

# Committee Daily Bulletin



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

A publication of the Committee Affairs Department

Vol. II No. 51  
November 20, 2017

COMMITTEE MEETINGS				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Agriculture and Food	Substitute Bill to HBs 4018, 4904, 5023, 5326, 5433, 5443 & 6190	Reps. Unabia, Yap (A.), Macapagal-Arroyo, Chavez, Panganiban, Deputy Speaker Garin, and Rep. Geron	Replacing the quantitative import restrictions on rice with tariffs, amending for the purpose RA 8178, as amended, or the law replacing quantitative import restrictions on agricultural products, except rice, with tariffs, creating the Agricultural Competitiveness Enhancement Fund	The Committee, chaired by Rep. Jose Panganiban Jr. (Party-List, ANAC-IP), approved the substitute bill and the corresponding Committee Report, subject to style.  The bill will be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means for its review of the bill's tax provisions.
Basic Education and Culture	Substitute Bill to HBs 1177, 1502, 1727, 1813, 3201, 3333 & 3820	Deputy Speaker Cayetano, Reps. Alejano, Biazon, Vargas, Savellano, Noel, and Revilla	Strengthening the National Museum of the Philippines, repealing for the purpose RA 8492, otherwise known as the "National Museum Act of 1998", and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee, chaired by Rep. Ramon "Red" Durano VI (5th District, Cebu), approved the substitute bill.
	HR 736	Rep. Escudero	Adopting and endorsing the National Archives of the Philippines' (NAP) possession and use of the Intendencia Building in Intramuros to house its Spanish records and to serve as NAP's headquarters	The Committee adopted HR 736 subject to style and amendment.
	HR 603	Rep. Escudero	Urging the President to issue a proclamation transferring the ownership and administration of a parcel of land located at the Rizal Park in Ermita, Manila to the National Historical Commission of the Philippines	The Committee adopted HR 603.
	HB 1332	Rep. Gatchalian	Creating a national high school in Barangay Veinte Reales, Valenzuela City to be known as Veinte Reales National High School and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee approved the bill.
	HB 3417	Rep. Olivarez	Converting the Tambo High School in Parañaque City into a national high school	The Committee approved the bill.
	HB 4512	Rep. Uybarreta	Recognizing Everest Academy as an educational institution of international character, granting certain prerogatives to hasten its growth as such	The Committee approved the bill.
	HB 4691	Rep. Olivarez	Separating and granting autonomy to San Antonio Elementary School Annex and thereby converting it to Silverio Elementary School	The Committee approved the bill.

Continuation... Basic Education and Culture	HB 6266	Rep. Mangudadatu	Separating the San Emmanuel National High School-Annex located in Barangay San Pablo, Tacurong City, Province of Sultan Kudarat from the San Emmanuel National High School, making it into a distinct and separate national high school to be known as the San Pablo National High School and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee approved the bill.
	HB 6267	Rep. Mangudadatu	Separating the Upper Katungal National High School-TNHS Annex in Tacurong City, Province of Sultan Kudarat from the Tacurong National High School, making it into a distinct and separate national high school to be known as the Upper Katungal National High School and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee approved the bill.
	HBs 6032, 6063 & 6306	Reps. Salo, Escudero, and Lacson	Recognizing the British School Manila (BSM) as an educational institution of international character, granting certain prerogatives conducive to its development as such	The Committee approved HB 6306 in consolidation with HBs 6032 and 6063 and the corresponding Committee Report.  Rep. Carlos Roman Uybarreta (Party-List, 1-CARE) requested the BSM to incorporate Philippine History in its curriculum, particularly for its Filipino students, and to provide scholarships.
Higher and Technical Education	HR 1217	Rep. Gonzales (A.D.)	Inquiry into whether the country's civil engineering curriculum needs to be updated in response to recent stronger earthquakes that hit parts of the world and to ensure that building designs will be able to factor-in earthquakes with magnitudes greater than 7 on the Richter Scale	The Committee, chaired by Rep. Ann Hofer (2nd District, Zamboanga Sibugay), terminated its inquiry relative to HR 1217.  The Secretariat was directed to prepare the corresponding Committee Report.  Rep. Aurelio "Dong" Gonzales Jr. (3 <sup>rd</sup> District, Pampanga), author of HR 1217, emphasized the importance of starting the intervention in the classroom setting to ensure that the curriculum being used by the civil/structural engineering students imparts knowledge in building designs that can withstand stronger earthquakes. He also underscored the need to revisit the National Building Code of the Philippines (RA 6541).  The Commission on Higher Education's (CHED) Quality Assurance Division Chief, Dr. Mary Sylvette Gunigundo, said that a copy of the resolution will be given to CHED's technical panel and technical committee (TP/TC) which is currently reviewing the civil engineering curriculum.
	Substitute Bill to HB 241	Rep. Almonte	Converting the Oroquieta Agro-Industrial School (OAIS) in the City of Oroquieta, Province of Misamis Occidental into a state college to be known as the Misamis Occidental State College (MOSC), repealing for the purpose RA 4941 and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee approved the Substitute Bill to HB 241 subject to style and amendment.
	HB 2978	Rep. Bravo	Establishing the Masbate Institute of Fisheries and Technology-Ticao Island Campus in the Province of Masbate and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee approved HB 2978 subject to style and amendment.

