

# Committee Daily Bulletin

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## BICAMERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEETING

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Bicameral Conference Committee	HB 7449	Rep. Alvarez (P.)	Appropriating the sum of P1,161,710,000 as supplemental appropriations for FY 2018	<p>The Bicameral Conference Committee, co-chaired by Rep. Maria Carmen Zamora (1<sup>st</sup> District, Compostela Valley), Senior Vice Chair of the House Committee on Appropriations, and Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito, Chair of the Senate Committee on Health and Demography, will continue its discussion on HB 7449.</p> <p>The conferees focused their discussion on Section 2 (Assistance to Dengvaxia Vaccinees) of HB 7449, which provides that the P1.16 billion refunded by Zuellig Pharma covering the unused vials of Dengvaxia vaccines will be appropriated to fund the much-needed medical support to the Dengvaxia vaccinees. (Zuellig Pharma is the local distributor of Sanofi Pasteur – the manufacturer of Dengvaxia.)</p> <p>The Senators, however, suggested that the proposed 2018 supplemental appropriations should cover medical assistance to all dengue patients.</p> <p>Other conferees present during the bicameral conference committee meeting were the following: On the part of the House, Reps. Doy Leachon (1<sup>st</sup> District, Oriental Mindoro), Angelina "Helen" Tan, M.D. (4<sup>th</sup> District, Quezon), Estrellita Suansing (1<sup>st</sup> District, Nueva Ecija), Federico "Ricky" Sandoval II (Malabon City), and Marlyn Alonte (Biñan City); on the part of the Senate, Senators Franklin Dilon, Richard Gordon, Risa Hontiveros, and Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III.</p>

## COMMITTEE MEETING

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Energy	Substitute Bill to HBs 4893 & 6668	Reps. Batocabe and Villafuerte	Establishing the Philippine Energy Research and Policy Institute, defining its objectives, powers and functions, and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee, presided by its Vice Chair Rep. Carlos Roman Uybarreta (Party-List, 1-CARE), approved the Substitute Bill to HBs 4893 and 6668 subject to style and amendment.

Continuation... Energy				One of the main agreements reached during the meeting was to retain the original proposal, as contained in HB 6668, appropriating P200 million as the initial operating fund of the Institute.
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TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETING				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Transportation (Technical Working Group)	HBs 72, 706, 3642, 6117, 6636, 7269, 7318 & 8397	Reps. Vargas, Angara-Castillo, Laogan, Salo, Olivarez, Villafuerte, Siao, and Nieto	Institutionalizing the grant of student fare discount privileges on public transportation	<p>The technical working group (TWG), presided by Catanduanes Rep. Cesar Sarmiento, terminated its deliberations on the nine bills.</p> <p>The Secretariat will prepare a substitute bill for consideration and approval of the mother Committee. Rep. Sarmiento informed the TWG that a counterpart bill in the Senate (Senate Bill 1597) has recently been approved on Third Reading at the Senate.</p> <p>One of the issues raised during the meeting was in relation to the earlier agreement by the TWG that the student fare discount will only be granted while the students are enrolled, and not during semestral breaks.</p> <p>Representatives from the airline sector explained that this provision may not be applicable to the airline industry because some students may book their flights during schooldays but their travel period may fall during the semestral break.</p> <p>Rep. Sarmiento said that the issues and concerns raised are aptly noted and will be taken into consideration during the crafting of the substitute bill. He also said that some of the recommendations may be considered in the proposed law's implementing rules and regulations.</p>
	HB 2477	Rep. Castelo	Granting 15% fare discount to every bona fide student on transportation fares/rates charged by taxis, SUVs, jeepneys, buses, light rail transits, metro rail transits or similar land transport systems	