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No. 6

CALL TO ORDER

At 4:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Fredenil "Fred" H. Castro called the session to order.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The session is called to order.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.) Please rise for the singing of the Philippine National Anthem.

Everybody rose to sing the Philippine National Anthem.

PRAYER

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Please remain standing for a minute of silent prayer and meditation.

Everybody remained standing for the silent prayer.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, I move that we defer the calling of the roll.

I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the calling of the roll is deferred.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, I move for the approval of Journal No. 5 of Tuesday, August 2, 2016.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is

there any objection? (Silence) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, I move that we proceed to the Reference of Business. I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The Secretary General will please read the Reference of Business.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Secretary General read the following House Bills and Resolutions on First Reading, and Communications, and the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding references:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 1862, entitled:

"AN ACT DECLARING THE BASILICA OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY OF MANAOAG IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MANAOAG, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN AS A PILGRIMAGE SITE AND TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative De Venecia
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 1863, entitled:

"AN ACT DECLARING MALUNGGAY (MORINGA) AS 'THE NATIONAL VEGETABLE OF THE PHILIPPINES' AND THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER OF EVERY YEAR AS 'THE NATIONAL MALUNGGAY MONTH'"

By Representative De Venecia

TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 1864, entitled:

"AN ACT ENHANCING THE GUIDELINES OF TRANSFERRING AN ACCOUNT FROM ONE SOCIAL SECURITY INSURANCE SYSTEM TO ANOTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT 7699 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PORTABILITY LAW"

By Representative De Venecia

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 1865, entitled:

"AN ACT DECLARING MARCH 21 OF EVERY YEAR A NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN FABIAN, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN, IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY"

By Representative De Venecia

TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 1866, entitled:

"AN ACT TO PROVIDE YOUTH SUICIDE INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION"

By Representative De Venecia

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 1867, entitled:

"ANACT PROMOTING THE REVITALIZATION, REHABILITATION AND MODERNIZATION OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RAILWAYS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF R.A. NO. 4156 ENTITLED 'AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RAILWAYS, PRESCRIBING ITS POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES, AND PROVIDING FOR THE NECESSARY FUNDS FOR ITS OPERATION"

By Representative Montoro

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 1868, entitled:

"AN ACT AUTHORIZING WIRE TAPPING IN CASES INVOLVING VIOLATIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9165, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'COMPREHENSIVE DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT OF 2002', AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 3 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4200, ENTITLED 'AN ACT TO PROHIBIT AND PENALIZE WIRE TAPPING AND OTHER RELATED VIOLATIONS OF THE PRIVACY OF

COMMUNICATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES' "

By Representative Hernandez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 1869, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SOCCSKSARGEN GENERAL HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SURALLAH, PROVINCE OF SOUTH COTABATO, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Hernandez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 1870, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY BANGKAL, CITY OF MALOLOS, PROVINCE OF BULACAN TO BE KNOWN AS CONG. TEODULO C. NATIVIDAD NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Sy-Alvarado

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 1871, entitled:

"ANACTINSTITUTIONALIZINGAREPORTING PROCESS AND PROCEDURE BETWEEN THE LOCAL CIVIL REGISTRARS AND THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS ON THE DEATH OF PERSONS, AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3753, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Sy-Alvarado

TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

House Bill No.1872, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY BABATNIN, CITY OF MALOLOS, PROVINCE OF BULACAN TO BE KNOWN AS BABATNIN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Sy-Alvarado

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 1873, entitled:

"ANACTMANDATING THE GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON FOOD AND OTHER BASIC COMMODITIES TO GUARANTEE THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE TO AFFORDABLE FOOD AND ADEQUATE FOOD SUPPLY, PRESCRIBING GUIDELINES THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Montoro

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

House Bill No. 1874, entitled:

"AN ACT CONSIDERING RICE OR CORN HOARDING AND PROFITEERING DURING OR ON THE OCCASION OF ANY CALAMITY OR EMERGENCY DECLARED AS SUCH BY THE PRESIDENT AS EQUIVALENT TO ECONOMIC SABOTAGE, PARTLY AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7581, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PRICE ACT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Montoro

TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 1875, entitled:

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) EXTENSION OFFICE LOCATED IN MUNTINLUPA CITY INTO A REGULAR LTO DISTRICT OFFICE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Biazon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 1876, entitled:

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE SENATOR JOSE OZAMIS STREET AND GOVERNOR ANSELMO BERNAD STREET IN THE CITY OF OROQUIETA, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL INTO A NATIONAL SECONDARY ROAD, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Almonte

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 1877, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FISHPORT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LOPEZ JAENA, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Almonte

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 1878, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FISHPORT IN THE CITY OF OROQUIETA, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Almonte

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 1879, entitled:

"AN ACT EXTENDING EDUCATIONAL BENEFIT TO LEGITIMATE DEPENDENT CHILDREN OF BARANGAY TANODS AND ACCREDITED BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 393 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160 AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991"

By Representative Almonte

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 1880, entitled:

"AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 14 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8291, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE GSIS ACT OF 1997"

By Representative Treñas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 1881, entitled:

"AN ACT UPGRADING THE MINIMUM SALARY GRADE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS FROM SALARY GRADE 11 TO SALARY GRADE 15"

By Representative Tambunting

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 1882, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY AND EQUITABLE TREATMENT IN EMPLOYMENT TO ALL PERSONS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR"

By Representative Robes

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 1883, entitled:

"AN ACT CREATING THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON THE EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, DEFINING ITS POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Robes

TO THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES

House Bill No. 1884, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE IN THE LONE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF SAN JOSE DEL MONTE CITY, PROVINCE OF BULACAN TO BE KNOWN AS SAN JOSE DEL MONTE CITY MANPOWER DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Robes

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 1885, entitled:

"AN ACT EXPANDING THE SPECIAL EDUCATION FUND (SEF), REGULATING THE UTILIZATION OF THE SAME AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Robes

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 1886, entitled:

"AN ACT INSTITUTING A REEMPLOYMENT PROGRAM FOR RETIRED EMPLOYEES AND WORKERS IN THE CIVIL SERVICE AND PRIVATE SECTOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Robes

TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 1887, entitled:

"AN ACT ABOLISHING IRRIGATION SERVICE FEES AND OTHER RELATED FEES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3601, PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 552 AND PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1702"

By Representatives Estrella and Ortega (V.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 1888, entitled:

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE CITY ROAD PASSING FROM BARANGAYS LUNA, DOLORES, MILAGRO AND TONGONAN LEADING TO LAKE DANAO IN THE CITY OF ORMOC, PROVINCE OF LEYTE INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Gomez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 1889, entitled:

"AN ACT GRANTING AMNESTY IN ESTATE TAX"

By Representative Defensor

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 1890, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CAREER GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING PROGRAM FOR NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOLS, AND FOR OTHER RELATED PURPOSES"

By Representative Defensor

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 1891, entitled:

"AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE METAL INDUSTRY CORPORATION, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER RELATED PURPOSES"

By Representative Defensor

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 1892, entitled:

"AN ACT TO PROMOTE AND REGULATE THE FIREWORKS INDUSTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES"

By Representative Defensor

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

House Bill No. 1893, entitled:

"AN ACT TO PROTECT, CONSERVE, UTILIZE, DEVELOP AND SUSTAINABLY MANAGE FOREST RESOURCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Defensor

TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 1894, entitled:

"AN ACT AMENDING THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996 INCREASING THE VALIDITY OF PASSPORTS FROM FIVE (5) YEARS TO TEN (10) YEARS"

By Representative Montoro

TO THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 1895, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA OF THE POOR"

By Representative Fortuno

TO THE COMMITTEE ON POVERTY ALLEVIATION

House Bill No. 1896, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING MT. AGAD-AGAD LOCATED IN ILIGAN CITY AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF ANATURAL PARK AND ITS PERIPHERAL AREAS AS BUFFER ZONES, PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Siao

TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 1897, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MULTIPURPOSE FISHBREEDINGFARMSANDHATCHERIES FOR THE PRODUCTION OF LOBSTERS, SHRIMPS AND CRABS IN THE CITY OF BISLIG, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR"

By Representative Pimentel

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 1898, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MULTIPURPOSE FISH BREEDING FARMS AND HATCHERIES FOR THE PRODUCTION OF LOBSTERS, SHRIMPS AND CRABS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF HINATUAN, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR"

By Representative Pimentel

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 1899, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MULTIPURPOSE FISH BREEDING FARMS AND HATCHERIES FOR THE PRODUCTION OF LOBSTERS, SHRIMPS AND CRABS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BAROBO, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR"

