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PUBLIC HEARING				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Overseas Workers Affairs	HR 2048	Rep. Manalo	Inquiry into how the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) reintegration funds are being spent, and where or what programs such funds have been allocated to, from the time RA 10801, or the OWWA Act, was enacted into law	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Jesulito Manalo (Party-List, ANGKLA), held a public hearing at the Cebu Provincial Capitol, Cebu City on August 17 in relation to HR 2048.</p> <p>At the outset, Rep. Manalo explained that the implementation of OWWA's reintegration programs for Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) must be looked into to determine what specific actions have been undertaken or what support services have been extended so far to OFWs and their families, and to identify areas of improvement.</p> <p>OWWA Administrator Hans Leo Cacdac reported that in 2017, the amount of P557.8 million was spent for the reintegration programs for returning OFWs and their families. This amount was way beyond the minimum allocation of P210 million for 2017, representing 10% of the OFWs' accumulated membership fees.</p> <p>RA 10801 provides that to be able to sustain the viability of the reintegration of the OFWs, not less than 10% of OWWA's collections from OFW's membership contributions for the immediately preceding year shall be allocated for its reintegration programs for the current year.</p> <p>Also during the public hearing, Cacdac discussed the various programs that the OWWA has established for returning OFWs.</p> <p>Aside from Rep. Manalo, the members who attended the public hearing were Reps. Wilfredo Caminero (2nd District, Cebu), and Peter John Calderon (7th District, Cebu).</p>