



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
**Senate**  
Pasay City

# Journal

**SESSION NO. 5**  
Wednesday, August 3, 2016

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

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Wednesday, August 3, 2016

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 3:08 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Aquilino “Koko” L. Pimentel III, called the session to order.

**PRAYER**

Sen. Leila M. De Lima led the prayer, to wit:

Dear Lord, there are many challenges confronting us, whether as individuals or as one society, and we ask You for the wisdom and strength to overcome these.

*Sa kabilang mga hamon at problema, patuloy sana Ninyo kaming tanglawan ng Inyong diwa at liwanag upang gabayan kami sa makatwirang kilos at pasya. Tulad Mo, maging huwaran din sana kami at ang iba pang lingkod-bayan sa paggawa ng tama at makatarungan para sa aming kapwa at bansa.*

*Dalangin namin: Sa halip na dahas, batas ang umiral; sa halip na agam-agam sa lipunan, takot sa Diyos ang mangibabaw; at sa bawat pagkakataon, imbes na pansariling interes ay kapakanan ng mas nakararami ang lagi naming isaalang-alang.*

May we always follow Your example, to live with compassion and respect for the value of all human life which are the bedrock principles in the pursuit of a just, peaceful and humane society.

These we ask in the Name of Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

**ROLL CALL**

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary of the Senate, Atty. Lutgardo B. Barbo, called the roll, to which the following senators responded:

Angara, S.	Legarda, L.
Aquino, P. B. IV B.	Pacquiao, E. M. D.
Binay, M. L. N. S.	Pangilinan, F. N.
De Lima, L. M.	Pimentel III, A. K.
Drilon, F. M.	Poe, G.
Ejercito, J. V. G.	Recto, R. G.
Escudero, F. J. G.	Sotto III, V. C.
Gatchalian, W.	Trillanes IV, A. F.
Gordon, R. J.	Villanueva, J.
Honasan, G. B	Villar, C. A.
Hontiveros, R.	Zubiri, J. M.
Lacson, P. M.	

With 23 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senator Cayetano was on official mission as indicated in the August 3, 2016 letter of the Senator's chief of staff.

### **DEFERMENT OF APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body deferred the consideration and approval of the Journal of Session No. 4 (August 2, 2016) to a later hour.

### **REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

The Secretary of the Senate read the following matters and the Chair made the corresponding referrals:

#### **MESSAGES OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES**

Letter of President Rodrigo R. Duterte, dated 20 July 2016, vetoing and returning without his signature the enrolled Senate Bill No. 2419/House Bill No. 6040, entitled

**AN ACT BANNING THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF A REGULAR MEMBER OF THE JUDICIAL AND BAR COUNCIL (JBC) WHO HAS ALREADY SERVED TWO FULL TERMS,**

pursuant to Section 27(1), Article VI of the Constitution, which veto message states that: "If enacted, [it] will violate the Constitution. The Constitution does not impose any limitation on the number of times the President may re-appoint a regular member of the JBC. The proposed bill, in prescribing a two-term limitation on the re-appointment of JBC regular members, is tantamount to amending a constitutional provision and restricting the plenary appointing power of the President."

#### **To the Committee on Justice and Human Rights**

Letter of President Rodrigo R. Duterte, dated 20 July 2016, vetoing and returning without his signature the enrolled House Bill No. 6080, entitled

**AN ACT MODIFYING THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR, AND CREATING A**

**SCREENING COMMITTEE IN THE ELECTION OR APPOINTMENT OF THE DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS OF ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 26-A AND 26-B OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 269, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10531, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL ELECTRIFICATION ADMINISTRATION REFORM ACT OF 2013,**

pursuant to Section 27(1), Article VI of the Constitution, which veto message states that: "The law which the bill seeks to amend has just been fully implemented through various Department Circulars of the Department of Energy. Thus, prudent policy dictates that the law must be given ample time to develop and effect the reforms it seeks to institute."

#### **To the Committees on Energy; and Cooperatives**

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

Senate Bill No. 301, entitled

**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR LOCAL ABSENTEE VOTING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES AND SENIOR CITIZENS**

Introduced by Senator Zubiri

#### **To the Committees on Electoral Reforms and People's Participation; Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 302, entitled

**AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE CONSTITUTION RIGHT TO SECURITY OF TENURE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Zubiri

#### **To the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development**

*Pzr*

Senate Bill No. 303, entitled

**AN ACT CLASSIFYING THE SALE OF ELECTRICITY BY ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES, VALUE-ADDED TAX EXEMPT TRANSACTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE 109 (1) OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9337, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Zubiri

**To the Committees on Ways and Means; and Energy**

Senate Bill No. 304, entitled

**AN ACT DECLARING THE TWENTY SEVENTH DAY OF JULY OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN RECOGNITION OF THE FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF THE IGLESIA NI CRISTO (INC), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 3 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9645 AND SECTION 26, CHAPTER 7 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 292, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF 1987 AS AMENDED**

Introduced by Senator Zubiri

**To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture**

Senate Bill No. 305, entitled

**AN ACT REORGANIZING THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6939, CREATING THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

Introduced by Senator Zubiri

**To the Committees on Cooperatives; Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 306, entitled

**AN ACT FORTIFYING THE PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO OWNERSHIP OVER INFORMATION HELD BY THE PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT**

Introduced by Senator Zubiri

**To the Committees on Public Information and Mass Media; Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 307, entitled

**AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9006, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FAIR ELECTIONS ACT**

Introduced by Senator Zubiri

**To the Committee on Electoral Reforms and People's Participation**

Senate Bill No. 308, entitled

**AN ACT CREATING THE OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL TAXPAYER ADVOCATE TO SAFEGUARD THE RIGHTS OF THE TAXPAYERS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Sonny Angara

**To the Committees on Ways and Means; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 309, entitled

**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MAGNA CARTA OF WORKERS IN INFORMAL ECONOMY, INSTITUTIONALIZING MECHANISMS FOR IMPLEMENTATION THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Sonny Angara

**To the Committees on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Finance**

*PPM*

Senate Bill No. 310, entitled

**AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM (4 PS) TO REDUCE POVERTY AND PROMOTE HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT**

Introduced by Senator Sonny Angara

**To the Committees on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 311, entitled

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

Introduced by Senator Sonny Angara

**To the Committees on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs; Local Government; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 312, entitled

**AN ACT CREATING THE BEHNHAM RISE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (BRDA), DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Sonny Angara

**To the Committees on Economic Affairs; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 313, entitled

**AN ACT PROVIDING INCENTIVES FOR NEW GRADUATES OF COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES AND ACCREDITED INSTITUTIONS OFFERING TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL COURSES, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE BILL OF RIGHTS FOR NEW GRADUATES**

Introduced by Senator Sonny Angara

**To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; Civil Service,**

**Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; Ways and Means; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 314, entitled

