



# Committee Daily Bulletin

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## COMMITTEE MEETINGS ON HOUSE MEASURES

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
<b>People's Participation</b>	Substitute Bill to HB 6297	Rep. Zarate	New Public Assembly Act	<p>The Committee, chaired by San Jose del Monte City Rep. Florida "Rida" Robes, approved the Substitute Bill to HB 6297 subject to style and amendment. The Secretariat was directed to prepare the corresponding Committee Report.</p> <p>Among the amendments to the substitute bill that were approved during the meeting were the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delete the phrase "any other legitimate public interest" in the definition of "Clear and Present Danger" so that the definition will now read as "Danger characterized by both grave and imminent and of a serious evil to public safety, public morals and public health, that it can justify the limitation on the exercise of the right, so fundamental to the maintenance of democratic institutions";</li> <li>• Define "maximum protection" as the "highest degree of protection or tolerance that the military, police, peacekeeping, and law enforcement authorities are required to observe"; and</li> <li>• Include a penalty of a fine or community service for leaders or organizers who failed to provide the local government with notice of public assembly.</li> </ul> <p>The Commission on Human Rights and the Philippine National Police were requested to submit their additional recommendations on the substitute bill.</p>

## SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING ON HOUSE MEASURES

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
<b>Allied Services (Public Order and Safety)</b>	Substitute Bill to HBs 518, 2325, 3547, 3669 and 7037	Rep. Aglipay, Deputy Speaker Escudero, Reps. Robes, Geron, and Romualdez (Y.M.)	Strengthening the private security industry, repealing for the purpose RA 5487, or the law regulating the organization and operation of private detective watchmen or security guard agencies, as amended	<p>The Subcommittee, chaired by Iligan City Rep. Frederick Siao, approved the Substitute Bill subject to style and amendment.</p> <p>The Secretariat was directed to incorporate in the substitute bill the suggestions of the Members and resource persons.</p>

<p>Continuation... Allied Services (Public Order and Safety)</p>				<p>Rep. Michael Edgar Aglipay (Party-List, DIWA), author of HB 518, stressed the need to professionalize the security industry by intensifying the requirements for training and professional certification of security practitioners. The bill also introduced safeguards against private security agencies that act as private armies.</p> <p>Deputy Speaker Evelina Escudero (1<sup>st</sup> District, Sorsogon), author of HB 2325, said that her bill proposes the upgrading of the qualifications for security personnel to improve industry services which can be through a study now-pay later scheme. She further said that security guards should be entitled to fair wages, allowances, and other benefits as provided by law, and that the cost of their uniforms should be covered by the security service contract.</p> <p>Deputy Speaker Escudero's bill proposes to extend the validity of the license of security guards to at least three years. The Subcommittee, however, adopted the suggestion of Philippine National Police – Civil Security Group (PNP-CSG) Major General Roberto Fajardo of extending the validity of the license to five years.</p> <p>Rep. Raymond Democrito Mendoza (Party-List, TUCP) noted that security guards have greatly complemented the efforts of the Philippine National Police in maintaining peace and order especially during the on-going COVID-19 pandemic. He said, however, that many security personnel have been the subject of exploitation and other abuses perpetrated by some “colorum” or fly-by-night security agencies, which should be addressed.</p> <p>Among the agreements reached during the meeting are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) shall provide trainings to security guards through a scholarship grant;</li> <li>• The uniforms of security guards shall already be included in the contract price entered into by private security agencies with the clientele;</li> <li>• The online applications and submission of documents by prospective private security agencies shall be encouraged in line with the “new normal” brought about by the pandemic; and</li> <li>• The practice of criminology profession under RA 11131 shall be excluded from the scope of the proposed law.</li> </ul> <p>All the resource persons present were requested to submit their written position paper on the substitute bill, except for the Professional Regulation Commission-Board of Criminology, which has already done so.</p>
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Continuation... Allied Services (Public Order and Safety)				The Committee Secretariat was directed to secure the opinion of the Commission on Audit on Section 9 of the bill mandating a minimum administrative (overhead) fee of 20% of contract price for private security agencies, in relation to Section 31 of the Government Procurement Reform Act (RA 9184) regarding bid price ceiling.
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**TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETING ON HOUSE MEASURES**

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
<b>Housing and Urban Development</b> (Technical Working Group)	HBs 157, 2417, 3035, 4280, 7008, 7215, 7269 & 7292	Reps. Belmonte, Castelo, Nieto, Deputy Speakers Pimentel and Villafuerte, Reps. Vargas, Rodriguez, and Tambunting	Establishing a rental subsidy program for informal settler families (ISFs) and appropriating funds therefor	<p>The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Navotas City Rep. John Reynald Tiangco, terminated its discussions on the eight bills.</p> <p>At the outset, Rep. Tiangco said that the TWG was created to draft a substitute bill that would encapsulate the intent of the eight bills seeking to address the increasing number of ISFs in the country.</p> <p>Rep. Jose Christopher Belmonte (6<sup>th</sup> District, Quezon City), author of HB 157, said that the proposed law seeks to provide temporary settlement for ISFs, according them social protection, and allowing them to relocate away from danger zones and areas where government infrastructure projects will be implemented.</p> <p>Rep. Belmonte recommended that HBs 7008, 7215, 7269, 7292, which are very similar in content, be used as the TWG's working draft. According to him, there are only two points in the bills which may be contentious, and these are the scope of the program and the amount of the rental subsidy.</p> <p>He explained that while his bill is national in scope, HB 4280, authored by Deputy Speaker Johnny Ty Pimentel (2<sup>nd</sup> District, Surigao del Sur), only covers the ISFs in Metro Manila.</p> <p>After some discussions, the TWG agreed that the rental subsidy program should be national in scope. The TWG also agreed that the rental subsidy that will be granted to an ISF beneficiary will be up to a maximum of P3,500 with variance depending on the regions. For Metro Manila, the rental subsidy will be fixed at P3,500.</p> <p>Resource persons were generally supportive of the proposed law. National Housing Authority (NHA) OIC of the Corporate Planning Department Agnes Agay supports the intention of the bills but had doubts over the availability of affordable rental houses for the ISFs. Considering the amount of the subsidy, Agay opined that the ISFs might just resort to renting spaces in crowded informal settler areas which defeats the purpose of the program.</p>

<p><i>Continuation...</i> Housing and Urban Development (Technical Working Group)</p>				<p>Pantawid Upa representative Joselito Tenebro suggested that aside from the rent subsidy, giving ISFs access to social services should also be considered.</p> <p>Rep. Francisco "Kiko" Benitez (3<sup>rd</sup> District, Negros Occidental) proposed that the NHA be compelled to provide alternative shelters or living arrangements to the ISFs or extend the five-year rental subsidy until they are able to occupy the housing unit allotted to them by the government.</p> <p>Rep. Arlene Brosas (Party-List, GABRIELA) suggested to delete the provision in the bill requiring at least one family member of an ISF to be employed to be able to qualify for the rental subsidy program. Rep. Brosas explained that relocating ISFs often results in temporary unemployment. She stressed that it is unfair to disqualify the ISF from the program if the breadwinner of the family became unemployed as a result of the relocation.</p>
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