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BICAMERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEETING

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Bicameral Conference Committee	HB 6452 & SB 1354	Deputy Speaker Quimbo and Sen. Sotto	Establishing a national mental health policy for the purpose of enhancing the delivery of integrated mental health services, promoting and protecting the rights of persons utilizing psychiatric, neurologic and psychosocial health services, and appropriating funds therefor	<p>The Bicameral Conference Committee, co-chaired by Rep. Angelina "Helen" Tan M.D. (4th District, Quezon), Chair of the House Committee on Health, and Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito, Chair of the Senate Committee on Health and Demography, will deliberate further on the disagreeing provisions of HB 6452 and SB 1354.</p> <p>Other conferees who were present during the bicameral conference committee meeting were the following: On the part of the House, Deputy Speaker Romero "Miro" Quimbo (2nd District, Marikina City), Reps. Arlene Arcillas (1st District, Laguna), Rozzano Rufino Biazon (Muntinlupa City), Edcel Lagman (1st District, Albay), Cristina "Chiqui" Roa-Puno (1st District, Antipolo City), and Ron Salo (Party-List, KABAYAN); On the part of the Senate, Senators Vicente Sotto III, Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV, and Risa Hontiveros.</p>
Bicameral Conference Committee	HB 5636 & SB 1592	Rep. Cua and Sen. Angara	Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion Act (TRAIN)	<p>The Bicameral Conference Committee, co-chaired by Quirino Rep. Dakila Carlo Cua and Senator Sonny Angara, respective Chairpersons of the Committee on Ways and Means of both Houses, approved the reconciled version of HB 5636 and SB 1592.</p> <p>Other conferees who were present during the bicameral conference meeting were the following: On the part of the House, Deputy Speakers Sharon Garin (Party-List, AAMBIS-OWA) and Romero "Miro" Quimbo (2nd District, Marikina City), Minority Leader Danilo Suarez (3rd District, Quezon), Reps. Aurelio "Dong" Gonzales Jr. (3rd District, Pampanga), Gus Tambunting (2nd District, Parañaque City), and Xavier Jesus Romualdo (Camiguin); On the part of the Senate, Senate President Pro-Tempore Ralph Recto, and Senators Loren Legarda and Juan Miguel "Migz" Zubiri.</p>
Bicameral Conference Committee	HB 5636 & SB 1592	Rep. Cua and Senator Angara	Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion Act (TRAIN)	<p>The Bicameral Conference Committee, co-chaired by Quirino Rep. Dakila Carlo Cua, and Senator Sonny Angara, respective Chairpersons of the Committee on Ways and Means on both Houses, will deliberate further on the disagreeing provisions of HB 5636 and SB 1592 in its next meeting.</p>

Continuation... Bicameral Conference Committee				Other conferees who were present during the bicameral conference committee meeting held on December 8, 2017 were the following: On the part of the House, Minority Leader Danilo Suarez (3rd District, Quezon), Deputy Speakers Romero "Miro" Quimbo (2nd District, Marikina City) and Sharon Garin (Party-List, AAMBIS-OWA), and Reps. Gus Tambunting (2nd District, Parañaque City), Aurelio "Dong" Gonzales Jr. (3rd District, Pampanga), and Xavier Jesus Romualdo (Camiguin); On the part of the Senate, Senate President Pro-Tempore Ralph Recto, Minority Leader Franklin Drilon, and Senator Loren Legarda.
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COMMITTEE MEETINGS				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Ecology	Substitute Bill to HB 2286	Rep. Marquez	Regulating the use of treatment technology for municipal wastes, repealing for the purpose Section 20 of RA 8749, or the Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999	The Committee, chaired by Rep. Estrellita Suansing (1 st District, Nueva Ecija), approved the substitute bill with amendments.
	HRs 705 & 709	Reps. Biazon and Pineda	Inquiry into the status of initiatives being implemented by the Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA) and the government in general relative to the rehabilitation of Laguna de Bay	<p>The Committee will deliberate further on the issues raised in HRs 705 and 709 in its next meeting.</p> <p>Rep. Enrico Pineda (Party-List, 1-PACMAN), author of HR 709, asked if Maynilad Water Services, Inc. (Maynilad) is capable of handling industrial wastewaters.</p> <p>Maynilad Wastewater Planning and Project Development head Jerry Palma answered that Maynilad only handles domestic and commercial wastewater treatment, adding that industrial establishments are required to have their own sewage treatment plants (STPs).</p> <p>Maynilad is the water and wastewater services provider for the 17 cities and municipalities that comprise the West Zone of Metro Manila.</p> <p>Supervising Environmental Management Specialist Leza Acorda Cuevas of the Environmental Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (EMB-DENR) requested the Committee to encourage the local government units (LGUs) to avail themselves of DENR's subsidy for putting up STPs.</p> <p>Replying to the query of Aklan Rep. Carlito Marquez, Palma said that the government can help Maynilad in speeding up the construction of water treatment facilities by streamlining the processes for lot acquisition and issuance of permits, licenses and clearances.</p> <p>The Committee asked DENR to submit a copy of the decision of the International Center for</p>