Continuation... Higher and Technical Education	HB 6541	Rep. Gomez	Extending the deadline for compliance of the Palompon Institute of Technology with the requirements of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) for conversion into a state university, thereby amending RA 10599 and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee approved HB 6541 subject to style and amendment.
	HB 6552	Speaker Alvarez	Establishing additional campuses of the Compostela Valley State College in certain municipalities of Compostela Valley, thereby amending RA 10598 and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee approved HB 6552 subject to style and amendment.
	HR 1119	Rep. Belaro	Conferring the congressional medal of achievement to Amado Gabriel Esteban Ph.D., for his outstanding achievement in the field of public higher education and bringing honor and prestige to the Philippines as president of two major academic institutions in the United States of America (USA)	The Committee adopted the resolution subject to style and amendment.  Rep. Salvador Belaro (Party-List, 1-ANG EDUKASYON), author of HR 1119, cited the achievements of Esteban in the field of public higher education in the US, including becoming the first non-ordained Asian and Filipino-American president of DePaul University in Chicago, the largest Catholic university in the USA.
	HR 1383	Rep. Savellano	Recognizing the exemplary achievement of the University of Northern Philippines (UNP) for producing topnotchers in the field of medicine, namely, Dr. Love Patel and Dr. Nirav Prajapati	The Committee adopted the resolution subject to style and amendment.  Rep. Deogracias Victor "DV" Savellano (1st District, Ilocos Sur), author of HR 1383, disclosed that Patel and Prajapati, who both graduated from the UNP, topped the 2017 Medical Council of India Board Examinations.  The Committee agreed that UNP must be given not only recognition but also government assistance to help the school accommodate the expected influx of enrollees, both local and foreign.
	HB 5908	Rep. Gonzales (A.D.)	Mandating the integration of the National Building Code of the Philippines as one of the subjects in Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Sanitary Engineering, and Architecture	The Committee agreed to create a technical working group (TWG) to fine-tune the bill.
	HB 5261	Rep. Suansing (E.)	Establishing a polytechnic state college in the Municipality of Aliaga, Province of Nueva Ecija to be known as the Aliaga Polytechnic State College and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee agreed to conduct an ocular inspection jointly with the CHED of the proposed site for the Aliaga Polytechnic State College.  Gunigundo said that CHED shall first assess and review the compliance with documentary requirements for the establishment of a polytechnic state college in the Province of Nueva Ecija before the conduct of an ocular inspection.
Poverty Alleviation	HBs 17, 41, 73, 207, 293, 318, 366, 399, 501, 518, 699, 823, 887, 901,	Rep. Biazon, Deputy Speaker Quimbo, Reps. Vargas, Violago, Suansing (H.), Primicias-Agabas, Deputy	Institutionalizing the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee, chaired by Rep. Raymond Democrito Mendoza (Party-List, TUCP), will deliberate further on the 31 measures in its next meeting.  Rep. Tom Villarin (Party-List, AKBAYAN), author of HB 6536, highlighted the importance

