

# Committee Daily Bulletin



17<sup>th</sup> Congress  
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## BICAMERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEETING

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Bicameral Conference Committee	HB 6579 and SB 1311	Rep. Biron and Senator Zubiri	Promoting ease of doing business and efficient delivery of government services by amending the Anti-Red Tape Act of 2017	<p>The Bicameral Conference Committee, co-chaired by Rep. Ferjanel Biron, M.D. (4th District, Iloilo), Chair of the House Committee on Trade and Industry, and Senator Juan Miguel "Migz" Zubiri, Chair of the Senate Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship, deferred the approval of the bicameral bill pending consideration of Senate Minority Leader Franklin Drilon's proposed additional provision to the bicameral bill.</p> <p>Other conferees who were present during the bicameral conference committee meeting were the following: On the part of the House, Reps. Xavier Jesus Romualdo (Camiguin), Manuel Zubiri (3rd District, Bukidnon), Arthur Yap (3rd District, Bohol), Bernadette Herrera-Dy (Party-List, BAGONG HENERASYON), Raymund "LRay" Villafuerte Jr. (2nd District, Camarines Sur), and Arlene Arcillas (1st District, Laguna); on the part of the Senate, Senator Win Gatchalian.</p>

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Higher and Technical Education	HB 4887	Rep. Silverio	Establishing the Bulacan State University - San Rafael campus in the Province of Bulacan and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee, chaired by Rep. Ann Hofer (2nd District, Zamboanga Sibugay), approved HB 4887.
	HB 494	Rep. Turabin-Hataman	Amending Section 3 of RA 8292, otherwise known as the Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997, by including a representative from the public sector and a Commissioner each from the National Commission for Muslim Filipinos (NCMF) and the Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) to represent the Muslims/indigenous peoples in the governing bodies of state universities and colleges (SUCs)	<p>The Committee decided to create a technical working group (TWG) to discuss and consolidate HBs 494 and 926.</p> <p>Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC) President Tirso Ronquillo expressed support for the bills, saying that amending RA 8292 is timely considering that it is already outdated.</p>
	HB 926	Rep. Abaya	Amending Section 3 of RA 8292, by fixing the term of office of the private sector	Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Acting Chairperson Prospero de Vera underscored the need to study carefully the intent of HB 494, particularly of allotting a seat

Continuation... Higher and Technical Education			representatives in the SUC's governing body	for an indigenous people representative in the governing bodies of SUCs, explaining that this would not be applicable to all SUCs.  The resource persons were requested to submit their position papers on the bills.
	HB 1430	Rep. Belaro	Promoting graduate studies and life-long learning in the Philippines	The Committee agreed to create a TWG to deliberate further on HB 1430.
	HBs 1708 & 2498	Reps. Biazon and Dalipe	Establishing the University of the Philippines in Zamboanga and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee agreed to create a TWG to consolidate the two bills.  Representatives from the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), CHED, PASUC, and Association of Local Colleges and Universities (ALCU) manifested their support for the bills. They were requested to submit their position papers.
	HB 3944	Rep. Siao	Converting the Iligan City National School of Fisheries (ICNSF) into the Iligan City Polytechnic State College (ICPSC), defining its powers, functions and duties, and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee agreed to create a TWG to deliberate further on HB 3944.
Local Government jt. w/ Muslim Affairs and Special Committee on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity	Draft Substitute Bill to HBs 92, 6121, 6263 & 6475	Deputy Speaker Sema, Reps. Macapagal-Arroyo & Dimaporo (M.K.), and Speaker Alvarez	Providing for the Basic Law for the Bangsamoro and abolishing the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), repealing for the purpose RA 9054, or the law strengthening and expanding the Organic Act for the ARMM, and RA 6734 or the law providing for an Organic Act for the ARMM	The Joint Committee, chaired by Reps. Pedro Acharon Jr. (1st District, South Cotabato and General Santos City), Mauyag "Jun" Papandayan Jr. (2nd District, Lanao del Sur), and Ruby Sahali (Tawi-Tawi), for the Committees on Local Government and on Muslim Affairs, and the Special Committee on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity, respectively, will deliberate further on the draft substitute bill in its next meeting.  Rep. Mohamad Khalid Dimaporo (1st District, Lanao del Norte), author of HB 6263, reiterated the Joint Committee's request to the Bangsamoro Transition Commission (BTC) to give a clear definition of the term "Bangsamoro."  BTC Commissioner Firdausi Ismael Abbas said that the definition of the term "Bangsamoro People" in Section 4 of the bill may be adopted as the definition of "Bangsamoro" by just deleting the word "people."  Rep. Celso Lobregat (1st District, Zamboanga City) proposed that the phrase "right to self-determination" in the proposed Bangsamoro Basic Law's (BBL) Preamble be changed to "right to internal self-determination." He also suggested to clearly state in the bill's general principles and policies that the "Bangsamoro Autonomous Region (BAR) is an integral and inseparable part of the territory of the Philippine Republic."

