

# Committee Daily Bulletin

17<sup>th</sup> Congress  
First Regular Session

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COMMITTEE MEETING				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Welfare of Children	HBs 440, 748, 848, 953, 982, 1345, 1971, 2550, 3407, 3428, 3530, 3826, 3968, 4552 & 4728	Deputy Speaker Quimbo, Reps. Aglipay-Villar, Villarica, Ocampo, Fortun, Acop, Suansing (E.), Romualdez, Aragonés, Cortuna, Unabia, Revilla, Herrera-Dy, Rodriguez (M.), and Brosas	Instituting the Magna Carta of Day Care Workers and providing funds therefor	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Divina Grace Yu (1<sup>st</sup> District, Zamboanga del Sur), approved the 15 bills. The Secretariat was directed to transmit to the Committee on Appropriations the bill approved on Third Reading during the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress, which has the same subject matter, as substitute bill to the 15 measures for approval of its funding provision.</p> <p>The authors of the bills invoked Section 48 of the House Rules which states in part that bills reported out by a particular Committee during the immediately preceding Congress may be disposed of as matters already reported, upon the approval of the Committee.</p>

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Welfare of Children	Approval of the Committee's Rules of Procedure	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Divina Grace Yu (1<sup>st</sup> District, Zamboanga del Sur), adopted its Rules of Procedure for the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress.</p> <p>The Committee has jurisdiction over "all matters directly and principally relating to the needs, education and overall welfare of Filipino children, and all actions to ensure the availability of and their continuing access to affordable and appropriate programs and resources that facilitate and contribute to the attainment of their welfare."</p> <p>Committee Secretary Mari Fe Janet Sumalpong presented the past accomplishments of the Committee that led to the passage of the following laws that ensure the welfare of children:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RA 9775 or the Anti-Child Pornography Act of 2009;</li> <li>• RA 10165 or the Foster Care Act of 2012;</li> <li>• RA 10661 or the National Children's Month Act; and</li> <li>• RA 10821 or the Children's Emergency Relief and Protection Act.</li> </ul> <p>For the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress, the Committee's legislative priorities include the enactment of laws providing for the Magna Carta of Day Care Workers, promotion of positive and non-violent discipline, protection of children in situations of armed conflict, and other measures ensuring the health and safety of children.</p>
	Briefing by the Council for the Welfare of Children (CWC) on the state of Filipino children	CWC Deputy Executive Director Marijoy Segui focused her presentation on the status of children at risk and in need of special protection.

<p>Continuation... Welfare of Children</p>		<p>Segui lamented that children in poverty are most vulnerable to violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation. She reported that based on the 2006 data of the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB), 40.8 per 100 children or a total of 14.4 million children are living in poverty. She averred that while poverty incidence decreased by 0.1% from 2009 to 2012, the figure is still way below the target of 16.4%.</p> <p>Children who are separated from their families are at even greater risk to abuse and exploitation, according to Segui. She cited the statistics from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) showing that from January to September 2016, there are 3,403 reported child abuse cases nationwide.</p> <p>Segui also presented the following statistics which reflect the situation of children in need of special protection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An estimated 5.49 million (18.9%) of 29.02 million children aged 5-17 years old are working based on the 2011 Survey on Working Children conducted by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA);</li> <li>• Hazardous child labor was higher among boys as compared to girls; and</li> <li>• In 2013, the Philippine National Police (PNP) registered 7,825 cases of children who were in conflict with the law, in which theft was the most committed crime.</li> </ul> <p>When asked by the Committee members on CWC's position with regard to the proposals lowering the age of criminal liability, Segui expressed the agency's objection to the proposals.</p> <p>The CWC was requested to submit its accomplishment report, budget allocations and utilization, update on the Philippine National Strategic Framework for Plan Development for Children (Child 21), and the policies it has formulated since its creation in 1974.</p>
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TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETING				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Ecology (Technical Working Group)	Draft Substitute Bill to HBs 3577, 983, 1966, 2655, 3130, 3579, 3801, 4181, 4183 & 4542, and HRs 330 & 370	Reps. Suansing (E.), Fortun, Campos, Revilla, Deputy Speaker Macapagal-Arroyo, Reps. Castelo, Tambunting, Rodriguez (M.), Relampagos, and Pineda	Regulating the production, importation, sale, provision, use, recovery, collection, recycling and disposal of plastic products	<p>The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Estrellita Suansing (1<sup>st</sup> District, Nueva Ecija), terminated its deliberation on the draft substitute bill to the 12 measures. The bill will be presented to the mother Committee for its consideration and approval.</p> <p>The resource persons were requested to submit additional comments and suggestions on the draft substitute bill before it is presented to the Committee.</p>