**AN ACT INSTITUTING THE MAGNA CARTA OF FILIPINO SEAFARERS**

Introduced by Senator Sonny Angara

**To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Foreign Relations**

Senate Bill No. 315, entitled

**AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO INFORMATION AND THE CONSTITUTIONAL POLICIES OF FULL PUBLIC DISCLOSURE AND HONESTY IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Sonny Angara

**To the Committees on Public Information and Mass Media; Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance**

*At this juncture, the session was suspended and was resumed shortly thereafter.*

Senate Bill No. 316, entitled

**AN ACT CREATING AND ESTABLISHING A STATE-OF-THE-ART AND HIGHLY SCIENTIFIC SPORTS COMPLEX KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE AMATEUR SPORTS TRAINING CENTER, AND FUNDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY, CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES, INCLUDING ITS ADMINISTRATION, MAINTENANCE, AND MANAGEMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Sonny Angara

**To the Committees on Sports; Ways and Means; and Finance**

*P.S.A.*

Senate Bill No. 317, entitled

AN ACT REDUCING THE CORPORATE INCOME TAX RATE, AMENDING SECTIONS 27 AND 28 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Sonny Angara

**To the Committee on Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 318, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATION IN AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT BY INSTITUTIONALIZING A TEN PERCENT (10%) ALLOCATION FROM THEIR INTERNAL REVENUE ALLOTMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAMS, ACTIVITIES AND SERVICES FOR AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES ADVANCEMENT AND AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 17, 106, 107, 110, 287, 443, 454, AND 482(a), 511(a), OF REPUBLIC ACT 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Cynthia A. Villar

**To the Committees on Local Government; Agriculture and Food; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 319, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE MALUNGGAY INDUSTRY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Cynthia A. Villar

**To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; and Finance**

*At this juncture, the session was suspended and was resumed shortly thereafter.*

Senate Bill No. 320, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE CACAO INDUSTRY PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Cynthia A. Villar

**To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 321, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE COFFEE INDUSTRY PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Cynthia A. Villar

**To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 322, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CONTINUING NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR HYBRID AND OTHER QUALITY SEEDS PRODUCTION, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Cynthia A. Villar

**To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 323, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL MULBERRY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Cynthia A. Villar

**To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; and Finance**

PMB

Senate Bill No. 324, entitled

**AN ACT EXTENDING THE VALIDITY OF THE REGULAR PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ISSUED TO ADULT APPLICANTS TO TEN (10) YEARS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239 OR THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996**

Introduced by Senator Cynthia A. Villar

**To the Committee on Foreign Relations**

Senate Bill No. 325, entitled

**AN ACT PROVIDING GUIDELINES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF LOCAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Cynthia A. Villar

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Local Government; and Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 326, entitled

**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PRESERVATION, REFORESTATION, AFFORESTATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF MANGROVE FORESTS IN THE PHILIPPINES, PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Cynthia A. Villar

**To the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources**

Senate Bill No. 327, entitled

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE COASTAL ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Cynthia A. Villar

**To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 328, entitled

**AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SETTLEMENT AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, DEFINING ITS MANDATES, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

**To the Committees on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement; and Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation**

Senate Bill No. 329, entitled

**AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE SECURITY OF TENURE OF WORKERS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 248, 279, 280, 281 AND 288, AND INTRODUCING NEW ARTICLES 106, 106-A, 106-B, 106-C, 106-D, 106-E, 280-A AND 280-B TO PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES**

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

**To the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development**

Senate Bill No. 330, entitled

**AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM FOR AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGY GENERATION AND TRANSFER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

**To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; Ways and Means; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 331, entitled

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ON-SITE, IN-CITY OR NEAR-CITY RESETTLEMENT**

*ppet*

MENT PROGRAM FOR INFORMAL SETTLER FAMILIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH A PEOPLE'S PLAN AND MANDATING RELOCATING LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO PROVIDE OTHER BASIC SERVICES AND LIVELIHOOD COMPONENTS IN FAVOR OF THE RECIPIENT LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7279, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING ACT OF 1992

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

**To the Committees on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement; and Local Government**

Senate Bill No. 332, entitled

AN ACT CONSIDERING RICE OR CORN HOARDING AND PROFITEERING DURING OR ON THE OCCASION OF ANY CALAMITY OR EMERGENCY DECLARED AS SUCH BY THE PRESIDENT AS EQUIVALENT TO ECONOMIC SABOTAGE, PARTLY AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7581, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PRICE ACT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

**To the Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship**

Senate Bill No. 333, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING MANDATORY INSTALLATION OF CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION (CCTV) CAMERAS ON ROADS INCLUDED IN ROUTES OF PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

**To the Committees on Local Government; Public Works; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 334, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE BARANGAY PENSION FUND TO PROVIDE PENSION BENEFITS TO ALL BARANGAY OFFICIALS

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

**To the Committees on Local Government; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 335, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE NURSING LAW TOWARDS QUALITY HEALTH CARE SYSTEM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

**To the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; Health and Demography; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 336, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA FOR STUDENTS' RIGHTS AND WELFARE

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

**To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture**

Senate Bill No. 337, entitled

AN ACT CREATING BARANGAY COMMUNITY PEACE AND ORDER COUNCIL FOR THE UTILIZATION OF BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND ITS CONSTITUENTS IN CRIME PREVENTION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

**To the Committees on Local Government; and Public Order and Dangerous Drugs**

Senate Bill No. 338, entitled

AN ACT FURTHER STRENGTHENING

*YSP/t*

THE SYSTEM OF BIRTH REGISTRATION OF CHILDREN IN NEED OF SPECIAL PROTECTION (CNSP) IN THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

**To the Committees on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 339, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY OF THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN BY AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT 6770, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE OMBUDSMAN ACT OF 1989," AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

**To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 340, entitled

AN ACT ORDAINING THE BILL OF RIGHTS OF TAXI PASSENGERS

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

**To the Committees on Public Services; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 341, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING CORPORATIVE FARMING AND PROVIDING INCENTIVES FOR ITS EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

**To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; Agrarian Reform; and Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 342, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING ASSISTANCE TO FARMERS, FISHERFOLK AND AGRARIAN REFORM BENE-

FICIARIES BY INSTITUTIONALIZING DIRECT CREDIT SUPPORT TO SAID SECTORS, AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3844 OR THE AGRICULTURAL LAND REFORM CODE

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

**To the Committees on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies; and Agrarian Reform**

Senate Bill No. 343, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO FRESH GRADUATES BY WAIVING GOVERNMENT FEES AND CHARGES COLLECTED IN CONNECTION WITH DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS FOR EMPLOYMENT

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

**To the Committees on Youth; and Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation**

Senate Bill No. 344, entitled

AN ACT PRESCRIBING SCHOOL BUS SAFETY STANDARDS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

**To the Committees on Public Services; and Education, Arts and Culture**

Senate Bill No. 345, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GOVERNMENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM, PROVIDING FUNDS FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

**To the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance**

ppk

Senate Bill No. 346, entitled

**AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE FORFEITURE POWERS OF THE STATE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1379, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT DECLARING FORFEITURE IN FAVOR OF THE STATE ANY PROPERTY FOUND TO HAVE BEEN UNLAWFULLY ACQUIRED BY ANY PUBLIC OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE AND PROVIDING FOR THE PROCEEDINGS THEREFOR**