<p><i>Continuation...</i> Local Government jt. w/ Muslim Affairs and Special Committee on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity</p>				<p>Reiterating their allegiance to the Philippine Constitution and denying that the BBL was crafted as a step towards secession, the BTC Commissioners were not keen on accepting the suggestions of Rep. Lobregat. They argued that the proposed BBL clearly states that the territory of BAR shall remain part of the Philippines and as mandated by the Philippine Constitution, the Bangsamoro Government will still be under the President's general supervision.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Deputy Administrator Efren Carandang of the National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (NAMRIA) suggested adding a provision in Section 10 (Bangsamoro Waters) that will clearly define the boundaries between the adjacent coasts of a Bangsamoro local government unit (LGU) and a non-Bangsamoro LGU.</p> <p>Rep. Lobregat requested the NAMRIA to submit to the Joint Committee comparative maps illustrating the proposed Bangsamoro municipal waters and the municipal waters prescribed under the Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998 (RA 8550).</p> <p>Rep. Lobregat explained that the draft BBL defines the Bangsamoro waters to be 22.22 kilometers from the low-water mark of the coasts that are part of the Bangsamoro geographical area, while RA 8550 provides that it should only be 15 kilometers.</p> <p>Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Assistant Secretary Tingaguna Umpa expressed his support for the proposed law.</p> <p>The Committee will invite DPWH-ARMM Secretary Don Mustapha Loong and the regional directors of DPWH Regions IX, X and XII in its next meeting.</p>
<p>Women and Gender Equality</p>	<p>HB 6595</p>	<p>Speaker Alvarez</p>	<p>Recognizing the civil partnership of couples, providing for their rights and obligations</p>	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Bernadette Herrera-Dy (Party-List, BAGONG HENERASYON), will continue to deliberate on HB 6595 in its next meeting.</p> <p>The Committee focused its discussion on Sections 1 to 9 of the bill.</p> <p>Deputy Speaker Sharon Garin (Party-List, AAMBIS-OWA), co-author of HB 6595, agreed that the officiating authority of a civil partnership be limited to State officials.</p> <p>Rep. Geraldine Roman (1st District, Bataan), also a co-author of the bill, clarified that civil partnership is different from marriage.</p> <p>Department of Justice (DOJ) State Counsel Maria Laureen Suan suggested that the officiating authority of a civil partnership be</p>

<p>Continuation... Women and Gender Equality</p>				<p>clearly identified in the bill. Suan added that it is the obligation of the Local Civil Registry (LCR) to check whether the requirements relative to the application for civil partnership are complied with.</p> <p>Rep. Herrera-Dy emphasized that it is also the duty of the solemnizing officer to ensure that there are no legal impediments to the civil partnership of applicant-couples.</p> <p>Bishop Reuben Abante of the Light House Bible Baptist Church said that the proposed law may be too lenient on the requirements for acquiring civil partnership and emphasized that the Constitution promotes the sanctity of marriage.</p> <p>The Committee agreed, among others, on the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amend the definition of “civil partnership” to refer to a legal relationship between two persons of the same sex;</li> <li>• Delete the provision under Section 3 (c) of the bill that requires applicants for civil partnership to be “habitually residing together” since there are couples who may apply for civil partnership but do not habitually live together because one of them is, say, an overseas Filipino worker (OFWs);</li> <li>• Require pre-civil partnership agreements to be registered in the LCR; and</li> <li>• Delete the provisions under Section 5, subsections 3 (b) and (c) of the bill that require applicants for civil partnership to have shared a common domicile for a minimum of two uninterrupted years and that their relationship is publicly known.</li> </ul>
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<b>IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS</b>		
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>SUBJECT MATTER</b>	<b>DISCUSSIONS</b>
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 continued its discussion on the following allegations against Sereno:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-filing of some of her sworn Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Net Worth (SALN);</li> <li>• Manipulation of the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC), especially its four members, effectively destroying it as a body mandated to fairly and impartially screen and nominate applicants to the Judiciary;</li> <li>• Falsification of SC Resolution in A.M. 16-08-04-SC which</li> </ul>

