



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Senate
Pasay City

Journal

SESSION NO. 13
Tuesday, August 23, 2016

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SESSION NO. 13

Tuesday, August 23, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

At 3:47 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Aquilino “Koko” Pimentel III, called the session to order.

PRAYER

Reading a passage from the Bible, Sen. Loren Legarda led the prayer, to wit:

Blessed is a nation whose God is the Lord,
the people He chose for His inheritance.
From Heaven the Lord looks down
and sees all mankind; from His dwelling place,
he watches all who live on earth—
He who forms the hearts of all,
who considers everything they do.

No king is saved by the size of his army;
no warrior escapes by his great strength.
A horse is a vain hope for deliverance;
despite all its great strength it cannot save.
But the eyes of the Lord are on those
who fear Him, on those whose hope is in
His unfailing love, to deliver them from
death and keep them alive in famine.

We wait in hope for the Lord;
He is our help and our shield.
In Him our hearts rejoice, for we trust
in His Holy Name.

May Your unfailing love be with us,
O Lord, even as we put our hope in You.

Psalms 33:12 to 22

In the Name of Jesus, Amen.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS

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

- Members of Parliament of the European Parliamentary Forum (EPF) who are on study tour in the Philippines — Honorable Petra Bayr of Austria, Johan Vestreken of Belgium, Ulla Margarethe Sandbaek of Denmark, Sari Tanus of Finland, Cristovao Norte of Portugal, Florian Dorel Bodog of Romania and Jordi Xucla of Catalonia and Spain;
- Executive Director Romeo Dongeto of the Philippine Legislators’ Committee in Population and Development (PLCPD); and
- Vice Governor Karen Agapay of Laguna.

Senate President Pimentel welcomed the guests to the Senate.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Secretary of the Senate, Atty. Lutgardo B. Barbo, read the following matters and the Chair made the corresponding referrals:

**MESSAGE FROM THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Letter from the House of Representatives, informing the Senate that on 3 August 2016, the House of Representatives adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 6, entitled

**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PRO-
VIDING FOR THE LEGISLATIVE
CALENDAR FOR THE FIRST
REGULAR SESSION OF THE
SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF
THE PHILIPPINES,**

in which it requested the concurrence of the Senate.

To the Archives

BILLS ON FIRST READING

Senate Bill No. 1050, entitled

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE INTER-
NET ACCESS PROGRAM IN ALL
PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL INSTI-
TUTIONS IN THE COUNTRY
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR**

Introduced by Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV

**To the Committees on Science and Technol-
ogy; Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 1051, entitled

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MAGNA
CARTA FOR PHILIPPINE INTER-
NET FREEDOM, CYBERCRIME
PREVENTION AND LAW ENFORCE-
MENT, CYBERDEFENSE AND
NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY**

Introduced by Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV

**To the Committees on Science and Technol-
ogy; and Finance**

Senate Bill No. 1052, entitled

**AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE
PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION UNIT
(CIU) BY RESTORING ITS
AUTHORITY TO ISSUE SUBPOENA
OR SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
SEC. 35 B (4) OF REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 6975, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE
PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE
UNDER A REORGANIZED DEPART-
MENT OF THE INTERIOR AND
LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Lacson

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

Senate Bill No. 1053, entitled

**AN ACT REPEALING CHAPTER I OF
TITLE III OF THE NATIONAL
INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF
1997, AS AMENDED, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES**

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

To the Committee on Ways and Means

RESOLUTIONS

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 109, entitled

**RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING
AND COMMENDING PHILIPPINE
NAVY ENSIGN MAYCEE ANGGA
FOR RECEIVING THE BEST INTER-
NATIONAL STUDENT AWARD AT
THE BRITANNIA ROYAL NAVAL
COLLEGE**