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

**To the Committee on Justice and Human Rights**

Senate Bill No. 347, entitled

**AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN THROUGH FURTHER PROFESSIONALIZATION, IMPROVEMENT OF SKILLS AND AUGMENTING THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF ITS EMPLOYEES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER 6770, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE OMBUDSMAN ACT OF 1989, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

**To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 348, entitled

**AN ACT CREATING A GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY OFFICE TO IMPROVE QUALITY OF REGULATIONS AND REDUCE REGULATORY BURDEN**

Introduced by Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV

**To the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 349, entitled

**AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING A NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR PROMOTING INCLUSIVE BUSINESS MODELS FOR POVERTY REDUCTION, INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV

**To the Committees on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 350, entitled

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE SOCIAL VALUE ACT**

Introduced by Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV

**To the Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development**

**PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY  
OF SENATOR DE LIMA**

Senator De Lima stated that earlier the Chair referred two vetoed bills, namely, Senate Bill No. 2419, to the Committee on Justice and Human Rights, and House Bill No. 6080, to the Committee on Energy and Cooperative, and she assumed that their referral to the committees was for purposes of study and recommendations to plenary whether or not these vetoed bills should be reconsidered. She then inquired if there is a prescribed period for the concerned committees within which to study and recommend to plenary whether or not these vetoed bills be reconsidered because there is nothing in the *Rules of the Senate*, particularly Rule XLIX in relation to Article VI, Section 27 of the Constitution, that provides a time frame within which to consider a vetoed bill.

**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

With the permission of the Body, the Chair suspended the session.

*It was 3:42 p.m.*

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

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

*jet ms*

## **REPLY OF THE CHAIR**

Replying to the parliamentary inquiry of Senator De Lima regarding the mandatory time frame for the committee concerned within which to come up with a recommendation, Senate President Pimentel referred to Section 134, Rule XLIX of the *Rules of the Senate* which governs the procedure on vetoed bills, and he opined that there is nothing in the *Rules* that provides for mandatory time frame, but if the measure is deemed urgent, he cited Section 31 of the Rules which urges all committees to come up with a report on the bills and resolutions referred to it within 30 session days. He clarified that his reply was a mere opinion and was therefore non-binding.

## **MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR DRILON**

Senator Drilon noted that Senator De Lima was specifically asking if there is any period given to the Senate within which to override a veto, and he opined that there is no period. He stated that if ever an override is going to be done, it can be done during the life of the Congress which received the veto message; if the message was received in the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress, theoretically it is within the life of this Congress that the override can be done.

Senator De Lima subscribed to the view of Senator Drilon because she also did not see any provision in the Rules as regards the period. She agreed that any action should be undertaken during the life of the Congress so as to avoid unduly restricting the prerogatives of the Body. She also agreed with the explanation of President Duterte, which was contained in his veto message, that Senate Bill No. 2419, which seeks to ban the re-appointment of a regular member of the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC), if it was passed into law, would encroach on the plenary power of appointment of the President.

## **REFERRAL OF SENATOR DE LIMA'S PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY TO THE COMMITTEE**

Senate President Pimentel likewise agreed to the manifestation of Senator Drilon. Thereupon, he referred the substance of Senator De Lima's parliamentary inquiry to the Committee on Rules.

## **ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

The Deputy Secretary for Legislation, Atty. Edwin B. Bellen, read the following Senate bills and resolutions which the Chair referred to the committees hereunder indicated:

### **BILLS ON FIRST READING**

Senate Bill No. 351, entitled

#### **AN ACT PROVIDING PROTECTION AND INCENTIVES FOR FREE- LANCERS**

Introduced by Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV

**To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 352, entitled

#### **AN ACT PROHIBITING GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND AGENCIES FROM DENYING CITIZENS ACCESS TO FRONTLINE SERVICES AND ATTENDANCE IN PUBLIC MEETINGS ON THE BASIS OF ATTIRE**

Introduced by Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV

**To the Committee on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation**

Senate Bill No. 353, entitled

#### **AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE INSTALLATION OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE AS PART OF THE CONSTRUCTION OF STRATEGIC NATIONAL ROADS AND HIGHWAYS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV

**To the Committees on Science and Technology; Public Works; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 354, entitled

**AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE SECURED TRANSACTIONS LEGAL FRAMEWORK IN THE PHILIPPINES, WHICH SHALL PROVIDE FOR THE CREATION, PERFECTION, DETERMINATION OF PRIORITY, ESTABLISHMENT OF A NOTICE REGISTRY, AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTERESTS IN PERSONAL PROPERTY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV

**To the Committees on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 355, entitled

**AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE TRADE REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

Introduced by Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV

**To the Committees on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; Foreign Relations; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 356, entitled

**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MANDATORY PHILHEALTH COVERAGE FOR ALL PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT 7277, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MAGNA CARTA FOR DISABLED PERSONS**

Introduced by Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development**

Senate Bill No. 357, entitled

**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A SYSTEM OF REDISTRIBUTING AND**

**RECYCLING FOOD WASTE TO PROMOTE FOOD SECURITY**

Introduced by Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 358, entitled

**AN ACT EXEMPTING FROM DONOR'S TAX AND DOCUMENTARY STAMP TAX GIFTS/DONATIONS/REMITTANCES FOR THE BENEFIT OF VICTIMS OF NATURAL DISASTERS AND OTHER CALAMITIES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT 8424 OR THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE AS AMENDED**

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

**To the Committee on Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 359, entitled

**AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT 8424, OR THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, BY GRANTING FULL DEDUCTION FROM GROSS INCOME THE AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTIONS MADE TO DISASTER RELIEF, RECOVERY, AND REHABILITATION EFFORTS AND ACTIVITIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

**To the Committee on Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 360, entitled

**AN ACT GRANTING PARENTAL CARE LEAVE WITH FULL PAY TO ALL EMPLOYED PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIANS OF MINOR CHILDREN IN THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR**

*PSB*

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

**To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 361, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO ALLOCATE FOR OTHER BASIC SERVICES AND LIVELIHOOD COMPONENT IN FAVOR OF THE HOST LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT IN WHICH THEIR SOCIALIZED HOUSING FOR RESETTLEMENT PROJECT IS LOCATED, AMENDING FOR SAID PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7279, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING ACT OF 1992

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

**To the Committees on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement; and Local Government**

Senate Bill No. 362, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING PRE-NATAL LEAVE BENEFITS

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

**To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation**

Senate Bill No. 363, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9344, AS AMENDED, ENTITLED AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE JUVENILE JUSTICE AND WELFARE SYSTEM, CREATING THE JUVENILE JUSTICE AND

WELFARE COUNCIL, UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

**To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 364, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 365, entitled

AN ACT DIRECTING ESTABLISHMENTS TO SUPPORT THE INSTITUTION OF CHILD CARE FACILITIES AND GRANTING INCENTIVES THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