Continuation...  
Justice

resolved to “direct Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea to submit complaint-affidavits against four judges within seven days” without the concurrence of the SC justices; and

- Falsification of SC Resolution in A.M. 12-11-9-SC in relation to the opening of the Regional Court Administrative Office in Region 7 (RCAO-7).

Several House Members inquired as to why then Associate Justice Sereno was included in JBC’s list of nominees for the chief justice position in spite of not having been able to comply with the requirement on the submission of SALNs between the period 1986-2006.

JBC Executive Director Annaliza Ty-Capacite said that the JBC executive committee (Execom) certified that Sereno substantially satisfied the requirement on the basis of a letter dated July 23, 2012, stating her inability to comply with the submission of documents issued beyond 15 years.

Capacite said that Sereno’s “attempt to comply” satisfies the requirement substantially. She explained that in its June 2012 meeting, the JBC en banc agreed to the proposal of Senator Francis Escudero that an attempt to comply with the requirement by an applicant for chief justice position shall be deemed satisfactory.

Rep. Juan Pablo “Rimpy” Bondoc (4th District, Pampanga) criticized such JBC’s line of reasoning considering the fact that the position at stake was the third highest position in the land.

Likewise, Majority Leader Rodolfo Fariñas (1st District, Ilocos Norte) was also not amenable to JBC’s measure for substantial compliance, adding that as a matter of practice in the Commission on Appointments (CA), an applicant may lose his or her bid for a certain position due to non-submission of just a single required document. This should likewise be the standard set by the JBC in screening applicants to the judiciary, he said.

On the falsification of SC Resolution in A.M. 16-08-04-SC, Associate Justice Teresita Leonardo-de Castro denied that the SC en banc issued a resolution directing Executive Secretary Medialdea to file a formal complaint against four incumbent judges allegedly involved in illegal drugs. She claimed that it would be impossible for the High Court to issue a “directive” to high ranking officials of the Executive Department.

SC Assistant Court Administrator Theodore Te, who is also the chief of the SC’s Public Information Office (PIO), manifested that during the August 9, 2016 SC en banc meeting, he received an instruction from the Chief Justice to release to the media the information that the SC en banc resolved to conduct a fact-finding investigation on the issue involving the four judges as exposed by President Rodrigo Duterte in one of the latter’s public speeches.

Te, however, denied the formal issuance and circulation of said en banc resolution. When asked by Rep. Eugene Michael de Vera (Party-List, ABS) if he had a hand in the drafting of the alleged resolution, Te answered in the negative.

On the falsification of the SC Resolution in A.M. 12-11-9-SC, De Castro attested that the SC en banc never ratified the action of Sereno in creating RCAO-7. She said that Sereno’s action violated the collegiality rule of the SC.