Introduced by Senator Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III

To the Committee on Rules

Proposed Senate Resolution No. 110, entitled

RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING UPEEPZ AND THE ALLIANCE FOR WINNING THE GOLD MEDAL AND BRONZE MEDAL IN THEIR RESPECTIVE DIVISIONS, IN THE 15TH WORLD HIP HOP DANCE CHAMPIONSHIP HELD IN WESTIN LAKE LAS VEGAS RESORT, NEVADA, USA

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

To the Committee on Rules

COMMUNICATIONS

Letters from the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas*, transmitting to the Senate copies of the following certified and authenticated BSP issuances in compliance with Section 15(a) of Republic Act No. 7653 (The New Central Bank Act):

Circular Letter Nos. CL-2016-048, 049, 050, 051, 052, 053, 054, 055, 056, 057, 058, 059, 060, 061, 062, 063, 064, 065, 066 and 067 dated 10, 22, 23, 27, 28 and 29 June 2016; 4, 7, 12, 11, 14, 22, 26, 28, and 29 July 2016;

Circular Nos. 914, 915, 917, 918 and 919 dated 23 June 2016, 5 and 8 July 2016 and 2 August 2016; and

Memorandum Nos. M-2016-008, 009 and 010 dated 23 and 27 June 2016.

To the Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies

Letter from the Office of the Undersecretary for Migrant Workers' Affairs, submitting to the Senate the "Report to Congress on Assistance to Nationals," for the period July to December 2015, in CD digital format, pursuant to Section 33 of Republic Act No. 8042, otherwise known as Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act

of 1995, as amended by Republic Act No. 10022.

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

Letter from the Office of the President of the Philippines, transmitting to the Senate two (2) original copies of the following Acts, which lapsed into law pursuant to Article VI, Section 27(1) of the Constitution:

Republic Act No. 10870, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING THE PHILIPINE CREDIT CARD INDUSTRY;

Republic Act No. 10871, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING BASIC EDUCATION STUDENTS TO UNDERGO AGE-APPROPRIATE BASIC LIFE SUPPORT TRAINING;

Republic Act No. 10872, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE CAGASAT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – MAGSAYSAY ANNEX IN BARANGAY MAGSAYSAY, MUNICIPALITY OF CORDON, PROVINCE OF ISABELA FROM THE CAGASAT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS CORDON NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 10873, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE CONNER CENTRAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – TALIFUGO ANNEX IN BARANGAY TALIFUGO, MUNICIPALITY OF CONNER, PROVINCE OF APAYAO FROM THE CONNER CENTRAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;



Republic Act No. 10874, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE PIO DA LIM MEMORIAL SCHOOL OF ARTS AND TRADES – TANGLAGAN ANNEX IN BARANGAY TANGLAGAN, MUNICIPALITY OF CALANASAN, PROVINCE OF APAYAO FROM THE PIO DA LIM MEMORIAL SCHOOL OF ARTS AND TRADES, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL TECHNICAL – VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS TANGLAGAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 10875, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY SAN JOSE, CITY OF ANTIPOLO, PROVINCE OF RIZAL TO BE KNOWN AS ANTIPOLO CITY NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 10876, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE KALINGA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – AMBATO TINGLAYAN ANNEX IN BARANGAY AMBATO-LEGLEG, MUNICIPALITY OF TINGLAYAN, PROVINCE OF KALINGA FROM THE KALINGA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS TINGLAYAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 10877, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE GOV. ALFREDO ABUEG SR. NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY AND VOCATIONAL MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL – AРИBUNGOS EXTENSION IN BARANGAY AРИBUNGOS, MUNICIPALITY OF BROOKE'S POINT,

PROVINCE OF PALAWAN FROM THE GOV. ALFREDO ABUEG SR. NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY AND VOCATIONAL MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS INIL U. TAHA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 10878, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING AND INSTITUTIONALIZING DIRECT CREDIT SUPPORT TO THE LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES TO AGRARIAN REFORM BENEFICIARIES, SMALL FARMERS AND FISHERFOLK, FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3844, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “AGRICULTURAL LAND REFORM CODE,” AS AMENDED;