AGENCY BRIEFING		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Metro Manila Development	Discussion on the location of the Light Rail Transit-Metro Rail Transit (LRT-MRT) common station in EDSA-North Avenue in Quezon City	The Committee, chaired by Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo (2 <sup>nd</sup> District, Quezon City), suspended its discussion of the LRT-MRT common station project to be constructed in EDSA-North Avenue in Quezon City pending the receipt of a copy of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) entered into by the parties involved in the project.

<p>Continuation... Metro Manila Development</p>		<p>Senior Project Development Officer Timothy John Batan of the Department of Transportation (DOTr) informed the Committee that the MOU for the common station project is set to be signed on January 18, 2017 by the DOTr, Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Light Rail Transit Authority (LRTA), SM Prime Holdings Inc., Universal Light Rail Corp. BV Ltd., Light Rail Manila Corp., and North Triangle Depot Commercial Corp.</p> <p>Rep. Vincent “Bingbong” Crisologo (1<sup>st</sup> District, Quezon City) manifested that he was never consulted about the project despite being the representative of the district where the common station will be put up.</p> <p>Concurring with Rep. Crisologo, Rep. Bernadette Herrera-Dy (Party-List, Bagong Henerasyon) said that even the barangays around the area where the common station will be constructed were not consulted.</p> <p>The Committee thus agreed to request the concerned government agencies to defer the signing of the MOU until the requested documents and information, which include the details of the project, such as the engineering and structural design, cost, financing, operation, and maintenance, are submitted to the Committee; and proper consultation with stakeholders has been conducted. It also agreed to conduct an ocular inspection of the project site.</p>
	<p>Discussion on the reported plan to convert the Rizal Memorial Stadium into a shopping complex</p>	<p>The Committee suspended its deliberation on the reported plan to convert the Rizal Memorial Stadium into a shopping complex pending the submission by the Manila City government of its conversion plan for the historic sports complex.</p> <p>The conversion plan is an important reference not only for the Committee but also for government agencies concerned with the country’s sports development and the preservation of buildings with historical and cultural value.</p> <p>As presented by Dr. Jeremy Barns, director of the National Museum of the Philippines (NM), Architect Reynaldo Lita, officer-in-charge of the Historic Preservation Division of the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP), and Francis Badilla, consultant of the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), their respective agencies have not been furnished with any copy of the proposed conversion plan.</p> <p>Rep. Manuel Luis Lopez (1<sup>st</sup> District, Manila) objects to the planned conversion of the Rizal Memorial Stadium into a shopping complex and the transfer of this sports facility to Clark, Pampanga.</p> <p>Rep. Lopez argued that Clark is not suitable to house a sports complex considering that the property is only a few feet above sea level, making it flood-prone and therefore unsafe for the athletes. He added that Clark is also being considered for another purpose, as an alternative gateway to decongest the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA).</p> <p>Rep. Manuel Monsour del Rosario III (1<sup>st</sup> District, Makati) likewise manifested that Clark is not accessible to various schools and universities which serve as “breeding grounds” for potential athletes.</p> <p>The Rizal Memorial Stadium is being managed by the PSC, and stands on a property owned by the Manila City government.</p>