Continuation... Justice		<p>Meanwhile, Sandiganbayan Associate Justice Geraldine Faith Econg, who was then the SC deputy clerk of court and chief of the SC's Program Management Office (PMO), lamented that she had to endure the consequences of voicing out her opposition to the hiring of Helen Macasaet as IT consultant. She said that because of her stance, she was temporarily appointed to various positions including in the RCAO-7. Having found no legal basis for the temporary appointments, Econg decided to return to her office in Manila only to find out that another person was already occupying her permanent position in an officer-in-charge capacity.</p> <p>When asked by Deputy Speaker Gwendolyn Garcia (3<sup>rd</sup> District, Cebu) if she believes that she was fairly treated by the Chief Justice, Econg expressed lament and answered in the negative.</p> <p>For its next hearing, the Committee will invite SC Justices Estela Perlas-Bernabe and Mario Victor Leonen to shed light on their alleged co-signing of a number of SC resolutions with Sereno.</p>
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TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETINGS				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Government Reorganization jt. w/ National Defense and Security (Technical Working Group)	HB 108	Rep. Alejano	Establishing the Emergency Management Agency (EMA), amending for the purpose RA 10121 or the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction Management Act of 2010	The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Joey Sarte Salceda (2 <sup>nd</sup> District, Albay), agreed to draft a substitute bill to the eight measures, incorporating therein the recommendations of the stakeholders.
	HBs 344, 3093, 4203, 4648 & 6075	Reps. Romualdez, Castelo, Herrera-Dy, Leachon, and Salceda	Creating the Department of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management, defining its mandate, powers and functions, and appropriating funds therefor	University of the Philippines Nationwide Operational Assessment of Hazards (UP NOAH) Executive Director Alfredo Mahar Lagmay discussed the efforts of the NOAH Center and UP Resilience Institute (UP RI) on climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.
	HB 596	Rep. Pichay	Establishing the Philippine Emergency and Disaster Management Authority and providing funds therefor	According to Lagmay, UP NOAH is a P6.4 billion project, launched in 2012, which uses best available technologies in science to assist the country in disaster risk reduction and management, climate change adaptation, and mitigation efforts. Lagmay said UP NOAH produces free, accessible, accurate, reliable and relevant scientific data in assessing disaster risks through a multidisciplinary approach.
	HB 2638	Rep. Gatchalian	Instituting a National Disaster Rehabilitation Program and establishing the Philippine Disaster Rehabilitation Commission	On the other hand, Lagmay said the UP RI, together with other state universities and colleges, supports the Climate Change Commission (CCC) in training local government units (LGUs) to formulate and complete their Local Climate Change Action Plans (LCCAP) and Comprehensive Land Use and Development Plans (CLUDP). Likewise, he said that UP RI provides science-based information and technologies that will help the LGUs in development planning.  Lagmay suggested that the national government and the LGUs should adopt

<p><i>Continuation...</i> Government Reorganization jt. w/ National Defense and Security (Technical Working Group)</p>				<p>disaster resilient plans, use probabilistic hazard maps and conduct an interdisciplinary approach in addressing disasters to avoid catastrophic situations.</p> <p>Carissa Galla, disaster risk reduction advisor of Handicap International, talked about empowering persons with disabilities (PWDs) to be disaster resilient and expressed the need to involve the PWDs in disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction programs of the government.</p> <p>Rep. Salceda, who is also the author of HB 6075, recommended that in case of insufficient funds during a calamity, the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) may instruct the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) to make a “flash appeal” to the United Nations (UN) for assistance.</p> <p>A flash appeal is an internationally recognized tool used to quickly secure funds from UN agencies and non-government organizations (NGOs) to support a government’s response to an emergency. (Source: UN website)</p> <p>Rep. Salceda said that under the proposed law there will be a single entity that would initiate rehabilitation after the occurrence of disaster to ensure that relevant information will be properly disseminated down to the barangay level.</p> <p>The Committee requested the resource persons from the OCD, Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS), National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), and Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) to submit their comments and recommendations on the bills on or before February 19.</p>
<p>Information and Communications Technology (Technical Working Group)</p>	<p>HBs 2873 &amp; 5195</p>	<p>Reps Yap (V.) and Velasco</p>	<p>Establishing number portability for mobile telephone service</p>	<p>The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Francisco Jose "Bingo" Matugas II (1st District, Surigao del Norte), will draft a Substitute Bill to the three bills, using HB 5765 as the working draft.</p> <p>HB 5765 defines “mobile number portability” (MNP) as the ability of a subscriber, whether postpaid or prepaid, to retain an existing mobile number when moving from one public telecommunications entity to another without impairment of quality, reliability or convenience.</p> <p>The resource persons from the following government agencies expressed their support for the bills, with some of them presenting</p>
	<p>HB 5765</p>	<p>Rep. Gatchalian</p>	<p>Requiring public telecommunications entities to provide nationwide mobile number portability (MNP) to subscribers</p>	