By Representative Pimentel

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 1900, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MULTIPURPOSE FISH BREEDING FARMS AND HATCHERIES FOR THE PRODUCTION OF LOBSTERS, SHRIMPS AND CRABS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LINGIG, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR"

By Representative Pimentel

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 1901, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE REHABILITATION AND REFORESTATION OF THE TIMBERLANDS OF THE CITY OF BISLIG, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DELSUR"

By Representative Pimentel

TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REFORESTATION

House Bill No. 1902, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE REHABILITATION AND REFORESTATION OF THE TIMBERLANDS OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF LINGIG, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR"

By Representative Pimentel

TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REFORESTATION

House Bill No. 1903, entitled:

"AN ACT DECLARING THE ENCHANTED RIVER LOCATED IN BARANGAY TALISAY, MUNICIPALITY OF HINATUAN, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF NATURAL PARK"

By Representative Pimentel

TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 1904, entitled:

"AN ACT CREATING THE OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL TAXPAYER ADVOCATE TO SAFEGUARD THE RIGHTS OF THE TAXPAYERS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Angara-Castillo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 1905, entitled:

"AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 3 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, ESTABLISHING A TAXPAYER ASSISTANCE SERVICE IN THE BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Angara-Castillo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 1906, entitled:

"AN ACT UPGRADING THE MINIMUM SALARY GRADE LEVEL OF TEACHERS FROM SALARY GRADE 11 TO 19 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Angara-Castillo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 1907, entitled:

"AN ACT CREATING AND ESTABLISHING A STATE-OF-THE-ART AND HIGHLY SCIENTIFIC SPORTS COMPLEX KNOWN AS THE 'PHILIPPINE AMATEUR SPORTS TRAINING CENTER, AND FUNDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY, CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES, INCLUDING ITS ADMINISTRATION, MAINTENANCE, AND MANAGEMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Angara-Castillo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 1908, entitled:

"AN ACT RATIONALIZING GOVERNMENT INTERVENTIONS IN LABOR DISPUTES BY ADOPTING THE ESSENTIAL SERVICES CRITERIA IN THE EXERCISE OF THE ASSUMPTION OR CERTIFICATION POWER OF THE SECRETARY OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT, AND DECRIMINALIZING VIOLATIONS THEREOF, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE NUMBERS 263, 264 AND 272 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Angara-Castillo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 1909, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING CENTER IN THE FIRST DISTRICT OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL TO BE LOCATED IN THE CITY OF ESCALANTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Yap (M.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 1910, entitled:

"AN ACT TO ADDRESSING THE ISSUE OF LABOR CONTRACTUALIZATION BY PROVIDING STANDARDS FOR TERM OR FIXED-PERIOD EMPLOYMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES'"

By Representative Villarica

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 1911, entitled:

"AN ACT CREATING THE CENTRAL LUZON RAILWAYS CORPORATION, PRESCRIBING ITS POWER, FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Violago

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 1912, entitled:

"AN ACT INCREASING MATERNITY
BENEFITS OF WOMEN WORKERS
FROM SIXTY (60) TO ONE HUNDRED
TWENTY (120) DAYS, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14-A OF
R.A. 1161, AS AMENDED BY R.A. 7322,
AND EXPANDING COVERAGE TO ALL
MARRIED AND UNMARRIED WOMEN,
INCLUDING WOMEN WORKERS IN THE
INFORMAL ECONOMY"

By Representative Violago

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND GENDER EQUALITY

House Bill No. 1913, entitled:

"ANACT CREATING THE FIFTH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT IN THE PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA BY REAPPORTIONING THE SECOND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE"

By Representative Violago

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 1914, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE SMALL RUMINANTS CENTER"

By Representative Violago

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 1915, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES TO PREGNANT WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Violago TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 1916, entitled:

"AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7277, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'MAGNA CARTA FOR DISABLED PERSONS'"

By Representative Violago

TO THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES

House Bill No. 1917, entitled:

"AN ACT INCREASING THE LIMIT FOR ALLOWABLE CAMPAIGNEXPENDITURES OF ALL NATIONAL AND LOCAL CANDIDATES AND POLITICAL PARTIES, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 13 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7166, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'AN ACT PROVIDING FOR SYNCHRONIZED NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTIONS AND FOR ELECTORAL REFORMS"

By Representative Ocampo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

House Bill No. 1918, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR MATURE OR OLDER WORKERS"

By Representative Ocampo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 1919, entitled:

"ANACT PROVIDING MEDICAL ALLOWANCE FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS"

By Representative Ocampo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 1920, entitled:

"AN ACT INCREASING THE BURIAL ASSISTANCE FOR VETERANS FROM TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P10,000.00) TO TWENTY THOUSAND PESOS (P20,000.00), AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6948, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'AN ACT

STANDARDIZING AND UPGRADING THE BENEFITS FOR MILITARY VETERANS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS'"

By Representative Ocampo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND WELFARE

House Bill No. 1921, entitled:

"AN ACT GRANTING AUTOMATIC PHILHEALTH COVERAGE FOR ALL WOMEN ABOUT TO GIVE BIRTH AND THEIRNEWBORNCHILDREN, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7875, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10606, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE ACT OF 2013', AND PROVIDING FUNDS NECESSARY THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Ocampo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 1922, entitled:

"AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Salimbangon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 1923, entitled:

"AN ACT CREATING AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ZONE IN THE 4TH DISTRICTOF CEBUPROVINCE, CREATING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE 4TH DISTRICT OF CEBU ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ZONE AUTHORITY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Salimbangon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 1924, entitled:

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE – MEDELLIN EXTENSION OFFICE INTO A REGULAR DISTRICT OFFICE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Salimbangon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 1925, entitled:

"AN ACT CREATING A DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN, FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES, PROVIDING FOR ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Salimbangon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATIONANDTHECOMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 1926, entitled:

"AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY
TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY
POBLACION 2 IN THE MUNICIPALITY
OF VILLANUEVA, PROVINCE OF
MISAMIS ORIENTAL"

By Representative Uy (J.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 1927, entitled:

"AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY POBLACION 3 IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF VILLANUEVA, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL"

By Representative Uy (J.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 1928, entitled:

"AN ACT DECLARING JUNE 16 OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF VILLANUEVA, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY TO BE KNOWN AS 'ARAW NG VILLANUEVA'"

By Representative Uy (J.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 1929, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TWENTY-FIVE (25) BED SATELLITE HOSPITAL OF THE NORTHERN MINDANAO MEDICAL CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF VILLANUEVA, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL TO BE KNOWN AS THE NORTHERNMINDANAOMEDICALCENTER VILLANUEVA SATELLITE HOSPITAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Uy (J.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 1930, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EXTENSION

PROGRAM OF THE MINDANAO UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF VILLANUEVA, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL"

By Representative Uy (J.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 1931, entitled:

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROAD STRETCHING FROM BARANGAY LANAO, MUNICIPALITY OF ALUBIJID, TO BARANGAY MAUSWAGON, MUNICIPALITY OF LAGUINDINGAN, ALL OF THE PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL INTO ANATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Uy (J.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 1932, entitled:

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE LOCAL ROAD IN BARANGAY POBLACION, MUNICIPALITY OF LIBERTAD, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Uy (J.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 1933, entitled:

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROAD STRETCHING FROM BARANGAY GIMAYLAN, MUNICIPALITY OF LIBERTAD TO BARANGAY TUBIGAN, MUNICIPALITY OF INITAO, ALL OF THE PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL INTO ANATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Uy (J.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 1934, entitled:

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROAD STRETCHING FROM BARANGAY POBLACION TO BARANGAY PATAG, MUNICIPALITY OF OPOL, ALL OF THE PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL INTO ANATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Uy (J.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 1935, entitled:

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROAD IN BARANGAY IGPIT, MUNICIPALITY OF OPOL, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Uy (J.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 1936, entitled:

"AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Villar

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATIONANDTHE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 1937, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO FRESH GRADUATES BY WAIVING GOVERNMENT FEES AND CHARGES COLLECTED IN CONNECTION WITH DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS FOR EMPLOYMENT"

By Representative Villar

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 1938, entitled:

"AN ACT CREATING A NATIONAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY ADMINISTRATION"

By Representative Villar

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATIONANDTHE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 1939, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PROTECTION OF WHISTLEBLOWERS, ENSURING THEIR SECURITY AND PROVIDING BENEFITS FOR THEIR WELFARE"