Continuation... Ecology				the Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) ordering the Philippine government to pay P800 million to Belgian company Baggerwerken Decloedt En Zoon (BDC) for cancelling the contract for the P18.7-billion Laguna Lake Rehabilitation Project in 2011.
Energy	HR 415	Rep. Zarate	Inquiry into the alleged predatory pricing of oil products in Mindanao	<p>The Committee, presided by Vice Chair Rep. Carlos Roman Uybarreta (Party-List, 1-CARE), will deliberate further on the issues raised in HRs 415 and 853 in its next meeting.</p> <p>Dr. Victor Abola and Marcial Ocampo, members of the Independent Oil Price Review Committee (IOPRC), presented the result of their study on oil prices. They discussed the three approaches to “reasonableness” of oil prices and oil company profits, and summary of their findings and recommendations.</p> <p>The IOPRC is a multisectoral independent review committee under the Department of Energy (DOE) that is tasked to determine if oil companies accumulated “excessive profits” and if they are guilty of unfair pricing to the detriment of the public.</p> <p>Baguio City Rep. Mark Go, author of HR 853, questions the disparities in the pump prices of fuel in the Province of La Union and in Baguio City despite being both located in Northern Luzon. He requested the oil companies to immediately bring down the prices of petroleum products in Baguio City at least to the level of prices in Rosario, La Union.</p> <p>Chevron’s Policy, Government and Public Affairs Manager Raisa Romina Bautista and Pilipinas Shell Vice President for External Relation Ramon Del Rosario both explained that variation in prices of petroleum products are driven by various factors, such as stiff competition in the market, added production costs, and other market dynamics.</p> <p>BAYAN MUNA Party-List Rep. Carlos Isagani Zarate, author of HR 415, suggested that the DOE should require oil companies to submit the cost components that cause any increase in prices of their petroleum products.</p> <p>DOE Oil Industry Management Bureau Director Rino Abad informed the Committee that the DOE is drafting a circular on the unbundling of fuel prices and is considering the study of the IOPRC.</p> <p>The resource persons were requested to submit pertinent documents required by the Members of the Committee.</p>
	HR 853	Rep. Go (M.)	Inquiry into the alleged disparity and overpricing of fuel prices in Northern Luzon	
Games and Amusements	HR 546	Minority Leader Suarez	Inquiry into the proliferation of illegal gambling	<p>The Committee, presided by Rep. Mark Aeron Sambar (Party List, PBA), will deliberate further on the issues raised in the four resolutions in its next meeting.</p> <p>Rep. Rodel Batocabe (Party-List, AKO BICOL) asked the Philippine National Police (PNP)</p>
	HRs 712, 715 & 1445	Reps. Manalo, Batocabe, and Villafuerte	Inquiry into the alleged failure of the Small Town Lottery (STL) operations of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) in generating its projected income	