Continuation... Information and Communications Technology (Technical Working Group)				<p>their respective recommendations: Philippine Competition Commission (PCC), National Privacy Commission (NPC), National Telecommunications Company (NTC) and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). Telecommunications companies such as Globe Telecom, Smart and the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. (PLDT) also expressed their support for the bills.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Internet Society-Philippine Chapter (ISOC-PH) Vice President Mary Grace Mirandilla-Santos suggested the inclusion of a provision in the proposed measure mandating the NTC to oversee the implementation of the MPN, and to ensure consumer protection in the process. She also requested the NTC to conduct a study that will determine the most appropriate and cost-efficient porting scheme for the country.</p> <p>The resource persons were requested to submit their respective position papers on the bill for consideration by the TWG.</p>
Natural Resources (Technical Working Group)	HB 6242	Rep. Go (M.)	Granting another period to file manifestation of intention to validate titles issued under Civil Reservation Case No. 1, GLRO Record 211, pursuant to RA 931, as amended, and as provided under PD 1271, as amended	The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Arnel Ty (LPGMA, Party-List) approved HB 6242 with amendments. The bill will be submitted to the mother Committee for its consideration and approval.
	HB 1795	Rep. Villafuerte	Providing for the protection, conservation and rehabilitation of watersheds supporting the national irrigation system (NIS) to ensure continuous supply of water for agricultural production and self-sufficiency in food, and providing funds therefor	The TWG will deliberate further on the three bills in its next meeting. It likewise agreed to consolidate HBs 1795 and 4527 with HB 6505.
	HB 4527	Rep. Savellano	Requiring all deep-well owners and operators, including applicants for water extraction permits to incorporate, construct and install artificial recharge wells so that the water they extract from the aquifers will be replenished thus helping mitigate the effects of the El Niño, climate change and other problems on fresh water	Forrester Ray Thomas Kabigting of the Forest Management Bureau, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (FMB-DENR), suggested that the definition of the term “aquifers” be taken from the definition of the same in RA 9275, otherwise known as the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004, and the term “climate change” from the definition in RA 9729, otherwise known as the Climate Change Act of 2009.
	HB 6505	Rep. Antonio	Instituting a New Water Code, amending for the purpose PD 1067 otherwise known as the Water Code of the Philippines	He also recommended to specify the type of violations corresponding to the penalties stipulated in the proposed measure.
	HB 5921	Rep. Antonio	Amending Section 3 (b) of RA 7076, otherwise known as the People’s Small-Scale Mining Act of 1991, by redefining the term “small-scale mining”	The TWG will deliberate further on the three bills in its next meeting. It likewise agreed to consolidate HBs 5921 and 5980 with HB 6259.
	HB 5980	Rep. Roque (H.)	Imposing an annual production limit in small-scale mining activities, amending for the purpose RA 7076	
	HB 6259	Speaker Alvarez	Amending certain portions of RA 7942, otherwise known as the “Philippine Mining	