By Representative Villar

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 1940, entitled:

"AN ACT TO PROMOTE AGRI-TOURISM IN THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Espino

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 1941, entitled:

"AN ACT GRANTING THE GULF WAVES COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES"

By Representative Espino

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 1942, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A FULL TUITION SUBSIDY FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES (SUCs), AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Santos-Recto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 1943, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR FULL IRRIGATION SERVICE SUBSIDY FOR QUALIFIED FARMERS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE CONTINUED OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL IRRIGATION ADMINISTRATION"

By Representative Santos-Recto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 1944, entitled:

"AN ACT AUTHORIZING PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS (PPP), APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Santos-Recto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 1945, entitled:

"AN ACT ADJUSTING THE LEVELS OF NET TAXABLE INCOME AND NOMINAL TAX RATES FOR PURPOSES OF COMPUTING THE INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX, AMENDING SECTION 24(A)(2) OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Santos-Recto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 1946, entitled:

"AN ACT EXPANDING THE COVERAGE AND

STRENGTHENING THE POWERS OF THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (NTC) AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7925 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF THE PHILIPPINES"

By Representative Santos-Recto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 1947, entitled:

"AN ACT INCREASING PENSIONS UNDER THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM AND RATIONALIZING THE POWERS, DUTIES AND ACCOUNTABILITIES OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY COMMISSION, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLICACT NO. 1161, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'SOCIAL SECURITY LAW'"

By Representative Santos-Recto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 1948, entitled:

"AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING A CONDITIONAL CASH TRANSFER PROGRAM, PROVIDING FOR THE AUTOMATIC INDEXATION OF CASH GRANTS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Santos-Recto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON POVERTY ALLEVIATION

House Bill No. 1949, entitled:

"AN ACT CONDONING UNPAID AMORTIZATIONS OF LANDS AWARDED TO COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM BENEFICIARIES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Santos-Recto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRARIAN REFORM

House Bill No. 1950, entitled:

"ANACTINSTITUTING INCOME TAX REFORM FOR INDIVIDUAL AND CORPORATE TAXPAYERS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTIONS 24(A)(2), 27(A) AND 35(A) OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Santos-Recto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 1951, entitled:

"AN ACT REQUIRING INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS TO DELIVER A MINIMUM STANDARD FOR INTERNET CONNECTION SPEED"

By Representative Santos-Recto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 1952, entitled:

"AN ACT EXTENDING THE VALIDITY PERIOD OF A DRIVER'S LICENSE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 23 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4136, AS AMENDED BY BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 398, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'LAND TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC CODE'"

By Representative Santos-Recto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 1953, entitled:

"AN ACT EXTENDING THE VALIDITY PERIOD OF THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT, AMENDINGFORTHE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996'"

By Representative Santos-Recto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 1954, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FREE WI-FI INTERNET ACCESS IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS, TRANSPORT TERMINALS AND PARKS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Santos-Recto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 1955, entitled:

"AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF RIZAL MEDICAL CENTER IN PASIG CITY FROM THREE HUNDRED (300) TO FIVE HUNDRED (500) BEDS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Eusebio

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 1956, entitled:

"AN ACT GRANTING NON-WAGE BENEFITS TO PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS IN THE FORM OF FREE TERTIARY EDUCATION IN ANY STATE COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY FOR ONE (1) DEPENDENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Tambunting

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 1957, entitled:

"ANACTPROVIDING FREE PUBLIC WIRELESS ACCESS IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS, TERMINALS, PARKS AND PLAZAS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY"

By Representative Tambunting

TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 1958, entitled:

"AN ACT CHANGING THE TERM OF OFFICE OFALLELECTIVE BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND MEMBERS OF THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN FROM THREE (3) YEARS TO FIVE (5) YEARS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 43 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991"

By Representative Tambunting

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 1959, entitled:

"ANACTESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE SMALL RUMINANTS CENTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Suansing (E.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 1960, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CENTRAL LUZON TRAUMA CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ZARAGOZA, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA UNDER THE FULLADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL SUPERVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Suansing (E.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 1961, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN AQUATIC RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTAL BREEDING STATION FOR LAKE, RIVER AND OTHER INLAND FISHES IN THE FIRST DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Suansing (E.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 1962, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING MULTIPURPOSE FISH BREEDING STATIONS AND SHRIMP HATCHERIES IN ALL SUITABLE AREAS IN THE FIRST DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE"

By Representative Suansing (E.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 1963, entitled:

"AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE ONION RESEARCH INSTITUTE"

By Representative Suansing (E.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 1964, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A FREE CANCER PREVENTION, SCREENING AND EARLY DETECTION PROGRAM FOR WORKING CLASS FILIPINOS IN ALL GOVERNMENT HEALTH FACILITIES NATIONWIDE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Suansing (E.) TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 1965, entitled:

"AN ACT TO INCREASE SHORT TERM GRAIN AVAILABILITY, MINIMIZE VULNERABILITY TO EXTERNAL PRICE AND SUPPLY SHOCKS AND ACHIEVE IMMEDIATE RICE SECURITY, MANDATING FOR THAT PURPOSE THE CREATION OF A FERTILIZER SUPPORT MECHANISMANDTHERESTRUCTURING ANDREORIENTATION OF THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Suansing (E.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 1966, entitled:

"AN ACT REQUIRING RETAIL STORES THAT PROVIDE PLASTIC BAGS TO CONSUMERS TO IMPLEMENT A PLASTIC

- BAG COLLECTION AND RECYCLING PROGRAM"
- By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H.)
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 1967, entitled:

- "AN ACT EXTENDING THE VALIDITY OF THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996"
- By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H.)
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 1968, entitled:

- "AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FREE BASIC MEDICINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN ALL GOVERNMENT HEALTH FACILITIES NATIONWIDE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"
- By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H.)
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 1969, entitled:

- "AN ACT ESTABLISHING SPECIAL EDUCATION (SPED) CENTERS FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS IN ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS DIVISION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"
- By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H.)
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 1970, entitled:

- "AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE NATIONAL SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM FOR PUBLIC KINDERGARTEN AND ELEMENTARY PUPILS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"
- By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H.)
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 1971, entitled:

- "AN ACT INSTITUTING THE MAGNA CARTA FOR DAY CARE WORKERS"
- By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H)
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

House Bill No. 1972, entitled:

- "ANACTINSTITUTIONALIZING ANATIONAL EMPLOYMENT FACILITATION SERVICE NETWORK FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITY (PWD) THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PERSONS WITH DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT FACILITATION OFFICE IN EVERY PROVINCE, KEY CITY AND OTHER STRATEGIC AREAS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY"
- By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H.)
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES

House Bill No. 1973, entitled:

- "AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE PHILIPPINE COMPREHENSIVE POLICY ON HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) AND ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) PREVENTION, TREATMENT, CARE AND SUPPORT, AND ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL HIV AND AIDS PLAN, REPEALINGFORTHE PURPOSERE PUBLIC ACT NO. 8504, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'PHILIPPINE AIDS PREVENTION AND CONTROL ACT OF 1998,' AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"
- By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H.)
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 1974, entitled:

- "AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE ANIMAL INDUSTRY AND VETERINARY SERVICES IN THE PHILIPPINES, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE NATIONAL LIVESTOCK AND VETERINARY SERVICES AUTHORITY"
- By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H.)
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATIONANDTHE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 1975, entitled:

"AN ACT EXPEDITING UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARETHROUGHTHENATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM AND IMPROVING THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION'S (PHILHEALTH) BENEFIT PACKAGES, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Santos-Recto TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 1976, entitled:

- "AN ACT INSTITUTING THE FARMERS AND FISHERFOLK ASSISTANCE ACT"
- By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H.)
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD AND THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 1977, entitled:

- "AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 3, 5, AND 7 OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER 7900, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE HIGH VALUE CROPS DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1995 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"
- By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H.)
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 1978, entitled:

- "AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN AND REORIENT THE MANDATE OF THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY (NFA) IN ORDER TO ENSURE FOOD SUFFICIENCY, FOR THIS PURPOSE RATIONALIZING ITS FUNCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"
- By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H.)
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 1979, entitled:

- "AN ACT PROHIBITING THE SLAUGHTER OF CARABAOS AT CERTAIN AGES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8485, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'THE ANIMAL WELFARE ACT OF 1998'"
- By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H.)
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 1980, entitled:

