nine laws signed into law during the first year of the 15th Congress. Of the national bills enacted are: the 2012 General Appropriations Act (RA 10155), the landmark educational system reform law institutionalizing kindergarten education (RA 10157), the law decriminalizing vagrancy (RA 10158), the law conferring upon members of the Sanggunians the appropriate Civil Service eligibility (RA 10156), the law adjusting the rate of subsidiary imprisonment to an amount equivalent to the highest daily minimum wage of a laborer in the Philippines prevailing at the time of conviction (RA 10159), the law creating two additional trial court branches at Santa Rosa City, Laguna (RA 10162), and the joint resolution increasing the 2011 corporate operating budget of the National Power Corporation from P7.575 billion to P13.968 billion (JR 2). Four bills of local import creating the component cities of Bacoor (RA 10160) and Imus (RA 10161), both in Cavite, as well as Cabuyao (RA 10163) in Laguna and Mabalacat (RA 10164) in Pampanga were signed into law by President Aquino.

After Congress adjourned, the President signed seven more measures into law: the amendments to the Anti-Money Laundering Act (RA 10167), the Terrorism Financing and Suppression Act of 2012 (RA 10168), the Act Strengthening and Propagating Foster Care for Abandoned and Neglected Children (RA 10165), the Act Regulating the Practice of Geology (RA 10166), the Act Converting the Municipality of Ilagan, Province of Isabela, into a Component City to be known as the City of Ilagan (RA 10169), and the Act Reapportioning the Second Legislative District of Quezon City, Thereby Creating Two Additional Legislative Districts and Twelve Sangguniang Panglungsod Seats from such Reapportionment (RA 10170), and Joint Resolution 3 annulling the ARMM voters' list and ordering the conduct of a new voters' registration in the region.

Among the bills awaiting transmittal to the President for action are the following ratified bills: the Data Privacy Act (HB 4115), the Arbor Day Revival Act (HB 4330), the Anti-Cybercrime Act (HB 5808), the People's Survival Fund Act (HB 6235), and the Act Authorizing the City or Municipal Civil



DOING THINGS RIGHT. Speaker Feliciano Belmonte, Jr. expressed gratitude to the Members of the 285-member House of Representatives on June 6, 2012, the last day of the Second Regular Session, for their unwavering cooperation and hard work in pushing various reform legislation and initiatives that serve the national interest.

Registrar or Consul General to Correct Clerical Errors in the Date of Birth or Sex of a Person Appearing in the Civil Register Without Need of a Judicial Order (HB 4530).

Prioritizing Competent and Accountable Governance

The House's firm commitment to promote transparency and accountability in the bureaucracy was highlighted through the passage of measures that curb systemic corruption and raise investor confidence in the country's economic prospects.

By impeaching former Supreme Court Chief Justice Renato Corona on December 12, 2011, the Chamber affirmed its unyielding resolve to restore public trust in the judiciary. The successful prosecution of the then Chief Justice is a victory for the House in its campaign to strengthen the people's trust in the government. In an earlier action to underscore the accountability of public officials, the House impeached Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez on March 22, 2011, though she resigned before an impeachment trial in the Senate could proceed.

In the Second Regular Session, the House also pushed for crucial bureaucratic reforms. It passed on Third Reading the bills establishing the Philippine Statistical System (HB 6229) to rationalize the government data gathering and statistical system as a basis for public policy and program planning, the Passport Act (HB 5854) simplifying the

passport application process and the Cooperatives Representation bill (HB 3871) to institutionalize coop participation in the Land Bank of the Philippines' board of directors.

Greater success in holding credible elections is further secured by the passage of HB 4145, identifying other persons criminally liable for election offenses and increasing penalties for election-related offenses, and HB 5509, mandating the use of highly accessible polling places for persons with disabilities.

The House also approved on Third Reading a Cadastral Survey Bill to rationalize land use in the country (HB 5870) and the Real Property Valuation and Assessment Bill (HB 6044) to establish consistent appraisal standards in the country. Also, HB 3747 grants indigenous peoples a period of extension to secure titles to their ancestral lands and empowers the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples to take legal action to cancel illegally-acquired titles.

These reform measures complement the reforms initiated in the First Regular Session, notably the GOCC Governance Act (RA 10149) and the Retirement Benefits Early Release Law (RA 10154).