Continuation... Games and Amusements			resulting in the loss of billions of pesos in revenues on the part of the national government and the possible use of STL operations as fronts for jueteng and other illegal numbers games in the country	<p>Albay provincial director to give the Committee a brief narrative of the shooting incident that happened in the Province of Albay that had something to do with STL operations.</p> <p>The PNP Albay Provincial Director, Senior Superintendent Antonio Cirujales, said that the victim of the shooting incident that occurred on November 15, 2017 at around 5:30 in the afternoon at the parking lot of Ayala Malls in Legazpi City was Alex Herman Alemania, chair of Lucky V Prime Enterprises Inc., an authorized STL operator. The killers were identified as Marlon Magsino and Michael Malveda. Magsino was killed by the responding policemen, while Malveda, after being treated for his injuries due to the ensuing firefight, was detained at the Legazpi City jail for frustrated murder. Alemania died in the hospital five days after the attack.</p> <p>Legazpi Police Chief Superintendent Nilo Savilla Berdin Jr. informed the Committee that before the shooting incident, Alemania allegedly had a heated argument with Lucky V Prime Enterprises' Board Member Alexander Javier during a board meeting on the issue of Javier's termination from the company.</p> <p>Asked by Rep. Batocabe if Javier is considered a suspect in the shooting incident, Berdin said that the PNP is still investigating the case and is also interrogating Malveda to get the identity of the mastermind.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Rep. Luis Raymund "LRay" Villafuerte Jr. (2nd District, Camarines Sur) asked the PCSO to immediately revoke the franchise granted to Even Chance Gaming Corporation to operate STL in Camarines Sur for multiple violations of the rules on STL.</p> <p>PCSO General Manager Alexander Balutan committed to bring Rep. Villafuerte's concern to the PCSO Board for resolution.</p>
Good Government and Public Accountability jt. w/ Energy	HR 1161	Minority Leader Suarez	Investigation into the immediate approval of the seven power supply agreements (PSAs) of the Manila Electric Company (Meralco) by the Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC)	The Joint Committee meeting, co-chaired by Rep. Johnny Ty Pimentel (2 nd District, Surigao del Sur), Chair of the Committee on Good Government and Public Accountability, and Marinduque Rep. Lord Allan Jay Velasco, Chair of the Committee on Energy, adopted the Committee Report on HR 1161.
	HR 566	Rep. Zarate	Inquiry into the alleged midnight deals of the Meralco-affiliated generation companies and the ERC which may be disadvantageous to the public and may cause power rate hikes	<p>The Joint Committee terminated its inquiry relative to HR 566.</p> <p>Rep. Carlos Isagani Zarate (Party-List, BAYAN MUNA), author of HR 566, reiterated that all distribution utilities must undergo the competitive selection process (CSP) in the procurement of power supply in a bid to ensure transparency and competition in the power industry for the benefit of the consuming public.</p>

Continuation... Good Government and Public Accountability jt. w/ Energy				<p>For his part, AKO BICOL Party-List Rep. Rodel Batocabe pointed out the need for ERC to streamline the process of accepting and processing applications for power supply agreements (PSA) in line with the government's thrust on ease-of-doing business in the country.</p> <p>ERC Chair Agnes Devanadera said that streamlining the processing of applications for PSA is a top priority of ERC.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Minority Leader Danilo Suarez (3rd District, Quezon) and Rep. Velasco underscored the need to put up more power plants to meet the growing demands and avoid power outages.</p> <p>Meralco First Vice President William Pamintuan said that an additional 400 to 500 megawatts of energy is needed per year to ensure a stable power supply for the country.</p>
Higher and Technical Education	HBs 5819, 5820, 5831, 6045, 6062, 6071 & 6325	Reps. Antonio, Cuaresma, Leachon, Madrona, Velasco, and Acosta	Providing for the establishment of Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) training and accreditation centers in various parts of the country and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee, chaired by Rep. Ann Hofer (2nd District, Zamboanga Sibugay), approved the seven bills and the corresponding Committee Reports.
	HB 6724	Rep. Almario	Changing the name of Lupon School of Fisheries in Davao Oriental into the Davao Oriental Polytechnic Institute	The Committee approved HB 6724 subject to style and amendment and the corresponding Committee Report.
	HB 1160	Rep Acosta-Alba	Establishing a state college in the Municipality of Manolo Fortich, Province of Bukidnon to be known as the Northern Bukidnon State College, and appropriating funds therefor	<p>The Committee will deliberate further on HB 1160 in its next meeting.</p> <p>Rep. Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alba (1st District, Bukidnon), author of HB 1160, agreed to coordinate with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) in the preparation of the documentary requirements for the immediate approval of the bill and in the conduct of an ocular inspection of the proposed state college.</p>
	HB 5119	Rep. Belaro	Converting the Camarines Sur Polytechnic Colleges (CSPC) in the Municipality of Nabua, Province of Camarines Sur into a state university to be known as the Polytechnic University of Bicol	<p>The Committee will deliberate further on HB 5119 in its next meeting.</p> <p>The CHED recommended some amendments to the bill and the need to comply with the documentary requirements for its immediate approval.</p>
	HB 5605	Rep. Mercado	Integrating the Pintuyan National Vocational High School into the Southern Leyte State University System	The Committee agreed to create a technical working group (TWG) to deliberate further on HBs 5605 and 6254.
	HB 6254	Rep. Mercado	Mandating the integration of Pintuyan Vocational High School in Pintuyan Southern Leyte into the Southern Leyte State University (SLSU) System	Department of Education (DepEd) Undersecretary Tonisito Umali requested for ample time to study the implication of the bills to the current set-up of the tertiary education.
	Poverty Alleviation	HBs 17, 41, 73, 207, 293, 318,	Rep. Biazon, Deputy Speaker Quimbo, Reps.	Institutionalizing the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) and appropriating funds therefor