**To the Committees on Women, Children, Family Relations And Gender Equality; Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; and Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 366, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 35 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8424, AS AMENDED, OR THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, BY GRANTING ADDITIONAL ALLOWANCE OF PERSONAL EXEMPTION FOR INDIVIDUAL TAXPAYER FOR CONTRIBUTIONS MADE TO DISASTER RELIEF, RECOVERY,

*[Signature]*

AND REHABILITATION EFFORTS,  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy  
S. Binay

**To the Committee on Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 367, entitled

AN ACT PENALIZING INDIVIDUALS  
WHO SELL, GIVE OR IN ANY WAY  
SHARE ANY TYPE OF FIREWORKS  
OR FIRECRACKERS TO MINOR  
CHILDREN 15 YEARS OLD AND  
BELOW

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy  
S. Binay

**To the Committee on Public Order and  
Dangerous Drugs**

Senate Bill No. 368, entitled

AN ACT PUNISHING EXTRAORDINARY  
HEINOUS CRIMES WITH THE  
PENALTY OF QUALIFIED *RECLU-*  
*SION PERPETUA*, THEREBY AMEND-  
ING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9346,  
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT  
PROHIBITNG THE IMPOSITION  
OF DEATH PENALTY IN THE  
PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Leila M. de Lima

**To the Committee on Justice and Human  
Rights**

Senate Bill No. 369, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING A  
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION SYSTEM,  
REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE  
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 5180, OTHER-  
WISE KNOWN AS AN ACT PRES-  
CRIBING A UNIFORM SYSTEM OF  
PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION  
BY PROVINCIAL AND CITY  
FISCALS AND THEIR ASSISTANTS,  
AND BY THE STATE ATTORNEYS

OR THEIR ASSISTANTS, AND  
OTHER RELATED LAWS AND  
ISSUANCES

Introduced by Senator Leila M. de Lima

**To the Committee on Justice and Human  
Rights**

Senate Bill No. 370, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING THE REHABI-  
LITATION AND REVITALIZATION  
OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL  
RAILWAYS, AMENDING FOR THE  
PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4156,  
AS AMENDED, ENTITLED AN ACT  
CREATING THE PHILIPPINE  
NATIONAL RAILWAYS, PRES-  
CRIBING ITS POWERS, FUNCTIONS  
AND DUTIES, AND PROVIDING  
FOR THE NECESSARY FUNDS FOR  
ITS OPERATION

Introduced by Senator Leila M. de Lima

**To The Committees on Government Corpora-  
tions and Public Enterprises; Public Services;  
Ways and Means; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 371, entitled

AN ACT EXTENDING THE TERM OF  
OFFICE OF ELECTIVE BARANGAY  
OFFICIALS TO FIVE YEARS WITH  
MAXIMUM OF TWO CONSECU-  
TIVE TERMS, AND POSTPONING  
THE OCTOBER 2016 SYNCHRO-  
NIZED BARANGAY AND SANG-  
GUNIANG KABATAAN ELECTIONS,  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Leila M. de Lima

**To the Committees on Local Government;  
and Electoral Reforms And People's Participa-  
tion**

Senate Bill No. 372, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING PROTECTION TO  
THE ELDERLY AGAINST ABUSE,  
NEGLECT, AND EXPLOITATION,  
AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES  
FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF

*yes mb*

Introduced by Senator Win Gatchalian

**To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development**

Senate Bill No. 373, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PUBLIC MATH AND SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOLS IN PREVIOUSLY UNDERSERVED AREAS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Win Gatchalian

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Local Government; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 374, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NURSING HOME FOR HOMELESS AND ABANDONED SENIOR CITIZENS IN EVERY CITY OR MUNICIPALITY IN THE PHILIPPINES APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Win Gatchalian

**To the Committees on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; Local Government; Ways and Means; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 375, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE BILL OF RIGHTS OF TAXI PASSENGERS

Introduced by Senator Win Gatchalian

**To the Committee on Public Services**

Senate Bill No. 376, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE PHILIPPINE COMPREHENSIVE POLICY ON HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) AND ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) PREVENTION,

TREATMENT, CARE AND SUPPORT, AND ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL HIV AND AIDS PLAN, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8504, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE AIDS PREVENTION AND CONTROL ACT OF 1998, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Risa Hontiveros

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 377, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR MANDATORY PHILHEALTH COVERAGE FOR ALL PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWDS), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7277, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9442, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MAGNA CARTA FOR DISABLED PERSONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Risa Hontiveros

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development**

Senate Bill No. 378, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HEALTH PROMOTION INSTITUTE TO MAINSTREAM HEALTH PROMOTION IN THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM, PROVIDING FOR A HEALTH PROMOTION FUND AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Risa Hontiveros

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 379, entitled

AN ACT SAFEGUARDING THE

*msjw*

**TRADITIONAL PROPERTY RIGHTS  
OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committees on Cultural Communities; Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 380, entitled

**AN ACT FACILITATING AND REGULATING INTERNATIONAL DISASTER RELIEF AND INITIAL RECOVERY ASSISTANCE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committees on National Defense and Security; Foreign Relations; Ways and Means; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 381, entitled

**AN ACT ENSURING EQUAL POWERS OF ADMINISTRATION AND ENJOYMENT OF COMMUNITY PROPERTY OR CONJUGAL PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN SPOUSES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 96 AND 124 OF THE FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES**

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committee on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality**

Senate Bill No. 382, entitled

**AN ACT TOTALLY BANNING LOGGING OPERATIONS FOR THE NEXT TWENTY-FIVE YEARS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources**

Senate Bill No. 383, entitled

**AN ACT CREATING THE POSITION OF BARANGAY NUTRITION WORKER**

**IN EVERY BARANGAY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1569**

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; Local Government; Ways and Means; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 384, entitled

**AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE BARANGAY UNIT THROUGH SUPPORT FOR BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND BARANGAY VOLUNTEER WORKERS, AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; Local Government; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 385, entitled

**AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 109 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committees on Ways and Means; and Health and Demography**

Senate Bill No. 386, entitled

**AN ACT RECOGNIZING SERIOUS PHYSICAL AND SEXUAL ABUSE AS GROUND FOR LEGAL SEPARATION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE 55 (1) OF THE FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES**

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committee on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality**

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Senate Bill No. 387, entitled

**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE INTEGRATION AND MAINSTREAMING OF CULTURAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES IN THE COUNTRY'S NATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 388, entitled

**AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 24 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, ADJUSTING THE RATES OF TAXABLE INCOME OF INDIVIDUALS AND PROVIDING FOR AUTOMATIC ADJUSTMENT OF TAX RATES EVERY THREE (3) YEARS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES'**

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committee on Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 389, entitled

**AN ACT GRANTING FISCAL INCENTIVES TO MEDIA ENTITIES DEVOTING AIRTIME AND SPACE TO EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN, AND TO ADVERTISERS OR SPONSORS SUPPORTING SUCH PROGRAMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committees on Public Information and Mass Media; Education, Arts and Culture; and Ways and Means**