Republic Act No. 10879, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SOUTHWESTERN TAGALOG REGION TO BE KNOWN AS THE MIMAROPA REGION;

Republic Act No. 10880, entitled

AN ACT CREATING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT WITH SEAT AT CALAPAN CITY, ORIENTAL MINDORO IN THE FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980,” AS AMENDED AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 10881, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS IN SPECIFIC LAWS GOVERNING ADJUSTMENT COMPANIES, LENDING COMPANIES, FINANCING COMPANIES AND INVESTMENT HOUSES CITED IN

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THE FOREIGN INVESTMENT
NEGATIVE LIST AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

To the Archives

ROLL CALL

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary of the Senate 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.
Honasan, G. B.	Villanueva, J.
Hontiveros, R.	Villar, C. A.
Lacson, P. M.	Zubiri, J. M. F.

With 22 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senator Gordon arrived after the roll call.

Senator Cayetano was unable to attend the session due to official business as indicated in the August 23, 2016 letter of the Senator's chief of staff.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

(Continuation)

Continuing with the Reference of Business, the Secretary of the Senate read the following matters and the Chair made the corresponding referrals:

Republic Act No. 10882, entitled

AN ACT EXEMPTING SURVIVING CHILDREN OF MILITARY PERSONNEL WHO ARE MENTALLY INCAPACITATED FROM TERMINATION OF BENEFITS UPON REACHING THE AGE OF TWENTY-ONE (21), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 25 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NUMBERED SIXTEEN HUNDRED AND THIRTY-EIGHT, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE AFP MILITARY PERSONNEL RETIRE-

MENT AND SEPARATION DECREE OF 1979, AS AMENDED;

Republic Act No. 10883, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A NEW ANTI-CARNAPPING LAW OF THE PHILIPPINES;

Republic Act No. 10884, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE BALANCED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7279, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING ACT OF 1992;

Republic Act No. 10885, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING THE MAKINIG NETWORK, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND/OR TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES;

Republic Act No. 10886, entitled

AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO KALAYAAN BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INCORPORATED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7303, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8105, ENTITLED AN ACT GRANTING THE KALAYAAN BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INCORPORATED, A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE ISLAND OF MINDANAO AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES;

Republic Act No. 10887, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO BYERS COMMUNICATIONS, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8107, EXPANDING ITS SCOPE INTO NATIONAL COVERAGE, AND RENEWING ITS TERM FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS;

Republic Act No. 10888, entitled

AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO ZOE BROADCASTING, INC., AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7279, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING ZOE BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES, FOR OTHER PURPOSES," AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7968;

Republic Act No. 10889, entitled

AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO CORONA INTERNATIONAL, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7398;

Republic Act No. 10890, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING THE MACTAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC. (MECO) A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF ELECTRIC POWER TO THE END USERS IN THE CITY OF LAPU-LAPU AND THE MUNICIPALITY OF CORDOVA, PROVINCE OF CEBU;

Republic Act No. 10891, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING THE FIRST BAY POWER CORP. (FBPC) A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF ELECTRIC POWER TO THE END USERS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BAUAN, PROVINCE OF BATANGAS;

Republic Act No. 10892, entitled

AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER

TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO IBAAN ELECTRIC CORPORATION (FORMERLY IBAAN ELECTRIC AND ENGINEERING CORPORATION) TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN AN ELECTRIC LIGHT, HEAT, AND POWER SYSTEM IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF IBAAN, PROVINCE OF BATANGAS UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7578;

Republic Act No. 10893, entitled

AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO MASBATE COMMUNITY BROADCASTING CO., INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7510, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING THE MASBATE COMMUNITY BROADCASTING CO., INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE ISLANDS OF MASBATE AND ROMBLON AND THE WHOLE OF THE VISAYAS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES";