Continuation... Poverty Alleviation	1098, 1429, 1548, 1661, 1694, 1948, 2278, 2456, 2545, 2688, 2772, 4135 & 6536 and Privilege Speech 277	Speaker Hernandez, Reps. Belmonte (J.C.), Yap (V.) Deputy Speaker Castro, Reps. Macapagal- Arroyo, Yap (A.), Tan (A.), Fortuno, Castelo, Tupas, Angara-Castillo, Rodriguez (M.), Santos-Recto, Tambunting, Pineda, Tan (S.), Mercado, Bag-ao, and Villarin		of institutionalizing the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) as a concrete step towards addressing poverty in the country.  On the other hand, Rep. Emmi de Jesus (Party-List, GABRIELA), author of HR 464, said that despite the program's commitment to help eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, achieve universal primary education, reduce child mortality, and improve maternal health care, no significant improvements in these aspects have been observed for the past eight years of its implementation. Given this scenario, Rep. De Jesus underscored the need to put in place a more sustainable solution to uplift the living conditions of poor Filipinos.  Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Undersecretaries Maria Lourdes Turalde-Jarabe and Luzviminda Ilagan expressed support for the conduct of a review of the implementation of the 4Ps to evaluate its impact on the target-beneficiaries. Ilagan went on to say that the DSWD conducts "Kumustahan" sessions with the beneficiaries of the program to check on their condition.  When asked by House Members on the process of identifying the beneficiaries of 4Ps, Turalde-Jarabe explained that the DSWD uses the National Household Targeting System (NHTS) in determining who will be included in the program.  Jeana Catacio, president of the Samahan ng Nagkakaisang Pamilya ng Pantawid (SNPP), expressed support to the institutionalization of 4Ps, citing the benefits of the program.  The resource persons were requested to submit their respective position papers on the measures. The DSWD was further asked to submit a report on its study on the implementation of 4Ps in the country.
	HB 4155	Rep. Bolliia	Institutionalizing the rice allowance program in 4Ps and appropriating funds therefor	
	HB 6600	Rep. Romero	Mandating the national government to allocate two percent of the country's annual gross domestic product (GDP) to the mandatory implementation of the Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) Program	
	HR 464	Rep. De Jesus	Inquiry into the implementation of 4Ps and seeking more sustainable programs that raise the standard of living and quality of life of poor families	

TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETINGS				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Ecology (Technical Working Group)	HBs 49 & 1843	Reps. Fortun and Alejano	Preventing and controlling pollution from ships, providing penalties therefor	The technical working group (TWG), presided by Rep. Lawrence "Law" Fortun (1 <sup>st</sup> District, Agusan del Norte), will deliberate further on the three bills in its next meeting. It agreed to use HB 49, authored by Rep. Fortun, as the lead bill.  Among the agreements reached during the meeting were the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopt emission standards for ships that are in accordance with the Marine Pollution (MARPOL) 73/78 or the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships;</li> </ul>
	HB 1714	Rep. Biazon	Increasing the penalty imposed against polluters of navigable waters by amending Section 7 of PD 979, otherwise known as the Marine Pollution Decree of 1976	