Senate Bill No. 390, entitled

**AN ACT DECLARING FILIPINO SIGN LANGUAGE AS THE NATIONAL SIGN LANGUAGE OF THE FILIPINO**

**DEAF AND THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF GOVERNMENT IN ALL TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING THE DEAF, AND MANDATING ITS USE IN SCHOOLS, BROADCAST MEDIA, AND WORKPLACES**

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 391, entitled

**AN ACT ENSURING EQUALITY BETWEEN SPOUSES IN THE EXERCISE OF PARENTAL AUTHORITY OVER THE PERSON AND LEGAL GUARDIANSHIP OVER THE PROPERTY OF COMMON CHILDREN, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 211 AND 225 OF THE FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES**

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committee on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality**

Senate Bill No. 392, entitled

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A LEGACY FUND TO SUPPORT, IMPROVE AND SUSTAIN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS DURING THE TRANSITION PERIOD OF THE ENHANCED BASIC EDUCATION ACT OF 2013, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 393, entitled

**AN ACT STRENGHTENING THE PHILIPPINE COMPREHENSIVE POLICY ON HIV AND AIDS**

PREVENTION, TREATMENT, CARE, AND SUPPORT, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8504, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE PHILIPPINE AIDS PREVENTION AND CONTROL ACT OF 1998," AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Education, Arts and Culture**

Senate Bill No. 394, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8439, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT PROVIDING A MAGNA CARTA FOR SCIENTISTS, ENGINEERS, RESEARCHERS AND OTHER SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PERSONNEL IN THE GOVERNMENT

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committees on Science and Technology; Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 395, entitled

AN ACT SUPPORTING THE PRODUCTION OF PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENT FILMS BY PROVIDING INCENTIVES TO FILMMAKERS WHO ARE GIVEN HONORS IN NOTABLE INTERNATIONAL FILM COMPETITIONS

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committees on Public Information and Mass Media; Ways and Means; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 396, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO JUVENAL SANSO

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committee on Rules**

Senate Bill No. 397, entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committee on Foreign Relations**

Senate Bill No. 398, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING PRE-NATAL LEAVE BENEFITS FOR FEMALE EMPLOYEES

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation**

Senate Bill No. 399, entitled

AN ACT RECOGNIZING THE BRITISH SCHOOL MANILA AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture**

Senate Bill No. 400, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING PENSIONS UNDER THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 12 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1161, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT OF 1997

Introduced by Senator Legarda

**To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; and Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development**

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**SECOND ADDITIONAL  
REFERENCE OF BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTIONS**

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 2, entitled

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR OF THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Sotto III

**To the Committee on Rules**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 72, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO REVIEW EXISTING LAWS AND CONSIDER REPEALING DUPLICATE, IRRELEVANT AND UNNECESSARY REGULATIONS IN A BID TO STREAMLINE PROCEDURES, EASE THE COST OF DOING BUSINESS AND SUSTAIN ECONOMIC GROWTH

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

**To the Committees on Economic Affairs; and Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 73, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRADE, COMMERCE AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE/S TO CONDUCT AN OMNIBUS STUDY AND EVENTUAL UPDATING, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, OF THE PRESENT FOREIGN INVESTMENTS ACT (R.A. NO. 7042, AS AMENDED) CONSIDERING THE CONTINUING EMERGING GLOBAL TRENDS IN DEVELOPMENT WITH THE INTENTION OF MAKING THE

PHILIPPINES A COMPETITIVE HAVEN FOR INVESTMENTS AND PLACE OF OPERATION FOR MULTI-NATIONAL COMPANIES

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

**To the Committees on Economic Affairs; and Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 74, entitled

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE POWER SITUATION STATUS OF THE LUZON GRID AND ESTABLISH THE CAUSE OF THE SIMULTANEOUS SHUTDOWN OF SIX POWER PLANTS WHICH LED TO ROLLING BLACKOUTS IN LUZON, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF DETERMINING MEASURES THAT WOULD FURTHER ENSURE A RELIABLE AND SECURE SUPPLY OF ELECTRIC POWER

Introduced by Senator Recto

**To the Committee on Energy**

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 75, entitled

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING, COMMENDING AND EXTENDING WELL-WISHES TO THE TWELVE (12) ATHLETES REPRESENTING THE PHILIPPINES IN VARIOUS EVENTS AT THE 2016 SUMMER OLYMPIC GAMES IN RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL FROM AUGUST 5 TO 21, 2016

Introduced by Senator Sonny Angara

**To the Committee on Rules**

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT  
OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS**

At this juncture, Senator Sotto acknowledged the presence in the gallery of the following guests:



- Mayor Michael Rivera of Padre Garcia, Batangas;
- Mayor Edgardo Flores of Minalin, Pampanga;
- Mayor Emmanuel Alejandrino of Arayat, Pampanga; and
- Councilor Adonis Balagtas of San Antonio, Nueva Ecija.

Senate President Pimentel welcomed the guests to the Senate.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF THE JOURNAL OF SESSION NO. 4**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the Journal of Session No. 4 and thereafter proceeded to consider it.

#### **MOTION OF SENATOR DRILON**

At this juncture, Senator Drilon moved to amend the referral of Senate Bill No. 231 so that the Committee on Constitutional Amendments and Revision of Codes would become the primary committee, while the Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship would be the secondary committee.

For his part, Senator Angara asked if it would be proper for similar bills to have a similar referral as well.

In reply, Senate President Pimentel pointed out that changes in referrals have to be made on a case-to-case basis. Since the Body was in the period of considering and correcting the Journal, he asked that action on the motion be deferred until after corrections in the Journal have been made.

Senator Drilon clarified that his motion was not a correction of the Journal. He nevertheless agreed that the motion could be discussed after the Journal had been approved by the Body.

#### **CORRECTIONS TO THE JOURNAL OF SESSION NO. 4**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved the following corrections:

- *By Senator Hontiveros*
  1. On page 122, left column, second paragraph, change “MJ Favia” to “Em-J Pavia”;
- *By Senator Sotto on behalf of Senate President Pimentel*
  2. On page 101, second column, to change the referral of Senate Bill No. 278 from “the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance” to THE COMMITTEES ON JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS; CIVIL SERVICE, GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION; AND FINANCE;

Senator Sotto proposed to correct line 11 of page 117, sixth paragraph.

#### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

With the permission of the Body, the Chair suspended the session.

*It was 4:21 p.m.*

#### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

At 4:26 p.m., the session was resumed.

