



# Committee Daily Bulletin

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Second Regular Session

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## COMMITTEE MEETINGS ON HOUSE MEASURES

COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Energy jt. w/ Trade and Industry	HBs 302 & 5642	Reps. Yap (V.) and Ty (A.)	Establishing the regulatory framework for the safe operations of the liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) industry, delineating the powers and functions of various government agencies, defining and penalizing certain acts	<p>The Joint Committee, co-presided by Marinduque Rep. Lord Allan Jay Velasco, Chair of the Committee on Energy, and Rep. Jesus "Bong" Suntay (4<sup>th</sup> District, Quezon City), Vice Chair of the Committee on Trade and Industry, agreed to create a technical working group (TWG) to consolidate and fine-tune the two bills.</p> <p>Rep. Suntay was designated as the TWG Chair.</p> <p>At the outset, Rep. Velasco said that similar bills have been extensively discussed by a TWG created by the Committee on Energy for this purpose during the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress. He also mentioned that a similar bill, Senate Bill 1188, was filed in the Senate by Sen. Win Gatchalian.</p> <p>Rep. Allan Ty (Party-List, LPGMA), author of HB 5642, said that his measure seeks to establish the monitoring and supervisory framework for the LPG industry that will strengthen and enhance existing standards and mechanisms against deceptive and harmful practices arising from a deregulated downstream oil industry.</p> <p>The bill also seeks to address the problem posed by almost 12 million dilapidated, unsafe, substandard, and defective LPG cylinders in the market by creating a "white cylinder exchange program" for the benefit of consumers and to prevent and minimize fire incidents resulting in the loss of lives and properties.</p> <p>Rep. Ty urged the immediate passage of his bill to provide the LPG consumers better service through a fair and competitive LPG market that promotes good quality and safety standards.</p> <p>Expressing their support for the bills were resource persons from the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Philippine National Police - Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (PNP-CIDG), Philippine Institute of Petroleum (PIP), Philippine LPG Association (PLPGA), LPG Marketers' Association</p>

Continuation... Energy jt. w/ Trade and Industry				<p>(LPGMA), LPG Refillers' Association (LPGRA), LPG Industry Association, Inc. (LPGIA), ISLA Petroleum and Gas Corporation (IPG), Petron Corporation (PCOR), and Laban Konsyumer, Inc. (LKI).</p> <p>On the query of some Members if the price of LPG will be regulated or controlled by the Department of Energy (DOE) with the passage of the proposed law, Rep. Suntay answered in the negative. He explained that under RA 8479 or the Downstream Oil Industry Deregulation Act of 1998, the power of the DOE is limited to monitoring and publishing daily international crude oil prices, as well as following the movements of domestic oil prices. This is to ensure a truly competitive market under a regime of fair prices.</p> <p>The law also states that the "DOE shall likewise monitor the quality of petroleum products and stop the operation of businesses involved in the sale of petroleum products which do not comply with the national standards of quality that are aligned with the international standards or protocols of quality."</p> <p>Baguio City Rep. Mark Go gave his support to the proposed law as he expressed the hope that it will lead to an improved quality of LPG products which will be beneficial to the consumers.</p> <p>Rep. Velasco directed the Secretariat to send a letter to the Energy Secretary asking the latter to explain his failure to send a representative in today's hearing. He also requested the TWG to try to align the provisions of HBs 302 &amp; 5642 with those of Senate Bill 1188 to further expedite the bills' passage into law.</p> <p>The resource persons were requested to submit their respective position papers on the bills for the TWG's consideration.</p>
<b>Public Order and Safety</b>	Substitute Bill to HBs 931, 1166, 2469, 2546, 3102, 3275, 3404, 3498, 4707 & 4887	Rep. Cabochan, Deputy Speaker Romero, Rep. Almario, Deputy Speaker Villafuerte, Reps. Romualdez (Y.M.), Salceda, Sy-Alvarado, Tambunting, and Tan (A.S.)	Strengthening and modernizing the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee, chaired by Rep. Narciso Bravo Jr. (1 <sup>st</sup> District, Masbate), approved the Committee Report on the Substitute Bill.
	HBs 1211 & 3925	Reps. Cabochan and Vargas	Providing for reorganization and reform of the structure of the uniformed members of the BFP, amending certain provisions of RA 6975, otherwise known as the Department of the Interior and Local Government Act of 1990 and RA 9263, otherwise known as the BFP	The Committee will deliberate further on the seven bills in its next meeting.  The Secretariat was instructed to consolidate the bills and come up with a substitute bill.

Continuation... Public Order and Safety			and Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) Professionalization Act of 2004	Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Undersecretary Ricojudge Janvier Echiverri said that upgrading the ranks of the BFP and the BJMP personnel is a measure that is long overdue. He said that this move will not only provide uniformity of ranks between and among the tri-bureaus – Philippine National Police (PNP), BFP, and BJMP – under the DILG but will also boost the morale of all the concerned officers and personnel.
	HBs 3150, 4423, 4876, 5125 & 6682	Reps. Romulo, Bustos, Rodriguez, Acop, and Cabochan	Upgrading the rank classification structure of the uniformed members of the BFP and BJMP organization, amending for the purpose certain provisions of RA 6975, as amended, and RA 9263	<p>BFP Chief Jose Embang Jr. and BJMP Chief Allan Iral both expressed support for the proposed law.</p> <p>The Civil Service Commission and the Department of Budget and Management were requested to submit their official position papers on the proposed law. Likewise, the BFP was requested to submit a list of countries which have adopted military ranks for fire officers and personnel.</p>

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