Continuation... Poverty Alleviation	366, 399, 501, 518, 699, 823, 887, 901, 1098, 1429, 1548, 1661, 1694, 1948, 2278, 2456, 2545, 2688, 2772, 4135 & 6536 and Privilege Speech 277	Vargas, Violago, Suansing (H.), Primicias- Agabas, Deputy Speaker Hernandez, Reps. Belmonte (J.), 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		(TWG) to fine-tune and consolidate the 31 measures. The TWG will be chaired by Rep. Mendoza. Several lawmakers reiterated their concern over the suspension of the registration of new beneficiaries of 4Ps, and urged the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) to immediately lift the suspension. In a previous meeting, DSWD officials disclosed that the agency has temporarily suspended the registration of new beneficiaries of 4Ps, affecting 48,000 to 50,000 applicants, to address operational problems pertaining to the identification of beneficiaries and the payment scheme. DSWD OIC Emmanuel Leyco, however, classified that there is no actual suspension, but merely a delay in the processing of new beneficiaries due to the validation process being observed by the Department.
	HB 4155	Rep. Bolilia	Institutionalizing the rice allowance program in 4Ps and appropriating funds therefor	Leyco assured the Committee that there will be an increase in the number of 4Ps beneficiaries next year as the DSWD aims to reach its target of identifying 10 million beneficiaries by the first quarter of 2018.
	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	Rep. Manuel Zubiri (3rd District, Bukidnon) proposed that the entire financial system in the country, instead of just a couple of banks, should be tapped to act as conduit of the program to facilitate the timely and efficient distribution of 4Ps grants to the beneficiaries.
	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	

IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Justice	Determination of probable cause in relation to the verified complaint for impeachment against Supreme Court Chief Justice Maria Lourdes Sereno, filed by Atty. Lorenzo G. Gadon, and endorsed by 25 House Members	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Reynaldo Umali (2nd District, Oriental Mindoro), will continue its hearing on the determination of probable cause with regard to the impeachment complaint against the Chief Justice in its next meeting.</p> <p>In today's hearing, the Committee focused its discussion on the following allegations against Sereno:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inordinate delay in the resolution of the request of Justice Secretary Vitaliano Aguirre II for the transfer of cases against members of Maute terrorist group outside Mindanao; • Manipulation of the shortlist of the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC) to exclude then Solicitor General Francis Jardeleza from the nominees for associate justice of the Supreme Court (SC) following the retirement of Associate Justice Roberto Abad in 2014; and • Manipulation of the JBC shortlist for the six vacancies in the Sandiganbayan in 2015 by introducing the practice of "clustering" of nominees.

Continuation...
Justice

SC Associate Justice Noel Tijam testified that Sereno, through a phone call on June 6, 2017, informed him that the request for the transfer of the Maute cases was assigned to him by the SC en banc during a luncheon meeting.

SC Associate Justice Teresita Leonardo-De Castro, however, said that there could be no en banc decision at that time because during the supposed luncheon meeting, which was after the en banc session, there was no longer a quorum.

Leonardo-De Castro, a member of the SC Raffle Committee, also attested that the case was not assigned by raffle as per SC procedure. She said that the Chief Justice should have referred Aguirre's letter-request to the SC en banc so that the Raffle Committee could have acted on it.

Tijam, who said he was not aware that the case was not raffled, averred that the Chief Justice cannot arrogate upon herself the collegiate and participatory nature of decision-making by the SC en banc.