Continuation... Natural Resources (Technical Working Group)			Act of 1995” by prohibiting mining in watersheds, requiring a legislative franchise for mining operations	
Small Business and Entrepreneurship Development (Technical Working Group)	Substitute Bill to HBs 5618, 5701, 6227 & 6476	Reps. Yap (V.), Gatchalian, Villafuerte, and Yap (A.)	Adopting innovation as vital component of the country’s development policies to drive inclusive development, promote the growth and national competitiveness of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), appropriating funds therefor	<p>The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Dennis Laogan (Party-List, ANG KABUHAYAN), will deliberate further on the substitute bill in its next meeting.</p> <p>Commission on Higher Education’s (CHED) Research Management Division Chief Custer Deocaris suggested that the international definition of the terms used in the bill be adopted so that there will be no confusion in the implementation of the law.</p> <p>On the matter of “technology diffusion procurement,” Deputy Executive Director Melissa Santiago-Yan of the Government Procurement Policy Board (GPPB), Department of Budget and Management (DBM), said that it is already incorporated in the revised implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of RA 9284 (Government Procurement Reform Act).</p> <p>As defined in the bill, technology diffusion procurement “refers to public procurement that is undertaken on behalf of end-users with the view to accelerating the diffusion of innovative solutions or technologies that offer the greatest advantage to users.”</p> <p>State Auditor Laura Babasa of the Commission on Audit (COA) also informed the TWG that procurements relating to technology and research and development are allowed provided that there is an allocated fund for the said programs, as prescribed in Section 53 of RA 9284.</p> <p>With regard to the proposed creation of a National Innovation Council (NIC), Business Development Director Kristine Alcantara of Trade Advisory Services (T/A), welcomed its creation given that majority of ASEAN members already have their own NICs.</p> <p>T/A is a pioneer consulting company in the Philippines specializing in international trade solutions and technical assistance.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Undersecretary Brenda Nazareth Manzano of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and Senior Research Fellow Jose Ramon Albert of the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) proposed the reduction of the members of the NIC.</p> <p>The resource persons were requested to submit their respective position papers on the bill for consideration by the TWG.</p>

Youth and Sports Development (Technical Working Group)	HB 5024	Rep. Gomez	Institutionalizing a comprehensive national grassroots sports development program centered in the Philippine national games	<p>The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Cristina "Chiqui" Roa-Puno (1st District, Antipolo City), terminated its deliberation on the bill. The Secretariat was instructed to prepare a draft Substitute Bill to HB 5024, incorporating therein the relevant recommendations of the resource persons.</p> <p>Rep. Lucy Gomez (4th District, Leyte), author of HB 5024, manifested that the explanatory note attached to her bill be included in the record as her sponsorship speech.</p> <p>HB 5024 seeks to institutionalize a truly comprehensive national grassroots sports program that will harness the vast potentials of the citizenry in discovering and developing champion athletes who could excel in international competitions, giving the country pride and international goodwill. The role of local government officials is crucial in developing sports in the countryside.</p> <p>The resource persons from the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), Philippine Olympic Committee (POC), National Sports Associations (NSA), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), and Commission on Higher Education (CHED) were requested to submit their position papers on the bill.</p>
	HB 3244	Rep. Sambar	Creating the national, provincial, city, municipal sports development council	<p>The TWG terminated its deliberation on the bill. The Secretariat was instructed to prepare a draft Substitute Bill to HB 3244, incorporating therein the relevant recommendations of the resource persons.</p> <p>Rep. Mark Aeron Sambar (Party-List, PBA) said that his bill seeks to establish a Sports Development Council (SDC) in the national, provincial, city and municipality levels to promote and develop grassroots and developmental sports in the LGUs. The proposed SDC will assist the PSC in conducting information dissemination and in implementing and monitoring the grassroots sports plan.</p> <p>The TWG agreed on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Designate PSC as the Secretariat of the proposed SDC; and</li> <li>• Include an appropriations provision stating that the PSC will provide funding for the meetings of the national and regional Sports Development Councils. While the LGUs will provide funding for the provincial, municipal and city Sports Development Councils' meetings.</li> </ul>