• Republic Act No. 10894, entitled

AN ACT EXTENDING TO ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO THE PHILIPPINE TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE CORPORATION (PT&T) TO ESTABLISH, INSTALL, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE WIRE AND/OR WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS, LINES, CIRCUITS AND STATIONS THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES FOR PUBLIC DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4161, AS AMENDED;

Republic Act No. 10895, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING THE AVOCADO BROADBAND TELECOMS, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT,

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INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES;

Republic Act No. 10896, entitled

AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO PEOPLE'S BROADCASTING SERVICE, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7477, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9213;

Republic Act No. 10897, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING THE AMA TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS IN THE PHILIPPINES;

Republic Act No. 10898, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING THE INFINIVAN, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES;

Republic Act No. 10899, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING THE VERITAS MEDIA ARTS INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PROVINCE OF BOHOL AND THE VISAYAS;

Republic Act No. 10900, entitled

AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO BELL TELECOMMUNICATION PHILIPPINES, INC., AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7692, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING TO

BELL TELECOMMUNICATION PHILIPPINES, INC., A FRANCHISE TO INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES";

Republic Act No. 10901, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING THE PILIPINAS ASIAN PEARL AIRWAYS, INC. A FRANCHISE TO ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL AIR TRANSPORT SERVICES;

Republic Act No. 10902, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING THE METRO CONNECTIONS AND TELECOM CORP. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES;

Republic Act No. 10903, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING THE MEGA-MANILA TELECOM CORP. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES;

Republic Act No. 10904, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING THE PILIPINAS RADIO WAVES CORP. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND/OR TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES;

Republic Act No. 10905, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING ALL FRANCHISE HOLDERS OR OPERATORS OF TELEVISION STATIONS AND PRODUCERS OF TELEVISION

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PROGRAMS TO BROADCAST OR PRESENT THEIR PROGRAMS WITH CLOSED CAPTIONS OPTION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES;

Republic Act No. 10906, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING STRONGER MEASURES AGAINST UNLAWFUL PRACTICES, BUSINESSES, AND SCHEMES OF MATCHING AND OFFERING FILIPINOS TO FOREIGN NATIONALS FOR PURPOSES OF MARRIAGE OR COMMON LAW PARTNERSHIP, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6955, ALSO REFERRED TO AS THE ANTI-MAIL ORDER BRIDE LAW;

Republic Act No. 10907, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AREAS IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMIGUIN, ORGANIZING THE CAMIGUIN TOURISM COUNCIL AND MANDATING SUPPORT FOR TOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMIGUIN;

Republic Act No. 10908, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE INTEGRATION OF FILIPINO-MUSLIM AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES HISTORY, CULTURE AND IDENTITY IN THE STUDY OF PHILIPPINE HISTORY IN BOTH BASIC AND HIGHER EDUCATION;

Republic Act No. 10909, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS FROM GIVING INSUFFICIENT OR NO CHANGE TO CONSUMERS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 10910, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE PRESCRIPTIVE PERIOD FOR VIOLATIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3019, OTHER-

WISE KNOWN AS THE “ANTI-GRAFT AND CORRUPT PRACTICES ACT,” FROM FIFTEEN (15) YEARS TO TWENTY (20) YEARS, AMENDING SECTION 11 THEREOF;

Republic Act No. 10911, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION AGAINST ANY INDIVIDUAL IN EMPLOYMENT ON ACCOUNT OF AGE AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 10912, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING AND STRENGTHENING THE CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR ALL REGULATED PROFESSIONS, CREATING THE CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER RELATED PURPOSES;

Republic Act No. 10913, entitled

AN ACT DEFINING AND PENALIZING DISTRACTED DRIVING;

Republic Act No. 10914, entitled

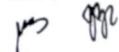
AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO HANS-PETER SMIT;

Republic Act No. 10915, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING, MODERNIZING AND ALIGNING THE PRACTICE OF AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING IN THE COUNTRY INTO THE INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED PRACTICE OF AGRICULTURAL AND BIOSYSTEMS ENGINEERING, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES;