Raising the Bar for Legislative Performance

The Second Regular Session also saw the House of Representatives consolidating the legislative foundations needed to fight corruption in the bureaucracy, improve accessibility and quality



KINDERGARTEN LAW LAUNCHING. Speaker Feliciano Belmonte, Jr. (back, third from left) joins President Benigno S. Aquino III in Malacañang Palace for the formal presentation rites of the Kindergarten Education Act (RA 10157). With them are House Basic Education Committee Chairman Salvador Escudero III, Rep. Thelma Almario (principal author of the Act), Education Secretary Armin Luistro, and some schoolchildren.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS APPROVED ON THIRD READING

GOOD GOVERNANCE

- HB 1105** – Declaring The Sheikh Karimul Makhdum Mosque At Tubig Indangan, Simunul, Province Of Tawi-Tawi, As a National Landmark
- HB 3871** – Mandating The Representation of Cooperatives In The Board Of Directors Of The Land Bank of the Philippines
- HB 4061** – Strengthening The Fiscal Autonomy Of Local Governments
- HB 4069** – Amending The Motor Vehicles User's Charge Law
- HB 4145** – Identifying Other Persons Criminally Liable For Election Offenses & Increasing The Penalties For Election-Related Offenses
- HB 4153** – Establishing The Archipelagic Sea Lanes In The Philippine Archipelagic Waters
- HB 4185** – Philippine Maritime Zones Act
- HB 4224** – Use Of Security Paper In All Receipts And Invoices, Permits, Licenses, Clearances, Official Papers Or Documents Act
- HB 4410** – Providing For Direct Remittance To The Host Local Government Of Its 40% Share Of The Proceeds From The Utilization And Development Of National Wealth
- HB 4617** – Prescribing Rates Of Pay And Allowances For Officers And Enlisted Personnel Of The Armed Forces While On Overseas Duty
- HB 4660** – Strengthening The Government's Anti-Drug Campaign By Amending The Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act
- HB 4667** – Creating The Department Of Information And Communications Technology
- HB 4903** – Devolving To Municipalities And Cities The Registration Of Fishing Vessels With A Maximum Gross Weight Of Three Tons Or Less
- HB 5854** – Revised Philippine Passport Act Of 2012
- HB 6229** – Reorganizing The Philippine Statistical System
- HJR 16** – Joint Resolution Extending The Life Of The Congressional Oversight Committee On Dangerous Drugs

SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC GROWTH

- HB 57** – Marine And Coastal Resources Protection Act
- HB 3284** – Amending PD 538 Creating The Philippine Veterans Investment Development Company Industrial Authority
- HB 3861** – Government Employees' Entrepreneurship Act of 2011
- HB 4316** – The Subdivision And Condominium Buyers' Protective Decree Amendments
- HB 4443** – Local Music Industry Incentives Act
- HB 4540** – Amending Sections 91 And 97 Of RA 8550, Or The Philippine Fisheries Code
- HB 4575** – Corporate Social Responsibility Act
- HB 4655** – Access Devices Regulation Act
- HB 4688** – Micro-Enterprise Development Institution Act Of 2011
- HB 4788** – The Customs Modernization And Tariff Act
- HB 4812** – Philippine Hazardous & Radioactive Wastes Management Act
- HB 4840** – Plastic Bag Regulation Act
- HB 4841** – Car Buyers Protection Law
- HB 4935** – The Investments And Incentives Code

- HB 5460** – Providing Incentives For The Manufacture, Assembly, Etc. Of Electric, Hybrid And Other Alternative Fuel Vehicles
- HB 5461** – Extending The Term Of The Land Bank Of The Philippines
- HB 5485** – Providing For The Protection, Rehabilitation, And Sustainable Management Of Forest Ecosystem
- HB 5727** – Restructuring The Excise Tax On Alcohol And Tobacco Products (Certified Urgent by the President)
- HB 6022** – Rationalizing The Taxes On International Air Carriers Operating In The Philippines

