

Committee Daily Bulletin

17th Congress
Second Regular Session

A publication of the Committee Affairs Department

Vol. II No. 120
June 18, 2018

| PUBLIC HEARING | | | | |
|---|---------------|------------------|---|--|
| COMMITTEE | MEASURES | | SUBJECT MATTER | ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION |
| | NO. | PRINCIPAL AUTHOR | | |
| Globalization and WTO (Special Committee) | HRs 796 & 797 | Rep. Casilao | Inquiry into the effects on the local livestock, poultry, and vegetable industries of the implementation of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade-World Trade Organization's (GATT-WTO) policies and programs in the country | <p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Rodante Marcoleta (Party-List, SAGIP), held a public hearing in the Provincial Capitol of Cebu City on June 13, 2018 relative to the issues raised in HRs 796 and 797.</p> <p>The public hearing aims to get the sentiments of the parties concerned on the effects of the GATT-WTO policies and programs on the country's livestock, poultry, and vegetable industries. The results of the hearing will guide the Committee in coming up with its recommendations on how best to address the issues raised.</p> <p>Aside from the Committee Chair, other House Members who attended the public hearing were Rep. Ariel "Ka Ayik" Casilao (Party-List, ANAKPAWIS), author of HRs 796 and 797, and Reps. Peter John Calderon (7th District, Cebu), Wilfredo Caminero (2nd District, Cebu), Raul del Mar (1st District, Cebu City), and Manuel "Chiquiting" Sagarbarria (2nd District, Negros Oriental).</p> <p>Representatives from government agencies, such as the Department of Agriculture (DA), Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI), Bureau of Plant Industry, Philippine Council for Agriculture and Fisheries (PCAF), and Tariff Commission; and leaders and members of the poultry and livestock industries were also present during the hearing.</p> |

| TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETING | | | | |
|--|--|------------------|---|--|
| COMMITTEE | MEASURES | | SUBJECT MATTER | ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION |
| | NO. | PRINCIPAL AUTHOR | | |
| Public Order and Safety jt. w/ National Defense and Security (Technical Working Group) | Draft Substitute Bill to HBs 7141 & 5507 | Rep. Espino | Amending RA 9372, otherwise known as the "Human Security Act of 2007" (by deleting provisions that are redundant with existing laws and are anti-law enforcement, among other amendments) | <p>The joint technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Rozzano Rufino Biazon, Vice Chair of the Committee on National Defense and Security, will deliberate further on the draft substitute bill in its next meeting.</p> <p>Former House Members Neri Colmenares and Teodoro Casiño, both belonging to the Bayan Muna party-list group, objected to the proposed</p> |

| | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Continuation... Public Order and Safety jt. w/ National Defense and Security (Technical Working Group)</p> | | | | <p>deletion of certain paragraphs in Section 2 (Declaration of Policy) of RA 9372 which refer to policy statements upholding the basic rights and fundamental liberties of the people and respecting and protecting human rights at all times. They argued that deleting these State policies from the law might send a wrong signal to authorities and “open the floodgates” to human rights violations.</p> <p>Likewise, National Union of Journalists of the Philippines (NUJP) Director Raymund Villanueva said that removing such policy statements from RA 9372 will be detrimental to the practice of journalism in the country, hinting at possible crackdown on the media due to some negative news reports.</p> <p>ACT TEACHERS Party-List Rep. Antonio Tinio also opined that the deletion of the subject policies from the law sets the tone of the bill, which will appear to disregard the fundamental rights of citizens guaranteed under the Constitution.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Suara Bangsamoro Chair Jerome Succor Aba noted that there are already numerous anti-terrorism mechanisms in place. What is important, he said, is for government to honor the agreements it made with insurgents so as to preclude some disgruntled groups to resort to terroristic activities. (Suara Bangsamoro, once a contender for party-list seats in Congress, is an organization that advocates the Moro people’s right to self-determination, a just and lasting peace in Mindanao, and the protection of the Moro people and their homeland, among others.)</p> <p>Rey Zarate Jr. of the Anti-Terrorism Council-Project Management Center (ATC-PMC), Office of the President (OP), explained that the proposed deletion of certain paragraphs in Section 2 of RA 9372 was only meant to shorten the text of the law, adding that these are anyway already enshrined in the 1987 Philippine Constitution. Zarate added that this recommendation was a product of consultations with various government agencies.</p> <p>Department of Justice (DOJ) State Counsel Lourdes Mendoza stressed that the bill does not intend to disregard the fundamental rights of the citizens and suggested that the paragraphs proposed to be deleted may be retained in the bill.</p> |
|---|--|--|--|--|