Republic Act No. 10916, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING THE MANDA-



TORY INSTALLATION OF SPEED LIMITER IN PUBLIC UTILITY AND CERTAIN TYPES OF VEHICLE;

Republic Act No. 10917, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9547, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT STRENGTHENING AND EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF THE SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR EMPLOYMENT OF STUDENTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7323, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR EMPLOYMENT OF STUDENTS;

Republic Act No. 10918, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING AND MODERNIZING THE PRACTICE OF PHARMACY IN THE PHILIPPINES, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED FIVE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED TWENTY-ONE (R.A. NO. 5921), OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHARMACY LAW;

Republic Act No. 10919, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES (USTSP), PROVIDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE AMALGAMATION OF THE MINDANAO UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (MUST) AND THE MISAMIS ORIENTAL STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY (MOSCAT), AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 10920, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE CONNER CENTRAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – CUPIS ANNEX II IN BARANGAY CUPIS, MUNICIPALITY OF CONNER, PROVINCE OF APAYAO

FROM THE CONNER CENTRAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS CUPIS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

Republic Act No. 10921, entitled

AN ACT SEPARATING THE CONNER CENTRAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – ILI ANNEX IV IN BARANGAY ILI, MUNICIPALITY OF CONNER, PROVINCE OF APAYAO FROM THE CONNER CENTRAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS ILI NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

and Republic Act No. 10922, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING THE SECOND WEEK OF NOVEMBER OF EVERY YEAR AS ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL LITERACY WEEK.

To the Archives

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

Senate Bill No. 1054, entitled

AN ACT EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (S&T) SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM BY MAKING IT AVAILABLE TO ALL INCOMING COLLEGE STUDENTS ENROLLED IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, MATHEMATICS, AND ENGINEERING COURSES IN STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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Introduced by Senator Aquilino “Koko” Pimentel III

To the Committees on Science and Technology; Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1055, entitled

AN ACT RESETTING THE BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN ELECTIONS AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9164, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9340 AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10656, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Zubiri

To the Committees on Local Government; Electoral Reforms and People’s Participation; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 1056, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE COMPLETION OF THE LAND ACQUISITION AND DISTRIBUTION (LAD) COMPONENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM (CARP) PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6657, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM LAW,” AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Risa Hontiveros

To the Committee on Agrarian Reform

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the Journal of Session No. 12 (August 22, 2016) and considered it approved.

**QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE
OF SENATOR ZUBIRI**

Senator Zubiri stated that he was rising on a question of personal and collective privilege on behalf of a colleague, Senator Ejercito, who was ordered suspended by the Sandiganbayan in connection with the technical malversation case filed against him.

Senator Zubiri stated that he felt sad that Senator Ejercito was being charged with technical malversation for using the city government’s calamity fund to purchase equipment for San Juan City’s security forces during his term as local government official. He believed that Senator Ejercito had no plan or intention to defraud the government because as intimated to him, Senator Ejercito was simply being proactive because at that time there were calamities that were happening, there was a breakdown of law and order and he felt it prudent that the city government should properly equip its security personnel. He believed that the case was being politicized as the money involved was actually utilized to equip the safety and security personnel so that they could perform their duties as law enforcers during calamities and emergencies.

He disclosed that as vice chairman of the Philippine Red Cross, together with then chairman Richard Gordon, he had the opportunity to visit many calamity-stricken areas — Davao which was hit by typhoon *Pablo*, Cagayan de Oro City which was badly hit by typhoons *Ondoy* and *Sendong*, and Tacloban and Leyte which were ravaged by typhoon *Yolanda*. He recalled that in Tacloban and Leyte, security forces were decimated on the first two days because of the sheer strength of the typhoon, all equipment were flooded, even soldiers and PNP personnel could not locate their families, and there was breakdown of law and order, looting, theft and destruction of properties.