On the alleged manipulation of Sereno of the JBC's list of nominees for vacant positions in the judiciary, Jardeleza narrated the facts that transpired leading to the exclusion of his name from the JBC list of nominees.

Jardeleza said that his name was initially included in the list of candidates for the associate justice position at the SC and he was subsequently interviewed by the JBC on May 29, 2014. However, during the June 5 and 16, 2014 meetings of the JBC, Sereno, who also sits as an ex-officio chair of the JBC, invoked Section 2, Rule 10 of the Rules of the JBC, which requires a votation when the integrity of a qualified applicant is challenged.

Sereno challenged the integrity of Jardeleza due to his stand in the dispute over the West Philippine Sea and issues concerning immorality and insider trading while he was still working for San Miguel Corporation (SMC).

In response, Jardeleza filed a letter-complaint requesting access to the sworn statements and documents pertinent to the accusations thrown against him, allowing him to cross-examine his oppositors, and disallowing Sereno from participating in the voting for the nominees for the SC associate justice position.

Former Justice Arturo Brion testified that the Chief Justice threw procedural roadblocks aimed to delay the resolution of Jardeleza's letter-petition at that time which ultimately resulted to his non-inclusion in the shortlist for nominees for the associate justice position.

On the JBC's practice of clustering the nominees to vacant positions in the Sandiganbayan, the Justices present in the hearing said that it allegedly started when the Chief Justice assumed her position.

Leonardo-De Castro explained that prior to the practice of clustering, the JBC only submits one list of nominees to the President who then selects the names of who will fill in the vacancies. She added that the clustering scheme could be used to put a favored nominee in a group of perceived weak nominees to increase the chance of bagging the appointment.

Several House Members asked if the Jardeleza versus Sereno case was the reason the JBC Rules was amended, to which JBC Regular Member Jose Mejia agreed.

Continuation... Justice		The Committee agreed to issue a subpoena duces tecum to compel the submission of the minutes of the meeting of the JBC when it discussed its revised rules, all documents relating to the Jardeleza versus Sereno case, as well as the results of the Chief Justice's psychological tests.
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TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETINGS				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Basic Education (Technical Working Group)	Substitute Bill to HBs 217, 74, 320, 741, 1454, 1667, 1709, 1969, 2218, 2236, 2704, 2954, 3391, 3646, 3824, 4034, 4625, 4488 & 5698	Deputy Speaker Villarica, Reps. Vargas, Primicias-Agabas, Aglipay-Villar, Belaro, Revilla, Biazon, Suansing (E.), Macapagal-Arroyo, Castelo, Acharon, Antonino, Deputy Speaker Andaya, Reps. Olivarez and Gatchalian	Instituting inclusive education, establishing inclusive education hubs for children and youth with disabilities (CYDs) in all public schools divisions, providing for standards and guidelines, and appropriating funds therefor	<p>The technical working group (TWG), presided by Committee Secretary Ma. Josefina Ricafort, heard the comments and suggestions of various resource persons on the amendments made to the substitute bill, which was previously approved by the Committee.</p> <p>Minjoe Luspo, chief political affairs officer of the Office of Deputy Speaker Linabelle Ruth Villarica (4th District, Bulacan), pointed out that the substitute bill excluded the gifted and talented children from its coverage.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Annalyn Aquino of the Student Inclusion Division of the Department of Education (DepEd) underscored the need to conduct an inter-agency collaboration to discuss the new provisions of the bill.</p> <p>Luspo and Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP) Executive Director Bernardino Sayo said that it is necessary to get the position of the Civil Service Commission (CSC) on the possible hiring of teaching personnel to man the proposed inclusive education hubs.</p> <p>Sayo also said that the bill should specify the amount needed to implement the proposed law and the agency that will manage the program's funds.</p>
Special Committee on Climate Change (Technical Working Group)	HB 527	Rep. Batocabe	Establishing the National Coastal Greenbelt Program, providing funds therefor	<p>The technical working group (TWG), presided by Committee Secretary Rommel Reyes, agreed to prepare a draft substitute bill.</p> <p>Rep. Gary Alejano (Party-List, MAGDALO), author of HB 1509, said that his bill seeks to address the decreasing number of mangrove forests in the country by establishing mangrove reservation areas to restore and conserve the sustainability of the ecosystem.</p> <p>Dr. Jurgenne Primavera, representative of Zoological Society of London-Philippines, an international organization that promotes worldwide conservation for animals and their habitats described the condition of the mangrove areas in the Philippines and their importance in the ecosystem.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Dr. Miguel Fortes, retired professor at the Marine Science Institute of</p>
	HB 1509	Rep. Alejano	Providing for the conservation, reforestation and rehabilitation of mangrove forests in the Philippines and providing penalties therefor	