AGENCY BRIEFING		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Metro Manila Development	Briefing by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) on the planned major infrastructure projects in Metro Manila that are designed to ease traffic and transport problems	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo (2nd District, Quezon City), listened to the briefing conducted by the DPWH on the major infrastructure projects in Metro Manila that are designed to ease traffic and transport problems.</p> <p>At the outset, Rep. Castelo said that the briefing aims to inform the Committee Members of the major infrastructure projects in Metro Manila and the cause of delay in the implementation of some of these projects.</p> <p>DPWH National Capital Region (NCR) Regional Director Melvin Navarro apprised the Committee of the major infrastructure projects in Metro Manila that are about to be completed this year, such as the Laguna Lake Highway and the Mindanao Avenue Extension. He admitted that the implementation of some projects are hampered by problems concerning road right-of-way (RROW) acquisition.</p> <p>Engr. Alex Bote, OIC-Director of DPWH's Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Service presented the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)-approved PPP projects, particularly the North Luzon Expressway-South Luzon Expressway (NLEX-SLEX) Connector Road.</p> <p>The NLEX-SLEX Connector Road Project is an 8-kilometer all elevated, four-lane toll expressway extending the NLEX southward, from the end of Segment 10 in C3 Road in Caloocan City to the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) in Sta. Mesa, Manila, connecting to Skyway Stage 3 and traversing mostly along the rail tracks.</p> <p>Rep. Rodel Batocabe (Party-List, AKO-BICOL) inquired on the basis for computing the value of the property subject to RROW acquisition.</p> <p>Bote explained that under the DPWH guidelines and procedures in acquiring a RROW issued last November 18, 2017, a lot owner is paid based on the appraisal by government financial institutions such as the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) and Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP). However, Bote said if the lot owner and the DPWH fail to reach an agreement, the lot will be subject to expropriation proceedings and the zonal value will be used in computing the "just compensation."</p> <p>Rep. Edgar Erice (2nd District, Caloocan City) asked about the steps undertaken by the DPWH in case a school building stands in the way of a government infrastructure project, Bote said that the DPWH meets with the Department of Education (DepEd) to settle issues in this regard.</p> <p>Rep. Castelo urged concerned government agencies to ensure the proper relocation of informal settler families (ISFs) and others that will be affected as a result of the implementation of government projects.</p> <p>Several House Members from the NCR requested a separate briefing with the DPWH with regard to infrastructure projects in their respective districts.</p>
	Update on the policy of the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) to limit the transport network vehicle service (TNVS) units in Metro Manila and nearby provinces	The Committee listened to the report of LTFRB Board Member Aileen Lizada on the policy of the LTFRB to limit the number of transport network vehicle service (TNVS) units in Metro Manila and nearby provinces.

<p>Continuation... Metro Manila Development</p>	<p>Lizada said the LTFRB imposed a common supply base for transport network companies (TNCs), such as Uber Systems Inc. (UBER), GRAB, and U-HOP, in order to regulate the number of TNVS units in Metro Manila, Metro Cebu and Pampanga.</p> <p>For Metro Manila, the allotted number of TNVS is 65,000 units; Metro Cebu, 1,500 units; and Pampanga, 250 units.</p> <p>Moreover, Lizada said the LTFRB conducts an evaluation of TNVS' operations every three months to ensure an efficient delivery of service to their passengers.</p> <p>With regard to the use of hatchbacks, Lizada informed the Committee that they may be allowed to operate but only within Metro Manila; and only during the transition period to allow them to settle their loans or recoup their investments.</p> <p>Rep. Castelo inquired on the status of the complaint filed against U-Hop for collecting an accreditation fee from its prospective members ranging from P130,000 to P150,000. Lizada promised to submit an update of the complaint which will be conducted on February 25, 2018.</p> <p>Muntinlupa City Rep. Rozzano Rufino Biazon asked if cancelled bookings cause "price surges." UBER Public Policy Associate Irish Salandanan-Almeida said that price surging is mostly due to lack of TNVS units to meet the demand.</p> <p>On the query raised by Rep. Rosenda Ann Ocampo (6<sup>th</sup> District, Manila), Lizada explained that the LTFRB has already set a cap on the surge pricing scheme of TNCs at P10 to P14 per kilometer.</p> <p>Deputy Speaker Romero "Miro" Quimbo (2nd District, Marikina City) said that booking a TNVS during late night hours is difficult and asked how the LTFRB addresses this problem. Almeida explained that TNVS drivers are given incentives especially when they operate during graveyard shift.</p> <p>Rep. Bayani Fernando (1st District, Marikina City) asked about the reason behind the banning of UBER and GRAB in foreign countries, like London. Lizada explained that UBER and GRAB are banned from operating in other countries because they do not want to be regulated by the government.</p> <p>The Committee agreed to schedule an ocular inspection of the offices of GRAB and UBER.</p>
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