#### **FURTHER CORRECTIONS TO THE JOURNAL OF SESSION NO. 4**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved the following corrections:

- *By Senator Sotto:*
  3. On page 117, right column, second paragraph, to delete the phrase “according to Senator Lacson”; and
- *By Senator Pangilinan:*
  4. On page 119, left column, second paragraph, reword the last sentence to read as:  
HE ALSO EXPRESSED THE NEED TO FOCUS ON ADDRESSING CRIMINALITY AND THE STRENGTHENING OF THE RULE OF LAW, SAYING THAT THE PHILIPPINES

HAS A CONVICTION RATE FOR CORRUPTION CASES OF 30%, WAY BELOW HONG KONG AND JAPAN WHERE AT LEAST 80% OF CORRUPTION CASES ENDED UP IN CONVICTION.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL OF SESSION NO. 4, AS CORRECTED**

There being no further corrections, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved the Journal of Session No. 4 (August 2, 2016), as corrected.

#### **CHANGES OF COMMITTEE REFERRAL**

Upon motion of Senator Drilon, there being no objection, the Chair referred Senate Bill No. 231 (An Act Revising the Corporation Code of the Philippines) to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments and Revision of Codes as the primary committee, and to the Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship as the secondary committee.

Senator Drilon also proposed that Senate Bill No. 81, the subject of which is to allow the formation of one-person corporations, which is basically included in Senate Bill No. 231 (An Act Revising the Corporation Code of the Philippines), be referred to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments and Revision of Codes as the primary committee, and to the Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship as the secondary committee.

Senate President Pimentel noted, however, that Senate Bill No. 81 concerns an amendment to only a specific section of the Corporation Code which is not considered a revision of the Code, thereby not falling under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments and Revision of Codes.

Senator Drilon explained that he was proposing to amend the original referral of Senate Bill No. 81 only for purposes of achieving symmetry and uniformity to avoid a similar situation in the future where there could be a possibility of two committees treating the same bill in a different manner.

Asked to comment on the proposal, Senator Sotto interposed no objection thereto. Senate President Pimentel stated that the proposed change of referral shall be considered as an exception to the general rule.

Acting on the motion of Senator Drilon, there being no objection, Senate President Pimentel referred Senate Bill No. 81 instead to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments and Revision of Codes as the primary committee, and to the Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship as the secondary committee.

#### **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 2**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 2, entitled

#### **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR OF THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES.**

Secretary Barbo read the full text of the resolution, to wit:

*Resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislative Calendar for the First Regular Session of the Seventeenth Congress of the Philippines be as follows:*

#### **CALENDAR OF SESSION First Regular Session**

1. Commencement of Session
  - July 25, 2016 to October 21, 2016
2. Adjournment of Session
  - October 22, 2016 to November 6, 2016
3. Resumption of Session
  - November 7, 2016 to December 16, 2016
4. Adjournment of Session
  - December 17, 2016 to January 15, 2017
5. Resumption of Session
  - January 16, 2017 to March 17, 2017
6. Adjournment of Session
  - March 18, 2017 to May 1, 2017
7. Resumption of Session
  - May 2, 2017 to June 2, 2017  
*(Sine Die Adjournment)*
8. Adjournment of Session
  - June 3, 2017 to July 23, 2017

#### **ADOPTION OF SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 2**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no

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objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 2 was adopted by the Body, subject to style.

## **PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 56**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered Proposed Senate Resolution No. 56, entitled

### **RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING TREAT CONRAD HUEY FOR HIS INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO PHILIPPINE SPORTS AS THE FIRST FILIPINO WHO QUALIFIED FOR THE SEMIFINAL ROUND OF A GRAND SLAM TENNIS TOURNAMENT.**

Secretary Barbo read only the title of the resolution without prejudice to the insertion of its full text into the record.

*Following is the full text of the resolution, to wit:*

WHEREAS, Filipino-American, Treat Conrad Huey, together with his Belarusian partner, Max Mirnyi, defeated Austrian Oliver Marach and French Fabrice Martin with the score of 6-3, 6-2, 7-6(3) at the quarterfinals of The Championships, Wimbledon held at the All England Lawn Tennis Croquet Club in London last July 7, 2016 and has since advanced to the semifinal round of the tournament;

WHEREAS, The Championships, Wimbledon, or most commonly referred to as Wimbledon, is the oldest and among the most prestigious tennis tournaments in the world. It is one of the only four Grand Slam tennis tournament, together with the Australian Open, French Open and the US Open. These Grand Slam annual tournaments are the four most important events in the tennis world;

WHEREAS, ranked 24<sup>th</sup> in the world, Huey is the first Filipino to make the semifinals at Wimbledon. He had previously reached the men's double quarterfinals in Australian Open in 2014 and 2016, and in the US Open in 2013.

WHEREAS, Huey has specialized in doubles and has reached fifteen finals in the ATP World Tour. He has won various titles including the 2012 Citi Open, 2013 Swiss Indoors, 2014 Aegon with Dominic Inglot, 2015 Estoril Open with Scott

Lipsky, 2015 St. Petersburg Open, and 2015 Malaysian Open, Kuala Lumpur with Henri Kontinen. He has also participated in the International Premier Tennis League (IPTL);

WHEREAS, Huey has been representing the country in various international tennis competitions. He turned professional in 2008 and started representing the Philippines in the Davis Cup and in the Southeast Asian Games in 2009. He has shown the talent and skill of a Filipino tennis athlete in an international premier tennis tournament. He has continued to promote the Philippines and its people through his outstanding performances in tennis;

WHEREAS, Huey's success especially his performance at the 2016 Wimbledon has given a much-needed boost to Philippine tennis. His breakthrough was hailed as a "heroic performance" continuing to raise the bar for Filipino tennis players;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Senate of the Philippines recognize and commend Treat Conrad Huey for his invaluable contribution to Philippine sports as the first Filipino who qualified for the semifinal round of a Grand Slam tennis tournament.

## **SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF SENATOR ANGARA**

Senator Angara stated that Filipino-American Treat Huey, who is also the captain of the Philippine Davis Cup Tennis Team, deserves commendation from the Senate for reaching the semifinal round of the recent Wimbledon Tournament, the most prestigious of the four grand slam tournaments in the tennis calendar, a historic feat that was hardly covered in the local media.

## **ADOPTION OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 56**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 56 was adopted by the Body.

## **COAUTHORS**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, all Members present in the Chamber were made coauthors of Proposed Senate Resolution No. 56.



## **PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 61**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered Proposed Senate Resolution No. 61, entitled

### **RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING FILIPINO SURFER PHILMAR ALIPAYO FOR WINNING IN THE WEST SUMBAWA OPEN PRO FINALS 2016 SURFING TOURNAMENT HELD LAST 20<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY 2016 IN WEST SUMBAWA, INDONESIA.**

Secretary Barbo read only the title of the resolution without prejudice to the insertion of its full text into the record.

