

Committee Daily Bulletin



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IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Justice	Deliberations on the Articles of Impeachment against Commission on Elections (COMELEC) Chair Juan Andres Bautista	The Committee, chaired by Rep. Reynaldo Umali (2nd District, Oriental Mindoro), agreed that it would no longer deliberate on the Articles of Impeachment against COMELEC Chair Juan Andres Bautista as it has already become moot and academic. This, after President Rodrigo Duterte accepted Bautista's resignation "effective immediately," and not effective December 31 which Bautista originally stated in his resignation letter.

TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETINGS				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Dangerous Drugs (Technical Working Group)	HB 1257	Rep. Biazon	Amending certain provisions of RA 9165, otherwise known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002	The technical working group (TWG), presided by Committee Secretary Virgilio "Jun" San Diego, will deliberate further on the bills in its next meeting.
	HB 3809	Rep. Barbers	Strengthening and intensifying the campaign against illegal drug trafficking, amending for this purpose certain sections of RA 9165	The TWG agreed to consolidate the bills using HB 3809, authored by Rep. Robert "Ace" Barbers (2nd District, Surigao del Norte), as the working draft. The resource persons and stakeholders present were requested to submit their respective comments, suggestions or recommendations for the TWG's consideration next meeting.
Government Reorganization jt. w/ Public Works and Highways (Technical Working Group)	HB 2457	Rep. Yap (A.)	Rationalizing the resource management of the water sector, creating the Department of Water, Sewage, and Sanitation	The joint technical working group (TWG), co-presided by Rep. Christopher V.P. de Venecia (4th District, Pangasinan), for the Committee on Government Reorganization, and Rep. Celso Lobregat (1st District, Zamboanga City), Chair of the Committee on Public Works and Highways, will deliberate further on the bills in its next meeting.
	HB 4995	Rep. Suansing (E.)	Creating the Department of Water Resources and Services and appropriating funds therefor	Rep. Arthur Yap (3rd District, Bohol), author of HB 2457, lamented that the fragmented policies and overlapping functions of the 30 government agencies concerned with water management will not help the country achieve a long term and holistic program on water resources management. Water supply in the Philippines is diminishing, which makes the country vulnerable to severe water shortage in the coming years. Representatives from both the government and the private sector present in the meeting expressed their support for the bills. On the other hand, acting Director Clotilde Lacsamana-Drapete of the Systems and Productivity Improvement Bureau of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) said that while the DBM supports the rationalization of water resource

<p>Continuation... Government Reorganization jt. w/ Public Works and Highways (Technical Working Group)</p>				<p>management, it does not support the creation of a new department. She suggested that the NWRB be converted to a line bureau instead of creating a new department which will entail an additional budget for the government of about P1 to 3 billion.</p> <p>Director Kathleen Mangune of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) said that both bills are in accordance with the Philippine Development Plan. However, she pointed out that the proposed law effectively removes from the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) its mandate of protecting the country's water bodies from pollution, which is vested in the Bureau by virtue of RA 9275 or the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004.</p> <p>Rep. Lobregat requested the DBM to prepare a budget profile of all the water agencies and the number of personnel that will be affected if a new department is created.</p> <p>The resource persons were requested to submit their respective position papers on the bills for the TWG's consideration.</p>
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AGENCY BRIEFING		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
<p>People's Participation (Technical Working Group)</p>	<p>Briefing by the International Center for Innovation, Transformation and Excellence in Governance (INCITEGov) in relation to HB 1166 in consolidation with HB 1615</p>	<p>The technical working group (TWG), presided by Committee Secretary Rolando Cronico, listened to the briefing conducted by INCITEGov Program Manager Angelito Niño Verzosa Jr. and Sectoral Development Officer Reuben James Barrete on the livelihood component of the proposed law.</p> <p>INCITEGov, a non-profit organization founded in August 2005, is committed to developing and operationalizing a policy agenda that links democratic politics, good governance, and development outcomes in critical reform areas.</p> <p>According to Verzosa, the proposed law encourages the clustering of local government units (LGUs) within the province to develop locally-based products and services, and provide livelihood opportunities for the community.</p> <p>Barrete added that the proposed law contributes to the achievement of the objectives of the social protection program of the government as it seeks to strengthen the capacities of both the local government units (LGUs) and the community and to propel the growth of local economies, which will ultimately redound to the benefit of the poor and the vulnerable.</p> <p>HB 1166 in consolidation with HB 1615, authored by Reps. Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alba (1st District, Bukidnon) and Orestes Salon (Party-List, AGRI), institutionalizes industry cluster-based programs and projects through inter-local cooperation and people's participation.</p> <p>Cronico said that the bill was passed on third reading by the House of Representatives and transmitted to the Senate for appropriate action.</p>