"AN ACT IMPOSING PENALTIES ON PERSON OR PERSONS GUILTY OF FENCING PROPERTIES OWNED BY THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT SUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, RAILINGS, MANHOLE COVERS, SIGNAGE, SIGN POSTS, AND SLABS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 3 AND 6 OF PRESIDENTIAL

- DECREE NO. 1612, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-FENCING LAW OF 1972"
- By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H.)
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 1981, entitled:

- "AN ACT CREATING A MANDATORY POSITION FOR A HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OFFICER IN EACH MUNICIPALITY, CITY AND PROVINCE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 443, 454 AND 463 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991"
- By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H.)
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 1982, entitled:

- "AN ACT SECURING THE PHILIPPINES'
 BORDERS TO MAKE MORE EFFECTIVE
 THE PROHIBITION AGAINST THE
 ENTRY OF ILLEGAL DRUGS INTO THE
 COUNTRY"
- By Representatives Suansing (H.) and Suansing (E.)
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON DANGEROUS DRUGS

House Bill No. 1983, entitled:

- "AN ACT TO EXPEDITE THE PROCESS OF REPATRIATION OF FILIPINO MIGRANT WORKERS"
- By Representatives Suansing (H.) and Suansing (E.)
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 1984, entitled:

- "AN ACT INCREASING THE QUARTERS ALLOWANCE OF COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS OF THE PHILIPINE NATIONAL POLICE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"
- By Representative Suansing (H.)
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

House Bill No. 1985, entitled:

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE PROVINCIAL ROAD TRAVERSING THE BARANGAYS QUIBAL AND NANGUILATTAN ALL IN PEÑABLANCA, CAGAYAN GOING TO SAN JOSE, BAGGAO, CAGAYAN INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Ting

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 1986, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A BRIDGE ACROSS THE CAGAYAN RIVER BETWEEN BARANGAY CENTRO, SOLANA, CAGAYAN TO BARANGAY BAGAY, TUGUEGARAO CITY, CAGAYAN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Ting

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 1987, entitled:

"AN ACT LOWERING THE MANDATORY RETIREMENT AGE OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTIONS 13(b) AND 13-A OF R.A. 8291, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE ACT OF 1997"

By Representative Ting

TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 1988, entitled:

"AN ACT CREATING THE CAGAYAN RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, PRESCRIBING ITS POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Ting

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 1989, entitled:

"AN ACT MANDATING THE INSURANCE OF ALL GOVERNMENT PROPERTIES WITH THE GOVERNMENT INSURANCE FUND, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 656, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PROPERTY INSURANCE LAW'"

By Representative Ting

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 1990, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PEÑABLANCA

PROTECTED LANDSCAPE AND SEASCAPE LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PEÑABLANCA, PROVINCE OF CAGAYAN, AS A PROTECTEDAREAANDITS PERIPHERAL AREAS AS BUFFER ZONE"

By Representative Ting

TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 111, entitled:

"RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING THE BALON DAGUPAN CHILDREN'S CHOIR (BDCC) FOR WINNING THE TOP PRIZE OF THE MALAYSIAN INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S CHORAL FESTIVAL 2016 IN SELANGOR, MALAYSIA"

By Representative De Venecia TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 112, entitled:

"ARESOLUTION CONGRATULATING IGLESIA NI CRISTO ON THEIR ONE HUNDRED TWO (102) ANNIVERSARY ON JULY 27, 2016"

By Representative De Vera
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 113, entitled:

"RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE, VICE PRESIDENT MARIA LEONOR GERONA ROBREDO, AND THE NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SEVENTEENTH (17TH) CONGRESS FOR THEIR VICTORY IN THE 9 MAY 2016 NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTIONS"

By Representative Calixto-Rubiano TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 114, entitled:

"RESOLUTION URGING THE UNION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES OF THE PHILIPPINES (ULAP) TO INCLUDE IN THEIR FEDERATION THE ORGANIZATION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' MANDATORY REPRESENTATIVES (IPMR) FOR AN EFFECTIVE AND RESPONSIVE FORMULATION OF NATIONAL LAWS AND POLICIES"

By Representative Panganiban

TO THE COMMITTEE ON INDIGENOUS CULTURAL COMMUNITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

House Resolution No. 115, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP) FOR ITS SUCCESSFUL AND PEACEFUL PREPARATION AND OPERATION AT THE FIRST STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS (SONA) OF PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE HELD LAST JULY 25, 2016"

By Representative Bernos

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

House Resolution No. 116, entitled:

"RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE VIOLENT DEMOLITION OF HOUSES OF AROUND 300 FAMILIES RESIDING IN BRGY. 8, CALOOCAN CITY WHICH RESULTED TO ALLEGED CASES OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS COMMITTED BY THE CALOOCAN CITY POLICE AND PRIVATE CLAIMANT MR. ERNESTO BAELLO"

By Representatives Brosas and De Jesus TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 117, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED) TO JOINTLY STUDY, RESEARCH AND CONSIDER THE REVISION OF THE CURRENT COLLEGE CURRICULA BY REDUCING THE RESIDENCY OF STUDENTS FROM 5 YEARS TO FOUR YEARS FOR FIVE-YEAR DEGREE COURSES AND FROM FOUR YEARS TO THREE YEARS FOR FOUR-YEAR DEGREE COURSES AND SUBMIT THE RESULT OF SUCH STUDY SOONEST POSSIBLE TO THE CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES FOR THE PASSAGE OF AN APPROPRIATE LEGISLATIVE ACTION"

By Representatives Suansing (E.) and Suansing (H.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 118, entitled:

"RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE HOUSE COMMITTEE

TO CONDUCT A FULL REVIEW OF THE EXPANDED ANTI-TRAFFICKING OF PERSONS ACT OF 2012 OR REPUBLIC ACT 10364, AND THE PERFORMANCE OF THE INTER-AGENCY COUNCIL AGAINST TRAFFICKING (IACAT), IN LIGHT OF THE MARY JANE VELOSO CASE AND OTHER SIMILAR CASES INVOLVING HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND ILLEGAL DRUGS"

By Representatives Suansing (H.) and Suansing (E.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 119, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION TO RESOLVE THE SERIOUS NATIONWIDE TRAFFIC PROBLEMS BY URGENTLY GRANTING THE POWER OF TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL OF NATIONAL ROADS IN THE PROVINCES TO THE OFFICE OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS"

By Representative Abu

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Resolution of Both Houses No. 7, entitled:

"RESOLUTION OF BOTH HOUSES CALLING A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION TO PROPOSE AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION"

By Representative Fortuno

TO THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

House Concurrent Resolution No. 4, entitled:

"RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE SENATE
AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TO CONSTITUTE THEMSELVES INTO
A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY TO
PROPOSE A REVISION OF THE 1987
CONSTITUTION"

By Representative Macapagal-Arroyo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

House Concurrent Resolution No. 5, entitled:

"CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CALLING CONGRESS TO CONVENE AS A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY FOR ONE (1) MONTH SOLELY TO PROPOSE SPECIFIC AMENDMENTS TO THE 1987 PHILIPPINE CONSTITUTION PARTICULARLY ARTICLE XVII THEREOF"

By Representative Almario

TO THE COMMITTEE ON CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

House Concurrent Resolution No. 6, entitled:

"CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR FOR THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES"

By Representatives Fariñas and Suarez TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

Rep. Jose Antonio "Kuya Jonathan" R. Sy-Alvarado for House Bill No. 111;

Rep. Gwendolyn F. Garcia for House Bills No. 935 and 942;

Rep. Victor A. Yap for House Bills No. 268 and 353;

Rep. Teddy Brawner Baguilat Jr. for House Bill No. 116;

Rep. Sandra Y. Eriguel, M.D. for House Bill No. 210;

Rep. Lawrence H. Fortun for House Bills No. 58 and 142;

Rep. Melecio J. Yap Jr. for House Bill No. 1208 and House Resolution No. 20;

Rep. Rose Marie "Baby" J. Arenas for House Bill No. 20;

Reps. Emmi A. De Jesus and Antonio L. Tinio for House Bills No. 1041, 1042 and 1043 and House Resolutions No. 49 and 50;

Rep. Ariel B. Casilao for House Bills No. 1044, 1045, 1046, 1048, 1049, 1790, 1791 and 1792;

Rep. Jose Antonio "Kuya Jonathan" R. Sy-Alvarado for House Bills No. 1114 and 1130;

Rep. Aniceto "John" D. Bertiz III for House Bill Nos. 512 and 922;

Rep. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo for House Bill No. 20; and