*Following is the full text of the resolution, to wit:*

WHEREAS, Filipino surfer Philmar Alipayo won in the West Sumbawa Open Pro Finals 2016, garnering a perfect score from the event's judges in his first participation of an Asian Surfing Championships Tour and beating Indonesia's Mega Semadhi in the final seconds of the tournament's finale;

WHEREAS, the West Sumbawa Open Pro Finals, a surfing tournament open to all Asian surfers part of the Asian Surfing Championships Tour, is held during the West Sumbawa Festival 2016 in Indonesia, a celebration of the region's culture;

WHEREAS, the Asian Surfing Championships is the leading organization in Asia which aims to develop and promote the sport of surfing in the continent through assisting and sanctioning professional contests;

WHEREAS, Alipayo, a Siargao native, is a seasoned surfer who has recently participated in numerous surfing competitions, such as the annual Siargao International Surfing Cup and the annual Siargao Cloud 9 Surfing Cup, posting notable finishes in these competitions;

WHEREAS, Alipayo's victory has once again proved the brilliance of Filipinos in sports, serving as a prime example for all athletes to achieve the best in international competitions, promoting the sport of surfing in the country, and sparking interest among aspiring surfers beyond the shores of La Union, Siargao, and Baler, Aurora;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Senate of the Philippines, commend Philmar Alipayo for his groundbreaking achievement that puts the country on the map of competitive surfing by winning in the Men's Division of the West Sumbawa Open Pro Finals in West Sumbawa, Indonesia, and which serves as an inspiration not only for local surfers but also to all Filipino athletes.

## **SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF SENATOR ANGARA**

Senator Angara said that Philmar Alipaya, 21-year old Filipino surfer from Siargao, has brought glory to the country when he won in the West Sumbawa Open held in Indonesia. He believed that to his knowledge, surfing, as a sport, does not receive any financial assistance from the government. He said that it is fitting that the young surfer be given commendation for his achievement in the sport of surfing.

## **ADOPTION OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 61**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 61 was adopted by the Body.

## **COAUTHORS**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, all Members present in the Chamber were made coauthors of Proposed Senate Resolution No. 61.

## **PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 71**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered Proposed Senate Resolution No. 71, entitled

### **RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING MIGHTY SPORTS PHILIPPINES FOR TOPPING THE 38<sup>TH</sup> JONES CUP IN AN EIGHT-GAME SWEEP HELD FROM JULY 23-31, 2016 IN TAIPEI, TAIWAN.**

Secretary Barbo read only the title of the resolution without prejudice to the insertion of its full text into the record.

*net ps*

*Following is the full text of the resolution, to wit:*

WHEREAS, the R. William Jones Cup, also known as the Jones Cup, is an international basketball tournament held annually since 1977 in Taipei, Taiwan. It was named in honor of basketball promoter Renato William Jones, who was one of the founders of the International Basketball Federation (FIBA);

WHEREAS, the 2016 Jones Cup was participated by ten (10) teams from nine (9) countries namely: Canada, Egypt, Iran, India, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, United States of America and the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the Philippines was represented by the Mighty Sports Apparel Team, called Mighty Sports Philippines, comprising of 14 players, led by its team captain Edrick Ferrer and Bo Perasol as their head coach;

WHEREAS, the Philippine squad finished the tournament with an 8-0 record and secured the title even before its final outing;

WHEREAS, since the Jones Cup started, the Philippines got four (4) championships – in 1981 by Northern Cement, 1985 by San Miguel Beer, 2012 by the Philippine Centennial team and 2016 by the Mighty Sports Philippines;

WHEREAS, by reason of the foregoing championships, the Philippines placed second behind the United States in the all-time Jones Cup medal ladder with five (5) gold, one (1) silver and three (3) bronze medals reaped;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to commend and congratulate the Mighty Sports Philippines Team for topping the 38<sup>th</sup> Jones Cup in an eight-game sweep held from July 23-31, 2016 in Taipei, Taiwan bringing another recognition to the Philippines in the field of basketball.

#### **SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF SENATOR SOTTO**

Senator Sotto said that it was very rare for a team representing the country to win with an 8-0 winning streak especially since the countries which competed in the Jones Cup included Canada, Egypt, Iran, India, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and the United States. He said that the Philippines has won the Cup four times – in 1981 by Northern Cement, 1985 by

San Miguel Beer, 2012 by the Philippine Centennial team and 2016 by the Mighty Sports Philippines.

#### **INQUIRY OF SENATOR DE LIMA**

At the outset, Senator De Lima said that she was not objecting to the resolution but that she would simply like to be guided regarding the consideration of legislative measures that were not listed in the agenda for the day. As a matter of procedure, she asked that measures to be taken up in plenary be listed in the agenda so that the Members would be guided and would be given the chance to go over them.

Responding to Senator De Lima's query, Senator Sotto explained that as provided for in Section 33 of the *Rules of the Senate*, and following the practice and tradition of the Senate, the Committee on Rules has the power to call for plenary consideration at any time, any measure referred to it.

#### **ADOPTION OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 71**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 71 was adopted by the Body.

#### **COAUTHORS**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, all Members present in the Chamber were made coauthors Proposed Senate Resolution No. 71.

#### **PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 75**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered Proposed Senate Resolution No. 75, entitled

**RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING, COM-  
MENDING AND EXTENDING  
WELL-WISHES TO THE TWELVE  
(12) ATHLETES REPRESENTING  
THE PHILIPPINES IN VARIOUS  
EVENTS AT THE 2016 SUMMER  
OLYMPIC GAMES IN RIO DE  
JANEIRO, BRAZIL FROM AUGUST  
5 TO 21, 2016.**

Secretary Barbo read only the title of the resolution without prejudice to the insertion of its full text into the record.

*[Signature]*

*Following is the full of the resolution, to wit:*

WHEREAS, twelve (12) Filipino athletes – namely, swimmers Jasmine Alkhaldi and Jessie Lacuna; table tennis paddler Ian Lariba; golfer Miguel Luis Tabuena; long jumper Maristella Sunan; hurdler Eric Cray; marathon runner Mary Joy Tabal; weightlifters Hidilyn Diaz and Nestor Colonia; boxers Rogen Ladon and Charley Suarez; and taekwondo jin Kristie Alora shall represent the Philippines at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro from August 5 to 21, 2016;

WHEREAS, this delegation's participation will be the 21<sup>st</sup> instance the Philippines participates in the Summer Olympics. The country first sent athletes during the 1924 Olympics in Paris, France wherein the Philippines was the first Southeast Asian country to compete and win a medal;

WHEREAS, the Summer Olympics is a globally recognized multi-sport event, organized by the International Olympic Committee and held every four years;

WHEREAS, swimmers Jasmine Alkhaldi and Jessie Lacuna have already represented the country in various sporting events. Alkhaldi holds the Philippine women's record in the 200-, 100- and 50-meter freestyle and the 50- and 100-meter butterfly events, while Lacuna has a total fifty-one (51) gold medals with thirty-five (35) national and sixteen (16) international titles, and registered a personal best of one minute, fifty point seventy three seconds (1:50.73) during the 2015 Southeast Asian Games in Singapore;

WHEREAS, table tennis paddler Ian Lariba is the country's flag bearer for the 2016 Rio Olympics ceremony. Lariba represented the country in various international table tennis championships including the 2014 World Table Tennis Team Championships in Japan where she led the Philippines to a first-place victory;

WHEREAS, golfer Miguel Luis Tabuena has been playing the Asian Tour since 2011. Tabuena won the 2015 Philippine Open and was named by the Philippine Sportswriters Association as one of the "Sportsmen of the Year" for 2016;