<p>Continuation... Ecology (Technical Working Group)</p>				<p>and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designate the Department of Transportation (DOTr) Secretary or his/her representative as chair of the proposed Marine Pollution Adjudication Board, and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary or his/her representative as co-chair.</li> </ul> <p>Lieutenant Commander Xerxes Fernandez of the Philippine Coast Guard's (PCG) Marine Environment Resource Development Center suggested that other fund sources, such as environmental insurance, should be identified in the bill to be used for the containment, removal and clean-up operations of the PCG in oil spillage cases.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Legal Service head Maximo Banares Jr. of the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) opined that at least 10% of PCG's budget should be allocated for capacity building of personnel dealing with maritime pollution.</p> <p>Environmental Specialist Maria Christine Bautro of the Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) suggested the inclusion of the Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI) among the agencies that will formulate a comprehensive program to prevent or minimize marine pollution from ships.</p> <p>Representatives from the DOTr and the Department of Energy (DOE), as well as from oil companies will be invited to attend the TWG's next meeting.</p>
<p>Energy jt. w/ Trade and Industry (Technical Working Group)</p>	<p>HBs 646, 670 &amp; 1221</p>	<p>Reps. Ty, Yap (V.), and Umali</p>	<p>Establishing the regulatory framework for the safe operations of the liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) industry, delineating the powers and functions of various government agencies, defining and penalizing certain acts</p>	<p>The joint technical working group (TWG), co-chaired by Rep. Carlos Roman Uybarreta (Party-List, 1-CARE), Vice Chair of the Committee on Energy, and Rep. Rosanna "Ria" Vergara (3rd District, Nueva Ecija), Vice Chair of the Committee on Trade and Industry, terminated its deliberation on the bills.</p> <p>The Secretariat was directed to prepare a substitute bill incorporating therein pertinent suggestions of the resource persons. After which, the bill will be submitted to the Joint Committee for its consideration and approval.</p> <p>Rep. Uybarreta highlighted the need to provide adequate information to the public on the quality and proper use of LPG tanks to minimize the number of accidents involving LPGs.</p> <p>The resource persons were directed to submit their respective position papers to the Secretariat within seven days.</p>

AGENCY BRIEFING		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Metro Manila Development	Discussion on the spate of accidents involving trucks and buses that occurred mostly in Metro Manila	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo (2<sup>nd</sup> District, Quezon City), discussed with concerned government agencies and the public transport sector the spate of accidents involving trucks and buses that occurred mostly in Metro Manila.</p> <p>According to Rep. Castelo, vehicular accidents resulting in fatalities have already reached an alarming level nationwide, stressing that the number has almost doubled from 1,500 in 2015 to 2,500 in 2016. He particularly mentioned a recent accident that happened along San Mateo-Batasan Road in Quezon City wherein a 22-wheeler trailer truck plowed through several vehicles causing the death of five persons and injury to 14 others.</p> <p>Rep. Castelo urged concerned government agencies to immediately implement corrective measures to ensure the vehicles' roadworthiness and prevent unnecessary loss of lives and damage to properties.</p> <p>Police Superintendent Cipriano Galanida, chief of the Quezon City Police District's Traffic Enforcement Unit (DTEU), confirmed the accident that happened on San Mateo- Batasan Road in Quezon City, adding that the 22-wheeler truck lost its brakes due to overloading.</p> <p>On the query of Rep. Rodel Batocabe (Party-List, AKO BICOL) relative to the standard operating procedure (SOP) in handling vehicular accidents, Galanida said that the police conduct an investigation of the accident and file a case in court through the local city prosecutor.</p> <p>Rep. Jesulito Manalo (Party-List, ANGKLA) asked about the requirements set by the Land Transportation Office (LTO) to ascertain the roadworthiness of public utility vehicles (PUVs) prior to the renewal of their franchises. LTO Executive Director Romeo Vera Cruz explained that without a functioning motor vehicle inspection system (MVIS), which is an automated and more efficient way of evaluating the roadworthiness of vehicles, the LTO only conducts visual and manual inspection of vehicles as of now.</p> <p>Vera Cruz disclosed that none of the 10 MVIS centers nationwide is functioning since 2015 and that the approval process for the rehabilitation and repair of these MVIS centers is still on-going. However, he said, the LTO is in the process of procuring 26 mobile MVIS facilities that are expected to be delivered within six months.</p> <p>In the absence of a proper facility to ensure the roadworthiness of vehicles, the Committee agreed to draft a resolution directing the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) to require all trucks and buses to observe a 40-kilometer per hour (kph) speed limit within the National Capital Region (NCR).</p> <p>However, Rep. Manuel Luis Lopez (1st District, Manila) suggested that instead of imposing a 40-kph speed limit, policy reforms should be instituted, such as requiring a periodic maintenance check of vehicles, conduct of seminars on road safety, and establishing a standard salary for PUV drivers.</p>