Rep. Alexandria P. Gonzales for House Bills No. 3, 5, 20, 34, 41, 43, 44, 209, 440 and 487.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter dated February 26, 2016 transmitting a copy of the Management Letter on the Audit of the Quirino State University, Diffun, Quirino for the year ended 31 December 2015.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated March 15, 2016 of Ma. Corazon S. Gomez, Regional Director, Commission on Audit, Regional Office No. III, transmitting a copy of the Annual Audit Report on the Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology, Cabanatuan City for the year ended 31 December 2015.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letters dated March 31, April 7 and 12, 2016 of Atty. Susan P. Donalvo, Director IV, Regional Director, Commission on Audit, Regional Office No. XII, transmitting copies of the Annual Audit Reports on the following water districts:

Sultan Kudarat Water District, Tacurong City, Sultan Kudarat;

Surallah Water District, Surallah, South Cotabato; Lebak Water District, Lebak, Sultan Kudarat;

Kalamansig Water District, Kalamansig, Sultan Kudarat; and

Norala Water Distict, Norala, South Cotabato. TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated April 10, 2016 of Heidi L. Mendoza, Officerin-Charge, Commission on Audit, transmitting copies of the 2013 Annual Audit Reports on the following government agencies:

Department of Foreign Affairs;

Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board;

National Anti-Poverty Commission;

National Commission for Culture and the Arts;

National Commission on Indigenous Peoples;

National Commission on Muslim Filipinos;

National Telecommunications Commission;

Office of the Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process; Philippine Commission on Women; and

Philippine Sports Commission.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letters dated April 12, 13 and May 24, 2016 of Atty. Susan P. Donalvo, Director IV, Regional Director, Commission on Audit, Regional Office No. XII, transmitting copies of the Annual Audit Reports on the following water districts for the year ended 31 December 2015:

Mlang Water District, Mlang, Cotabato; Tulunan Water District, Tulunan, Cotabato; and Kabacan Water District, Kabacan, Cotabato. TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated April 27, 2016 of Michael G. Aguinaldo, Chairperson, Commission on Audit, Office of the Chairperson, transmitting a copy of the Report on Salaries and Allowances received by Principal Officers and Members of the Governing Boards of Government-Owned or Controlled Corporations and their Subsidiaries and by Secretaries, Undersecretaries, Assistant Secretaries and other officials of equivalent rank of National Government Agencies for Calendar Year 2015.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letters dated May 24, 2016 of Maria Gleda E. Lim, State Auditor V, Supervising Auditor, Commission on Audit, Regional Office No. VI, transmitting copies of the Annual Audit Reports on the following Water Districts:

Dumangas-Barotac Nuevo Water District, P.D, Monfort North, Dumangas, Iloilo for the years ended 31 December 2012 and 2013; and

Nueva Valencia Water District, Nueva Valencia, Guimaras for the years ended 31 December 2013 to 2015.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated May 25, 2016 of Ma. Corazon S. Gomez, Regional Director, Commission on Audit, Regional Office No. III, transmitting a copy of the Annual Audit Report on the Philippine Rice Research Institute for the year ended 31 December 2015.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letters dated May 27 and 30, 2016 of Ma. Corazon S. Gomez, Regional Director, Commission on Audit, Regional Office No. III, transmitting copies of the Annual Audit Reports on the following:

Aurora State College of Technology, Baler, Aurora; and

Aurora Pacific Economic Zone and Freeport Authority, Casiguran, Aurora Province TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated May 30, 2016 of Fernando V. Gonzalez, Chairman, Congressional Oversight Committee on the Special Purpose Vehicle Act, House of Representatives, transmitting a copy of the Terminal Report on the Special Purpose Vehicle Act (R.A. 9182), submitted by the Congressional Oversight Committee on the Special Purpose

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Letter dated June 1, 2016 of Michael G. Aguinaldo, Chairperson, Office of the Chairperson, Commission on Audit, transmitting copies of the 2015 Annual Audit Reports on the following government agencies:

Bureau of Communications Services;

Climate Change Commission;

Vehicle Act.

Governance Commission for GOCCs;

Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority;

National Commission for Culture and the Arts;

National Intelligence Coordinating Agency;

News and Information Bureau;

Philippine Commission on Women;

Philippine Racing Commission;

Presidential Legislative Liaison Office;

Presidential Management Staff; and

Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated June 1, 2016 of Michael G. Aguinaldo, Chairperson, Office of the Chairperson, Commission on Audit, transmitting copies of the 2015 Annual Audit Reports on the following government agencies: Department of Finance;

Government Procurement Policy Board-Technical Support Office;

House of Representatives;

House of Representatives Electoral Tribunal;

Insurance Commission;

Legislative-Executive Development Advisory Council;

Municipal Development Fund Office;

National Tax Research Center;

Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency;

Privatization and Management Office;

Public-Private Partnership Center of the Philippines;

Philippine Statistical Research and Training Institute;

Securities and Exchange Commission;

Senate Electoral Tribunal; and

Tariff Commission.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated June 6, 2016 of Rogelio L. Singson, Secretary, Office of the Secretary Department of Public Works and Highways, submitting their End Term Report, 2010-2016.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

Letter dated June 7, 2016 of Michael G. Aguinaldo, Chairperson, Office of the Chairperson, Commission on Audit, transmitting copies of the 2015 Annual Audit Reports on the results of audit of the accounts and operations of seventeen Government Owned or Controlled Corporations (GOCCs) in the National Capital Region:

Al-Amanah Islamic Investment Bank of the Philippines (AIIBP) (2014-2015);

BCDA Management and Holdings, Inc (BMHI) (2015);

Corregidor Foundation, Inc. (CFI) (2015);

DBP Management Corporation (DBPMC) (2014-2015);

Employees Compensation Commission (ECC) (2014-2015);

Food Terminal, Inc. (FTI) (2015);

Human Settlements Development Corporation (HSDC) (2015);

LBP Resources and Development Corporation (LRDC) (2014-2015);

Lung Center of the Philippines (LCP) (2015);

Manila Gas Corporation (MGC) (2015);

Millennium Challenge Account-Philippines (MCA-P) (2014-2015);

National Dairy Authority (NDA) (2015);

North Luzon Railways Corporation (NLRC) (2015);

Occupational Safety and Health Center (OSHC) (2014-2015);

Palacio del Gobernador Condominium Corporation (PDGCC) (2014-2015);

Philippine Children's Medical Center (PCMC) (2015); and

Philippine Institute of Traditional and Alternative Health Care (PITAHC) (2015).

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated June 8, 2016 of Anastacio R. Martirez, President, Pipol Broadband and Telecommunications Corporation, informing the House of Representatives of their acceptance of the franchise granted under Republic Act No. 10822

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

Letter dated June 9, 2016 of Maria Gleda E. Lim, State Auditor V, Supervising Auditor, Commission on Audit, Regional Office No. VI, transmitting a copy of the Annual Audit Report on the Tobias Fornier Water District, Tobias Fornier, Antique for the years ended 31 December 2012 to 2013.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated June 10, 2016 of Paquito N. Ochoa, Jr., Executive Secretary, Office of the President, Malacañang, transmitting two (2) original copies of Republic Act No. 10864 which was lapsed into law on 10 June 2016 pursuant to Art. VI, Sec. 27 (1) of the Constitution, entitled:

"AN ACT DEFINING RAW SUGAR OR RAW CANE SUGAR, AMENDING SECTION 109(A) AND (F) OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES" TO THE ARCHIVES

Letter dated June 14, 2016 of Roland A. Rey, Regional Director, Commission on Audit, Regional Office No. V, transmitting copies of the Annual Audit Reports on the following water districts in Region V:

Bato Water District, Bato, Catanduanes (CY 2015);

Viga Water District, Viga, Catanduanes (CY 2015).

Daraga Water District, Daraga, Albay (CY 2014); Masbate – Mobo Water District, Masbate City (CY 2014); and Camarines Norte Water District, Daet, Camarines Norte (CY 2013).