Continuation... Special Committee on Climate Change (Technical Working Group)				<p>the University of the Philippines (UP), highlighted the importance of seagrass ecosystem as an integral part of the proposed National Coastal Greenbelt Program. The program aims to effectively mitigate the damaging impacts of waves and storm surges brought about by typhoons and other natural calamities.</p> <p>Resource persons from various bureaus of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), such as the Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB), Forest Management Bureau (FMB), Land Management Bureau (LMB), Environmental Management Bureau (EMB), and Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB), and the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) gave their respective comments and recommendations on the issues raised during the meeting. They were likewise requested to submit their position paper on the proposed law for the TWG's consideration.</p>
Public Order and Safety (Technical Working Group)	Draft Substitute Bill to HBs 4109 & 5198	Reps. Chipeco and Olivarez	Strengthening the People's Law Enforcement Board (PLEB), further amending for the purpose RA 6975, as amended by RA 8551	<p>The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Renato "Kuya Jojo" Unico Jr. (1st District, Camarines Norte), will deliberate further on the draft substitute bill in its next meeting.</p> <p>Rep. Joaquin Chipeco Jr. (2nd District, Laguna), author of HB 4109, agreed to incorporate the suggestions of the resource persons in the draft bill.</p> <p>The Philippine National Police's (PNP) Directorate for Personnel and Records Management (DPRM) and Internal Affairs Service (IAS) were requested to submit their comments and recommendations on the proposed jurisdiction of the PLEB and on the appropriate penalties and sanctions for erring officers and members of the PNP.</p>
Public Order and Safety (Technical Working Group)	HB 6208	Majority Leader Fariñas	Establishing the Philippine Legislative Police (PLP) and appropriating funds therefor	<p>The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Leopoldo Bataoil (2nd District, Pangasinan), will deliberate further on HB 6208 in its next meeting.</p> <p>In today's meeting, the TWG discussed Sections 1 to 5 of the bill.</p> <p>The TWG agreed to incorporate in the bill or in the proposed law's implementing rules and regulations (IRR) a provision on the coverage by the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) of PLP personnel.</p> <p>It will also consult the bill's author, Majority Leader Rodolfo Fariñas (1st District, Ilocos Norte) on issues concerning the following: interoperability between the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the proposed PLP; powers and functions of the PLP; and designation of the chairperson of the PLP Board.</p>

Trade and Industry (Technical Working Group)	HB 3252	Rep. Biron	Amending certain provisions of RA 9502, otherwise known as the Universally Accessible Cheaper and Quality Medicines Act of 2008, by establishing the Drug Price Regulatory Board (DBRP) and mandating the use of the generic names of drugs and medicines	<p>The technical working group (TWG), presided by <i>Laban Konsumer</i> Inc. (LKI) President Victorio Mario Dimagiba, will deliberate further on the bills in its next meeting.</p> <p>The TWG agreed that the proposed Drug Price Regulatory Board (DPRB) will be an independent national agency, attached to the Office of the President.</p> <p>Teodoro Padilla, executive director of the Pharmaceutical and Healthcare Association of the Philippines (PHAP), expressed opposition to the proposed law, explaining that the government's universal healthcare program already addresses the issues on drug affordability and accessibility. Likewise, he contended that the creation of a board that will determine the maximum retail prices (MRPs) of medicines may discourage investments and deter trade of pharmaceutical products and services.</p> <p>The resource persons present were requested to submit, on or before December 18, their respective comments on whether or not medical practitioners will write generic names in their prescriptions.</p>
	HB 6332	Rep. Tan (A.)		
Welfare of Children (Technical Working Group)	Draft Substitute Bill to HBs 2442, 4813 & 5836	Reps. Montoro, Herrera-Dy, and Roa-Puno	Establishing rehabilitation centers for children and youth with disabilities nationwide	The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Edgar Sarmiento (1 st District, Samar), approved the draft Substitute Bill to HBs 2442, 4813 and 5836. The Substitute Bill will be presented to the mother Committee for its consideration and approval.