WHEREAS, long jumpers Maristella Sunang, Eric Cray and Mary Joy Tabal shall be competing in their respective categories. Ranked 28<sup>th</sup> in the world, Sunang won gold in July 2016 at the Kazakhstan Open, setting a new Philippine record of 6.72 meters. Sunang participated in the

2008 Beijing and 2012 London Olympics. Cray set a new national record in the 400-meter hurdles even while winning gold at the 2015 Southeast Asian Games, setting a time of forty-nine point forty (49.40) seconds. Meanwhile, Tabal won silver in the 2015 Southeast Asian Games and represented the Philippines in the 2016 Boston Marathon;

WHEREAS, weightlifters Hidilyn Diaz and Nestor Colonia's participation shall be the first time the Philippines will send a pair of lifters since the 1988 Seoul Olympics. In November 2015, during the International Weightlifting Federation (IWF) World Weightlifting Championship, Colonia won a bronze medal in the clean-and-jerk 56 kg. categories division while Diaz won three bronze medals in the snatch, clean-and-jerk, and total categories in the women's 53 kg division, becoming the first Filipina to win a medal in the competition. The Rio Olympics will be the third consecutive time Diaz participates in the games, after 2008 Beijing and 2012 London;

WHEREAS, boxers Rogen Ladon and Charly Suarez will compete in their respective categories. Ladon has won various international tournaments such as the Asia Amateur Boxing Championships and Southeast Asian Games. Suarez won via technical knockout (TKO) in the semifinals of the Asian-Oceanic Olympic Qualifiers in China;

WHEREAS, taekwondo jin Kristie Alora is the first Filipino jin to make it to the Olympics since Marie Antoniette Rivero and Tshomlee Go represented the country in the 2008 Beijing Olympics;

WHEREAS, the Philippines has not won an Olympic medal since Mansueto "Onyok" Velasco won a silver medal in the light flyweight boxing competition in the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, United States. The Philippines has won a total of nine (9) Olympic medals so far;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Senate of the Philippines recognizes, commends and extends its well-wishes to the twelve athletes – swimmers Jasmine Alkhaldi and Jessie Lacuna; table tennis paddler Ian Lariba; golfer Miguel Luis Tabuena; long jumpers Maristella Sunang, Eric Cray and Mary Joy Tabal; weightlifters Hidilyn Diaz and Nestor Colonia; boxers Rogen Ladon and Charly Suarez; and taekwondo jin Kristie Alora at the 2016 Summer Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil from August 5 to 21, 2016.

## SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR ANGARA

In sponsoring Proposed Senate Resolution No. 75, Senator Angara delivered the following speech:

Our people have always been sport lovers whether it is basketball, boxing, volleyball or football. There is probably a Filipino out there who loves that sport. This is no less evident during the times the whole country used to stop and drop everything for the boxing bouts of our *Pambansang Kamao* who is now a proud colleague of ours, Sen. Manny Pacquiao.

We anticipate the country will extend the same fervor, the same support to the 12 Filipino athletes who are on their way to the Rio Olympics, namely, swimmers Jasmine Alkhaldi and Jessie Lacuna; table tennis paddler Ian Lariba; golfer Miguel Luis Tabuena; long jumper Maristella Sunan; hurdler Eric Cray; marathon runner Mary Joy Tabal; weightlifters Hidilyn Diaz and Nestor Colonia; boxers Rogen Ladon and Charly Suarez; and taekwondo jin Kristie Alora.

These 12 shall represent the Philippines at the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro from August 5 to 21, 2016. And that is why, with the resolution we are sponsoring, we wish to recognize and commend them for getting into the Olympics, for the road they have faced was nothing short of tough.

They are nothing short of world-class as well. Jasmine Alkhaldi holds the Philippine women's record in the 200-, 100-, and 50-meter freestyle and the 50-, and 100-meter butterfly events, while Jessie Lacuna has a total 51 gold medals with 35 national and 16 international titles, and registered a personal best of one minute, 50.73 seconds (1:50:73) during the 2015 Southeast Asian Games in Singapore.

Table tennis paddler Ian Lariba who will be the country's flag bearer for the 2016 Rio Olympics opening ceremony represented the country in various international table tennis competitions including the 2014 World Table Tennis Team Championships in Japan where she led the Philippines to a first-place victory.

Ranked 28th in the world, Maristella Sunang won gold in July 2016 at the Kazakhstan Open, setting a new Philippine record of 6.72 meters. Sunang participated in the 2008 Beijing and 2012 London Olympics. Eric Cray, on the other hand, set a new national record in the 400-meter hurdles event while winning gold at the 2015 Southeast Asian Games, setting a time of 49.40 seconds. Meanwhile, Mary Joy Tabal won

silver in the 2015 Southeast Asian Games and represented the Philippines in the 2016 Boston Marathon.

Despite their achievements, we continue to overlook the significance of our athletes in nation building, providing them very little support or incentive to succeed. Of course, in the 16th Congress, we raised the incentives our national athletes receive. But we can definitely do more—especially in providing full institutional support and training for them.

I am happy to note that during President Duterte's send-off for the Philippine Team to the 2016 Rio Olympics, he expressed his support through increasing the allowance of the athletes from \$1000 to \$3000 and of the officials from \$3000 to \$5000.

The Senate has been filing resolutions congratulating various athletes in different international competitions. Perhaps in the future, we can do more than this. We need systemic reform, including grass roots development, higher budgets, and long-term planning. *Para hindi lang puro "congratulations."* We should offer our athletes more.

I congratulate our *Pambansang Kamao*, Sen. Manny Pacquiao, for being the incoming chairman of the Senate Committee on Sports.

## ADOPTION OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 75

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 75 was adopted by the Body.

## COAUTHORS

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, all Members present in the Chamber were made coauthors of Proposed Senate Resolution No. 75.

## COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS (Continuation)

Upon nomination by Senator Sotto for the Majority/Senator Recto for the Minority, there being no objection, the following senators were elected to the Committee on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality

*Chairperson* : Hontiveros  
*Vice Chairperson* : De Lima

**Members :***Majority*

Binay	Angara
Villar	Aquino
Poe	

*Minority*

Trillanes

**COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRMANSHIP**

Acting on the request of Senator Pacquiao, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved the designation of Senators Villanueva, Honasan and Angara as vice chairpersons of the Committee on Sports.

**WITHDRAWAL  
OF COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

Acting on the request of Senator Legarda, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered as withdrawn the membership of Senator Pacquiao from the Committee on Finance.

**MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR ZUBIRI**

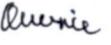
Senator Zubiri informed the Body that Senator Gordon would be celebrating his birthday on Friday, August 5, 2016.

**ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION**

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until three o'clock in the afternoon of Monday, August 8, 2016.

*It was 4:52 p.m.*

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

  
**ATTY. LUTGARDO B. BARBO**  
*Secretary of the Senate*  
  


Approved on August 8, 2016