SOCIAL REFORM & PUBLIC SERVICE

- HB 98** – Anti-Enforced Or Involuntary Disappearance Act Of 2012
- HB 164** – Philippine Standard Time (PST) Act
- HB 592** – Providing For National Folic Acid Education Program To Prevent Birth Defects
- HB 709** – Anti-Cable Television and Cable Internet Pilferage Act Of 2010
- HB 1215** – Amending Section 2 Of RA 4103, As Amended, Or The Indeterminate Sentence Law
- HB 1288** – Amending Art. 75 Of Title IV Of EO 209, As Amended By EO 227, Or The Family Code
- HB 3088** – Promoting And Supporting Breastfeeding
- HB 3546** – Protection Of Students' Right To Enroll In Review Centers Act
- HB 3747** – Extending The Period For Indigenous Cultural Communities/ Peoples To Exercise The Option To Secure Title To Their Ancestral Lands
- HB 3849** – Philippine Public Safety College System Act
- HB 4209** – Strengthening Adult Education Programs For Workers And Employees
- HB 4210** – Labor Education Act
- HB 4225** – Civil Society Organizations Empowerment Act
- HB 4255** – Ladderized Education Act
- HB 4359** – Providing For The Payment Of The Administrative Total Disability Pension To Senior Veterans Of Wars & Military Campaigns
- HB 4373** – Underprivileged Post-Secondary & Tertiary Students' Discount Act
- HB 4455** – Positive Discipline In Lieu Of Corporal Punishment Of Children Act
- HB 4466** – Athletic Companies Report Act
- HB 4480** – Special Protection Of Children in Situations Of Armed Conflict Act
- HB 4539** – Credit Assistance Program For Overseas Workers
- HB 4578** – Idle Government-Owned Lands Disposition Act
- HB 4643** – Expanding The Prohibited Acts Of Discrimination Against Women
- HB 4656** – Anti-Professional Squatters & Squatting Racketeer/s Or Syndicates Act
- HB 4791** – Penalizing Schools Imposing A "No Permit, No Exam" Policy
- HB 4801** – Amending Certain Provisions Of RA 7581, Or The Law Providing Protection To Consumers By Stabilizing The Prices Of Basic Necessities And Prime Commodities And By Prescribing Measures Against Undue Price Increases During Emergency Situations

- HB 4115** – Protecting Individual Personal Data In Public & Corporate Information And Communications Systems
- HB 4241** – Early Voting For Media Act Of 2011
- HB 4883** – The Open Learning & Distance Education Act
- HB 4807** – Prohibiting Racial, Ethnic And Religious Discrimination
- HB 5496** – Anti-Bullying in Schools Act
- HB 5395** – Recognizance Act of 2011
- HB 5445** – Banning Hospitals from Charging Employment Fees On Nurses
- HB 5446** – Balanced Housing Development Program
- HB 5471** – Health Facilities Regulation Act
- HB 5484** – Providing For A Comprehensive Regulation Of Firearms, Light Weapons And Ammunition
- HB 5626** – Providing Measures To Ensure The Safety Of Children Aboard Motorcycles
- HB 5627** – Internal Displacement Act Of 2011
- HB 5715** – Whistleblower, Protection, Security And Benefit Act Of 2011
- HB 5751** – Mandatory Pregnancy Testing Of All Women Of Childbearing Age Who Will Undergo Cosmetic Surgery
- HB 5860** – Providing For The Delineation Of The Specific Forest Limits Of The Public Domain
- HB 5868** – Upholding The Constitutional Right Of The People To Information On Matters Of Public Concern On Food Included In The List Of Basic Necessities
- HB 5928** – Pre-Hospital Emergency Medical Care System Act
- HB 5932** – Penalizing Stealing Or Tampering Of Government Risk Reduction And Preparedness Equipment
- HB 5990** – Providing Compensation To Victims Of Human Rights Violations During The Marcos Regime
- HB 6023** – Prevention Of Pollution From Ships Act Of 2012
- HB 6044** – Instituting Reforms In Real Property Valuation And Assessment In The Philippines
- HB 6048** – Providing For Universal Health Care Services To All Filipinos
- HB 6050** – Establishing Rural Farm Schools As Alternative Delivery Mode Of Secondary Education
- HB 6052** – Strengthening The Juvenile Justice System In The Philippines
- HB 6086** – Establishing The Open High School System In The Philippines
- HB 6118** – Strengthening Direct Credit Support Of The Land Bank Of The Philippines To Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries, Small Farmers And Fisherfolk
- HB 6131** – Providing For Stiffer Penalties For The Unauthorized Cutting Of Coconut Trees
- HB 6154** – Blood Type Identification Act Of 2012
- HB 6155** – Resource Development And Crisis Assistance For Women And Children Act Of 2012
- HB 6184** – Granting Additional Benefits To Solo Parents
- HJR 16** – Joint Resolution Extending The Life Of The Congressional Oversight Committee On Dangerous Drugs

** Plus 37 HBs creating 84 Regional Trial Courts, 18 Municipal Trial Courts, and 21 Metropolitan Trial Courts in 24 provinces and 5 Metro Manila cities; and 13 HBs establishing and converting schools into state universities, 5 HBs establishing and converting schools into State Colleges*

of government services for Filipinos, especially the underprivileged, and institute bureaucratic competence and accountability.