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated June 15, 2016 of Ma. Shiela A. Ramos, State Auditor IV, OIC-Supervising Auditor, Commission on Audit, Regional Office No. VI, transmitting copies of the Annual Audit Reports on the following state universities and colleges in Region VI for the year ended 31 December 2015: Capiz State University;

Northern Iloilo Polytechnic State College;

University of Antique; and

West Visayas State University and Medical Center

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated June 16, 2016 of Maria Gleda E. Lim, State Auditor V, Supervising Auditor, Commission on Audit, Regional Office No. VI, transmitting a copy of the Annual Audit Report on the Panay Railways, Incorporated, La Paz, Iloilo City for the year ended 31 December 2013.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated June 17, 2016 of Amando M. Tetangco, Jr., Governor, Office of the Governor, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, submitting to Congress the data on outstanding Philippine external debt as of 31 March 2016 which were noted by the Monetary Board on 16 June 2016.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

Letters dated June 22 and 23, 2016 of Maria Gleda E. Lim, State Auditor V, Supervising Auditor, Commission on Audit, Regional Office No. VI, transmitting the following:

Management Letter on the San Rafael Water District, San Rafael, Iloilo, for the years ended 31 December 2013 to 2014; and

Annual Audit Report on the Patnongon Water District, Patnongon, Antique, for the years ended 31 December 2010 to 2015.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated June 30, 2016 of Michael G. Aguinaldo, Chairperson, Commission on Audit, submitting the Consolidated Audit Report on the Official Development Assistance (ODA) Programs and Projects for the Calendar Year 2015, pursuant to Section 8 (b) of Republic Act No. 8182 dated 11 June 1996, as amended by Republic Act No. 8555. TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated July 4, 2016 of Ruben C. Geromo, State Auditor IV, Audit Team Leader, Audit Group NGS-State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), Commission on Audit, submitting a copy of the Annual Audit Report on the Catanduanes State University, Virac, Catanduanes for CY 2015.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated July 31, 2015 of Michael G. Aguinaldo, Chairperson, Office of the Chairperson, Commission on Audit, transmitting copies of the CY 2014 Annual Audit Reports on the following Government Owned and/or Controlled Corporations:

Al-Amanah Islamic Investment Bank of the Philippines;

APO Production Unit Inc.;

BCDA Management and Holdings, Inc.;

Cagayan Economic Zone Authority;

Central Bank Board of Liquidators;

Corregidor Foundation, Inc.;

Credit Information Corporation;

DBP Management Corporation;

DBP Data Center Inc.;

DBP Leasing Corporation;

Employees' Compensation Commission;

First Cavite Industrial Estate, Inc.;

Landbank Countryside Development Foundation, Inc.;

Light Rail Transit Authority;

Local Water Utilities Administration;

Millennium Challenge Account-Philippines;

National Electrification Administration;

National Home Mortgage Finance Corporation;

National Power Corporation;

National Transmission Corporation;

Northeastern Luzon Pacific Coastal Service, Inc.;

North Luzon Railways Corporation;

Occupational Safety and Health Center;

Philippine International Convention Center, Inc.;

Philippine National Oil Company (PNOC);

Philippine National Railways;

Philippine Ports Authority;

Philippine Postal Corporation;

PNOC Alternative Fuels Corporation;

PNOC Exploration Corporation;

PNOC Development Management Corporation;

PNOC Malampaya Production Corporation;

PNOC Renewables Corporation;

PNOC Shipping and Transport Corporation;

Small Business Corporation;

Social Housing Finance Corporation; and

Southern Utility Management and Services, Inc.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Annual Audit Reports on the following state universities/colleges in Region VI and water district/agency to wit: Aklan State University, Banga, Aklan-CY 2015; Iloilo Science and Technology University-CY 2015; Guimaras State College-CY 2015;

Iloilo State College of Fisheries-CY 2015;

Igbaras Water District, Igbaras, Iloilo-CY 2013-2015;

New Lucena Water District, New Lucena, Iloilo-CY 2012:

Miag-ao Water District, Miag-ao, Iloilo-CY 2008-2015;

Baguio Water District, Baguio City-CY 2015;

Ifugao Water District, Lagawe, Ifugao-CY 2015;

Banaue Water District, Banaue, Ifugao-CY 2015;

Metro Bangued Water District, Bangued, Abra-CY 2015;

Bucay Water District, Bucay, Abra-CY 2015;

Dolores Water District, Dolores, Abra-CY 2015;

Lagangilang Water District, Lagangilang, Abra-CY 2015;

San Juan Water District, San Juan, Abra-CY 2015:

La Trinidad Water District, La Trinidad, Benguet-CY 2015; and

John Hay Management Corporation, Baguio City-CY 2015.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F. H.). The distinguished Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

PRIVILEGE HOUR

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, having considered the Business for the Day, and with unanimous consent of the House, I move that we declare a Privilege Hour.

I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F. H.). Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The Chair declares a Privilege Hour.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, the first of our colleagues who wishes to avail of the Privilege Hour is the Gentleman from the First District of Samar. I move that we recognize the honorable Rep. Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento to speak on amending the Constitution through a constituent assembly.

I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F. H.). Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

Rep. Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento of the First District of Samar is hereby recognized.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. SARMIENTO (E.)

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Mr. Speaker, colleagues, ladies and gentlemen:

I rise to speak on the issue of the competency of the Members of the House of Representatives relevant to the amendment of the Constitution. This Representation, Mr. Speaker, is a neophyte Member of this Congress. Before our term started, we took an intensive executive course on legislation. Based on our discussions and exchange of ideas, I believe that we are a batch of Representatives who are committed to be effective legislators.

The Members of the House of Representatives, aside from dealing on matters which are national in scope, also have a constituency to take care of. This is an advantage that we bring to our legislative work for we witness firsthand how the different policies we debated on in this august hall would affect the many Filipinos in the farthest barangays in our district. Nakikita po natin kung ano pa ang mga pagkukulang ng ating gobyerno sa ating mga distrito o sa mga sektor na ating pinaglilingkuran at ito po ang isusulong nating matugunan dito sa Kongreso.

Mr. Speaker, with the issue that Congress is not competent enough, allow me to say these two important points: first, the Constitution is the fundamental law that must be understood by ordinary Filipinos; hence, we, Members of Congress, comprising of all sectors of society from entrepreneurs, academe, professionals, lawyers, doctors, engineers, student leaders, former uniformed men, are in a better position to bring different points of view in amending or revising the Constitution for our constituents to know better. Second, we are the people's Representatives. The proposals that we put on the table are not ours alone but the sentiments that we hear from our districts or the sectors that we represent. Mr. Speaker, I think we can assure the Filipino people that, if ever we convene as a constituent assembly, we have the competence, the integrity and the heart to rise up to the challenge, and we can further assure them that we will have their best interests in mind.

Added to this, the Speaker earnestly sought, in requesting the President of the Republic, to create a constitutional commission comprising of the most brilliant minds relative to the drafting or the revision of the Constitution. The following, Mr. Speaker, are comparative statistics when the 1987 Constitution was drafted and now that a Charter change is being proposed: in 1986, prior to the 1987 Constitution, it was People's Power, and the Constitution, for me, is anti-dictatorship; while this year, we have a very strong democracy. The population at that time, Mr. Speaker, was only 55,803,000 while the population, based on the census in August 2015, was 100,098,000. The GDP growth rate at that time was only 3.42 percent; for this year, it is 6.9 percent.

The new Constitution, if ever drafted, Mr. Speaker, will be still subject to ratification through a plebiscite, but it will be more responsive to the country's present conditions and thus, will ensure the country's competitiveness in a highly globalized economy and address our needs in the years and decades to come.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, ...

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker.

REP. BONDOC. ... I move for the recognition of the Gentleman from the Party-List BUHAY, the honorable Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr., who wishes to interpellate our esteemed colleague.

I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

REP. ATIENZA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I ask the kind ...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Congressman Atienza is recognized to interpellate Congressman Sarmiento (E.).

REP. ATIENZA. We seek the kind indulgence of the Gentleman from Samar to clarify certain matters on what he has brought to our attention this afternoon.

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Yes, certainly, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker, Congressman Sarmiento (E.) mentioned, with emphasis, that we were elected to be effective legislators, makers of law, to respond to the needs of our people in our different districts and provinces. Am I correct in my hearing of that particular issue?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Yes, Mr. Speaker, you are correct.

REP. ATIENZA. He mentioned that we are all qualified, considering that we had been chosen, elected by people from our districts, from our sectors, to represent them in this Body—to make laws. Am I correct, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). That is right, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Am I correct, Mr. Speaker, on what I heard?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). That is right, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. I would like to ask the Gentleman therefore if he committed himself during the campaign that he would want to change the Constitution while we are making laws in the Seventeenth Congress?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Mr. Speaker, when I ran for a seat in Congress, I had my platform on governance one of which is to explain to my constituents that whatever is good for them, I will do in the House of Congress.