Senator Zubiri believed that it was about time that the Body revisited the law governing the use of the calamity fund, not in aid of a colleague but for future cases so that local government officials could take a more proactive stance in purchasing equipment for their security and safety forces.

He explained that the calamity fund is a lump-sum fund under the General Appropriations Act to be used pursuant to RA 10121 (Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction Management Act) to cover aid, relief and rehabilitation services to communities and areas affected by man-made and natural calamities; repair and maintenance of permanent structures, including capital expenditures for pre-disaster operations; and rehabilitation and other related activities. He said that the term “pre-disaster operations” as defined — effectively amending the Local Government Code — allows the proactive purchase of equipment before a man-made or natural calamity strikes, and he noted

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that a man-made calamity could be a condition experienced in a war-torn area or in areas where there were looting, shooting, and fighting among different groups; on the other hand, a state of calamity includes a condition involving mass casualty or major damages to property, disruption of livelihoods, roads and the normal way of life in affected areas as a result of the occurrences of natural or human-induced hazards.

Senator Zubiri likewise placed on record the definition of the term “technical malversation” as follows: when the offender and accountable public officer applies public funds or property under his or her administration to some public use and that public use for which the public funds were applied is different from the purpose for which they were originally appropriated by law and ordinances.

Senator Zubiri believed that Senator Ejercito had no intention to steal money or to defraud the government but that he merely wanted to take a proactive stance to help security forces, knowing fully well that there was a need to secure facilities like hospitals in times of calamities. He said that he was saddened that Senator Ejercito was being suspended for making such proactive stance, and he hoped that Congress would start reviewing the law governing the use of calamity fund and propose amendments at the proper time that would give LGU officials more leeway in the purchase of emergency equipment.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR DRILON

Senator Drilon thanked Senator Zubiri for his exposition on the need to give LGUs more leeway in purchasing emergency equipment. However, he stated that he viewed the situation from another angle. He explained that preventive suspension, as a concept, is not a penalty as it is simply imposed on a public official in order that he/she would not use his/her position to influence the outcome or result of the investigation. He said that the Sandiganbayan had no choice but to impose the order automatically because it is the rule imposed by the Supreme Court based on a provision of the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Law.

But Senator Drilon noted that there appears to be no logic in imposing the preventive suspension on an official who was no longer holding office where the offense was committed because that official could no longer influence the outcome of the

investigation. He urged Senator Ejercito to graciously accept the rule and for the Chamber to do so, too, because the Sandiganbayan had no choice but to abide by established rules, without prejudice to the study and review by Congress of the particular provision of the law.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Senator Sotto stated that he had wanted to interpellate and to find out from Senator Zubiri what he wanted to do with Republic Act No. 8185 which he principally authored. However, he said that the point raised by Senator Drilon was very compelling which set aside his questions. Thereafter, he expressed concurrence with the statement of Senator Drilon.

REFERRAL TO COMMITTEES

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the speech of Senator Zubiri and the manifestation of Senator Drilon were referred primarily to the Committee on Local Government and, as amended by Senator Drilon, secondarily to the Committee Justice and Human Rights.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PRESENCE OF GUESTS

At this juncture, Senator Sotto acknowledged the presence in the gallery of the Bachelor of Science in International Relations students from the Mindoro State University headed by Professor Juliet Mendoza.

Senate President Pimentel welcomed the guests to the Senate.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

Upon nomination by Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the following senators were elected to the committees hereunder indicated:

Committee on Accounts

Chairperson : Lacson

Members:

Honasan	Aquino
Legarda	Villar
Poe	Hontiveros
Binay	Ejercito
Villanueva	Trillanes

Committee on Ethics and Privileges

Chairperson : Sotto

Members :

Lacson	Poe
Honasan	Hontiveros
Legarda	Escudero

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 the following day.

It was 4:33 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

[Signature]
ATTY. LUTGARDO B. BARBO

*[Signature]
Secretary of the Senate
8/24/16 P.M. R.*

Approved on August 24, 2016