The Chamber's confidence in the leadership of Speaker Belmonte is reflected in the surging public confidence in the institution as he steered the House through the difficult tasks of crafting policies that consolidate needed political reforms and social change. The House also garnered record-high public approval ratings in the same SWS survey, with its previous +33 rising to a +40. Through the cooperation of its Members, congressional staff, and the Secretariat, the House achieved tremendous gains within the year in terms of legislative performance and public trust.

Summing up the performance of the House in the Second Regular Session, Speaker Belmonte attributes the high level of legislative achievement to the unity in aspirations, inspiration and action of Members of the House to champion the cause of good governance, stating: "Our performance in the past year inspires confidence that we will never let our differences in opinion and beliefs enfeeble our drive to fulfil our common duty to serve the highest interests of the Filipino people and nation." •

LANDMARK REFORM LAWS

- RA 10147** – 2011 General Appropriations Act
- RA 10149** – The GOCC Governance Act
- RA 10150** – Extending the Implementation of the Lifeline Rate in Electric Bills by Amending the EPIRA Law
- RA 10151** – Allowing the Employment of Night Workers
- RA 10152** – The Mandatory Infants and Children Health Immunization Act
- RA 10153** – Synchronization of Elections and Term of Office of the Elective Officials in the ARMM
- RA 10154** – Requiring All Government Offices To Release Retirement Benefits to Employees Within 15 Days From Retirement
- RA 10155** – 2012 General Appropriations Act
- RA 10156** – Conferring Upon Sanggunian Members Civil Service Eligibility
- RA 10157** – Institutionalizing Kindergarten Education into the Basic Education System
- RA 10158** – Decriminalizing Vagrancy
- RA 10159** – Adjusting the Rate of Subsidiary Imprisonment
- RA 10162** – Creating Two (2) Additional Regional Trial Court Branches at Sta. Rosa City, Province of Laguna
- RA 10165** – Strengthening and Propagate Foster Care For Abandoned And Neglected Children And Children With Special Needs
- RA 10166** – Regulating The Practice Of Geology
- RA 10167** – Further Strengthening The Anti-Money Laundering Law
- RA 10168** – Terrorism Financing and Suppression Act of 2012
- Joint Resolution 1** – A 10-year extension for the Joint Congressional Power Commission (JCPC)
- Joint Resolution 2** – Increasing the 2011 Corporate Budget of the National Power Corporation from P7,575,184,000.00 to P13,968,602,000.00
- Joint Resolution 3** – Annulling the Book of Voters of the ARMM Municipalities/Cities, Directing the Comelec to Immediately Conduct a New General Voters' Registration in the Region

15th Congress HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Statistical Data on Measures Processed First & Second Regular Sessions July 26, 2010 - June 6, 2012		
I. MEASURES FILED		
No. of Bills Filed		6,335
No. of Resolutions Filed		2,549
Total No. of Measures Filed		8,884
Total No. of Committee Reports		2,253
II. MEASURES APPROVED		
Republic Acts		20
National	14	
Local	4	
House Joint Resolution	2	
Vetoed Bills		3
National	3	
Ratified Bicam Reports		5
National	5	
Adopted Senate Version		5
National	4	
Local	1	
Concurred with Senate Amendments		1
Local	1	
Approved on 3rd Reading		776
National Bills	220	
Local Bills	551	
Joint Resolution		5
Approved on 2nd Reading		12
National Bills	5	
Local Bills	7	
Adopted Resolutions		1,470
Endorsement to the Senate of the Verified Complaint Against SC Justice		1
Measures Consolidated/Substituted		951
Measures Approved		2,293
Total Measures Approved		3,244
III. MEASURES IN THE CALENDAR OF BUSINESS		
Total Number of Measures in the Calendar of Business		154
TOTAL MEASURES PROCESSED		3,398
NUMBER OF SESSION DAYS		128
AVERAGE NUMBER OF MEASURES PROCESSED PER SESSION DAY		27