REP. ATIENZA. My question, Mr. Speaker, is very clear, very simple. Did we promise, as part of our campaign, that we will change the Constitution if we were sent to this particular Congress as we would want now to do? Was it even discussed during the campaign—were you asked and did you consent? Did you assure your constituents that yes, indeed, we will tinker with the Constitution as Members of the Seventeenth Congress?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). It was never mentioned to my constituents, Mr. Speaker, but based on the rules and the Constitution, we can do so.

REP. ATIENZA. So, I am just trying to stress the point that, as far as legislative responsibilities are concerned, no question, we were all elected to make laws but not to change the Constitution. I do not think any one of us in this Chamber promised our constituents that if elected, we will change the Constitution. Unless the Gentleman from Samar promised that very clearly, in his district, then I will accept his logic that we should now be involved in changing the Constitution while disrupting our legislative responsibilities.

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Again, Mr. Speaker, on the brilliant mind of the BUHAY Party-List Representative, true enough, I never mentioned amending the Constitution, but it is also our mandate, if ever, to change it.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker, it does not take one to be brilliant to remind oneself that when we ran, we did not touch on constitutional issues but rather on very basic issues affecting our people in the different districts of the Philippines. We promised action on their needs and the issues involved in the communities but definitely, not constitutional issues because those were not part of our efforts to communicate our competency. So, I would like to ask the Gentleman therefore now that he said, we are competent to tinker with the Constitution. Does he realize that if we convert ourselves into a constituent assembly, we will have to

work double time or maybe, triple time or maybe spend eight to 10 hours a day working on the constitutional changes meant to be discussed. Would he be ready to do that? Not work three days a week, not work two to three hours a day but rather spend eight to 10 hours a day, six days a week. Would he be willing to do that?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Mr. Speaker, I will do everything to make sure that whatever amendments will be there in our Constitution will be beneficial to the Filipino people and I am willing to work doubly hard just to attain them.

REP. ATIENZA. Maraming salamat po sa kaniyang assurance that he would be willing to work double time. As I said, opening the Constitution for revision of the different provisions will require not just double time, but probably the whole time of our three years will be spent on discussions and debates, studies and reviews on the different provisions, especially on the main changes that the administration would like to do, like the form of government. Would the Gentleman accept the fact that the major issue, federalization, is not known to many of us yet? Unless he is assuring me that he knows enough and he would be ready to debate on it now.

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). True enough, Mr. Speaker, the model of federalism is not yet known. However, to address this, we have committees that we are looking at so that some Members of the House who are working in other committees can also address other pertinent issues in the House while we are working on the amendment of our Constitution.

REP. ATIENZA. Salamat po, Mr. Speaker. Idinidiin ko lamang sa ating kagalang-galang na Kinatawan ng Samar na napakaraming mga bagay ang pag-uusapan tungkol sa pagbabago ng sistema ng gobyerno na hindi po tayo handa.

I am not prepared, I must admit, I will probably have to study more. I do not think our colleagues are prepared to discuss the issues of federalization today, tomorrow, next month and maybe, not even next year as we have to review, study and internalize the full impact of every sentence, every period, every comma that will go into the new Constitution if we accept the challenge of changing our character of a regular Congress to one of a constituent assembly. Mahirap na trabaho po iyan.

Kaya hindi po ganoong kasimple na sasabihin na tayo ay magpapalit, magbabago, gagawin nating constitutional assembly ito, itong ating Kongreso na binubuo ng mga Congressmen na tumayo doon sa kanikanilang mga distrito noong kampanya at humingi ng tiwala upang tumugon sa mga pangangailangan nila at hindi upang gugulin ang ating tatlong taon sa pagbabago ng ating Saligang Batas.

The Gentleman from Samar should be made aware that changing the Constitution is the most important and probably the greatest of all responsibilities of a deliberative Body. Kaya sa palagay ko po ay hindi mapapalitan iyong kakayahan ng isang constitutional convention composed of delegates for the purpose of sitting, studying and bringing to that convention all their academic knowledge, the wisdom that has shaped their character and their competence to discuss the possible changes in our Constitution. Hindi po natin puwedeng akuin ang responsibilidad na iyan, gaano man ang ating katalinuhan, ang ating kasipagan sapagkat iba-iba po ang kakayahan ng bawat Pilipino. You may be a lawyer but you may not probably debate with a constitutionalist on the issues of the Constitution. Mahirap hong gawin iyan. Kung gagawa naman tayo ng Saligang Batas ay dapat tiyakin natin na ito ay makakabuti at hindi makakasama. Ito ay dapat himayin sa lahat ng bahagi, na hindi pwedeng aprubahan katulad ng ating ginagawa ngayon sa mga panukalang batas sa loob ng Kongreso.

So, he may answer this if he wants to, but he can defer it if he may so desire.

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). That is why...

REP. ATIENZA. I would like to ask him one simple question: Does he have enough knowledge on the issue of federalization? What are the benefits that the people in the provinces and regions will derive if this is accomplished by this so-called "constituent assembly"? He may want to answer or he may want to defer, I will accept it as such.

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Mr. Speaker, much as I want to answer, we are still finalizing what model of federalism we are looking at. So, I would like to first defer answering the question posed by the brilliant mind of Representative Atienza.

REP. ATIENZA. The Gentleman is not prepared to answer the question. Should I understand it in that manner?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). That is right, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Therefore, you and I are on the same plane. Pareho po tayong kulang sa kaalaman tungkol sa napakahalagang isyu ng pagbabago ng ating sistema ng gobyerno. Palagay ko naman, karamihan sa ating mga Miyembro dito ay ganoon din ang damdamin, na aaminin natin na hindi pa tayo handa para tayo ay isabak sa trabahong iyan.

So, ako po ay nagagalak na si Congressman Sarmiento (E.) ay tumayo ngayon upang buksan itong paksang ito, ang isyung naglalagalab ngayon, na tayo ay maaaring atasan at bigyan ng kapangyarihang baguhin

ang Saligang Batas. This may be the beginning of a continuing debate on the issue as we are committed to always clarify matters with whoever will propose that we convert ourselves into a constituent assembly, believing that it is not a simple as that. Good intentions may lead to perdition. The best of intentions sometimes cause the destruction of a nation.

So, we have to be very, very prudent. I would like to address my colleague while I congratulate him for his efforts to open up the discussion on a constitutional convention as against a constituent assembly. I am sure he will admit that he is not yet ready to debate on it as I am also not prepared to fully debate on the issue. There will come a time when we will debate; we have to debate on this matter when it is officially taken up in our agenda.

Again, my congratulations to the Gentleman for his efforts to highlight the competence of the Members of this Body. I agree with him that the competence is on legislative work and not as constitutional delegates to a constitutional convention.

Maraming salamat po sa pagkakataong ibinigay ninyo sa akin na liwanagin ang isyung iyon para po naman sa kaalaman ng lahat. Salamat po, Mr. Speaker. Salamat, Honorable Sarmiento (E.).

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. TUGNA. Mr. Speaker, before we proceed with another interpellator, may we acknowledge the presence of some guests.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Please proceed.

REP. TUGNA. May we acknowledge the presence of the guests of the Hon. Josephine Ramirez-Sato of Occidental Mindoro, the Barangay Captains, namely: Rommel Mendoza, Reden T. Perez, Gerry V. Chavez, Nathaniel Bouaquin, Rogelio Francisco, Freddie Aglipay and Diodesto Sumande.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Please rise. (Applause) Welcome to the House of Representatives.

REP. TUGNA. May we also acknowledge the presence of the guests of Congresswomen Emmi A. De Jesus and Arlene D. Brosas of GABRIELA Women's Party-List, namely, the Divorce Advocates of the Philippines, and the Association for Divorce and Women Empowerment.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Please rise. *(Applause)* Welcome to the House of Representatives.

REP. TUGNA. Mr. Speaker, may we recognize the Hon. Vicente "Ching" S.E. Veloso of the Third District of Leyte for his interpellation.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; Congressman Veloso is recognized for his interpellation.

REP. VELOSO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Will the Gentleman from Samar yield to a few questions, Mr. Speaker.

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Yes, I will, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Please proceed.

REP. VELOSO. Mr. Speaker, did the Gentleman from Samar know, when he ran for Congress, that the matter of constitutional revision will be deliberated upon by this Body?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). No, Mr. Speaker.

REP. VELOSO. In short, Mr. Speaker, it is proper for him to now argue for deliberations on or for a revision of the Constitution via a constituent assembly, Mr. Speaker.

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). That is right, Mr. Speaker.

REP. VELOSO. Also, Mr. Speaker, did the Gentleman from Samar, before he delivered his speech, did he take a look at his colleagues in this Body? Did he find out if there is anybody in this Body that is not qualified to propose the revision of the Constitution via a constituent assembly?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). No, I did not, Mr. Speaker.

REP. VELOSO. Well, anyway, I did take a look, Mr. Speaker, at our colleagues here and foremost of all is the Gentleman from BUHAY Party-List. I see him as a legislator, capable not only of passing laws to implement provisions of the Constitution, but capable also of proposing revisions to our existing Constitution. Does the Gentleman from Samar agree with this Representation from Leyte, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Yes, Mr. Speaker, I do agree.

REP. VELOSO. In terms of qualification, Mr. Speaker, again, I do not see anybody here who does not qualify to become a part of any constituent assembly that will be approved by this Body, as well as by the Senate.

Let me proceed to another point, Mr. Speaker. One of the objections to a constituent assembly is that this House has a lot of Members that can be labeled as belonging to dynasties; but opposite to that, Mr. Speaker, is the fact that if we will resort to a constitutional convention, there are more dangers that will come our way. An example, Mr. Speaker, is Samar. Considering that mining is already being opposed by the administration, is it possible, may I ask the Gentleman from Samar, that the affected mining company in Samar will opt to let a candidate run in a particular district, spend for the election of that candidate in order that the proxy of that mining company will be elected as a delegate to the constitutional convention, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). It is a high probability, Mr. Speaker.

REP. VELOSO. Between a member of a dynasty and a member of big business, who, Mr. Speaker, does the Gentleman think is more dangerous in terms of selecting delegates to craft the revision of the Constitution, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). In all honesty, Mr. Speaker, I believe that in Samar Province, I know already the different political parties there and the different families who are into politics, and the risk of someone being nominated by an investor to run as a con-con delegate is bigger than that of a family that is into politics right now.

REP. VELOSO. Does the Gentleman from Samar know that big business is already involved in the running of this government, Mr. Speaker, nowadays?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Of course, Mr. Speaker.

REP. VELOSO. There are a lot of big businesses that are into real estate development; there are big businesses that control telecommunications; there are big businesses that are almost in all fields, including power, Mr. Speaker. Is the Gentleman from Samar aware of that?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Of course, Mr. Speaker, I am aware of it.

REP. VELOSO. It has been published in the media

that the election of constitutional convention delegates alone would already cost the government P7 billion. Is the Gentleman from Samar aware of that?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). I am aware of it, Mr. Speaker. That is only the cost of election, which is roughly P6 to P7 billion, and it does not yet include the staff of the delegates if ever the con-con will push through, Mr. Speaker.

REP. VELOSO. Of course, those who are arguing for constitutional convention are saying, "What is P7 billion? It is peanuts compared to what we will get from the revision of the Constitution." Is the Gentleman from Samar aware of that argument, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). I am very much aware of it, Mr. Speaker, that is why the Speaker of the House right now, Speaker Alvarez, again, is earnestly seeking and requesting the President of the Republic to create a constitutional commission comprised of the most brilliant minds for the revision of the Constitution, to guide the Members of this august Body, Mr. Speaker.

REP. VELOSO. Let me inform the Gentleman from Samar, Mr. Speaker, that there are a lot of constitutionally guaranteed rights in the Constitution that my constituents in the Third District of Leyte are being deprived of. Let me cite, for example, Section 11, Article XIII of the Constitution which guarantees paupers free medical services. Who is a pauper? Section 19 of Rule 141 of the Rules of Court says that the minimum wage of that particular area times two is the benchmark of who a pauper is. In the Third District of Leyte, P15,000 is the benchmark. Those receiving less than P15,000 per month are entitled to free medical services but in our place in the Third District of Leyte, the poorest district, Mr. Speaker, in Region VIII—and by the way, Region VIII is the poorest region in the Philippines—does not even have a functional district hospital. So P7 billion is too big to satisfy the needs of my constituents there. Does the Gentleman from Samar know that, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). That is precisely the reason, Mr. Speaker, the honorable Gentleman from Leyte, why we are trying to propose a revision of the Constitution towards federalism, to address the needs of the different districts, the different provinces. Hopefully, the time will come when each province of the country will have the same opportunity as the highly urbanized centers in the country, Mr. Speaker.

REP. VELOSO. Mr. Speaker, Section 2, Article XIV of the Constitution provides that the government shall provide free elementary and high school education

to our children. Does the Gentleman from Samar know that, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Yes, I am aware of it, Mr. Speaker.

REP. VELOSO. Also, Mr. Speaker, paragraph 3, Section 2 of Article XIV says that college students are supposed to be given not only free tuition fees but they are supposed to be given subsidies for their educational needs, Mr. Speaker. This provision in the Constitution has never been implemented by this government. Yet this government would be throwing away P7 billion just for election of delegates to a constitutional convention, Mr. Speaker. Is the Representative from Samar aware of that, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). I am very much aware of it, Mr. Speaker. That is the reason we have to save all our resources, because we know for a fact that the students are the future leaders of this land. It is but proper for us to give the best to them, the investment we could give for the good of the students, for the good and future of our country, Mr. Speaker.

REP. VELOSO. Mr. Speaker, like Samar, my district, the Third District of Leyte, is a victim of typhoon Yolanda. Trees were uprooted. We do not even see any material there that can be used as a coffin. A lot of children die every month, Mr. Speaker. Magkasakit lang ang bata, nagkaroon ng sipon, hindi nagamot, nagkaroon na ng plema, naging pneumonia, mamamatay iyong bata. Pagkatapos, mag-iisip na ang nanay at saka ang tatay, paano natin siya ililibing? Gagawa sila ng—we call it "longon," e wala nang kahoy doon. So, ang ginagawa nila, babalutin na lang ito ng banig. Kung medyo bago pa iyong banig, maghahanap sila ng karton, ibabalot sa patay na bata, ililibing. Grabe ang nangyari sa amin.

Compared to the P7 billion that we would be wasting for an election for a constitutional convention, Mr. Speaker, I find it just crazy. Pardon my use of the term "crazy," Mr. Speaker. Is the Gentleman from Samar experiencing what we are experiencing in the Third District of Leyte?

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). I am aware, Mr. Speaker. I likewise experience such scenarios that really hurt me so much to a point that, if only I can, I have to do something for the good of my province.

That is why, Mr. Speaker, in my dreams, I have to ask and wonder why. What is going on in our country? How come there is an uneven distribution of wealth? Those who are in highly urbanized centers are far better off than those of us in the provinces. As reality dictates, Mr. Speaker, which I often tell my friends, sad to say, we are divided into 7,100 islands. Maybe, when the

Lord created the earth, he fell asleep and that is why we are divided into 7,100 islands. That is precisely the reason we have to do something now. We have to do something for the good—to balance the wealth of the country among the provinces and give us the opportunity to manage our resources, Mr. Speaker, for the good of our constituents, so that we can equal those who are in the highly urbanized centers, Mr. Speaker.

REP. VELOSO. Mr. Speaker, further to what I earlier mentioned, in the Third District of Leyte we do not have functional district hospitals.

What we have are only rural health units. We are 120 kilometers away from Tacloban where the Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center is situated and because of that, if there is anybody who would get sick in our district, the most that could be done is, they would go to Ormoc, to a private hospital there in order that they could have medical attention. Again, Mr. Speaker, we need a functional hospital in the Third District of Leyte.

Let me go to another point, Mr. Speaker. In my campaign, I came across a lot of senior citizens, maaawa ka pag tiningnan mo, and there I came to know na ang pinakamahirap pala sa mundong ito ay ang ikaw ay tumanda na wala kang pera, lalo na kung walang trabaho ang mga anak mo, walang trabaho ang asawa mo. What does the government do about its senior citizens? In the Third District of Leyte, it is only in San Isidro, Leyte that the DSWD is giving a P500 monthly pension to senior citizens on the condition na dapat 77 years old na sila. This is a travesty of the law because at 60, I was already considered a senior citizen and I was given a senior citizen's card. So, I do not have to wait for 17 more years in order that I can receive a pension, kahit na P 500 lang iyon.

The problem really in my district is that ang daming mahihirap na matatanda na nag-aantay ng tulong mula sa gobyerno and here, again, we have a government which would be ready, as argued by those who are opting for a constitutional convention. Bayaan mo iyong seven billion na iyan, maliit lang iyan. Sana matikman nila ang natitikman ng mga constituents ko sa Third District of Leyte.

Mr. Speaker, one last point. I, too, did not expect that I will be confronted with this issue of constitutional revision during my term as an elected Congressman of the Third District of Leyte. I am opting for federalism for two principal considerations, Mr. Speaker:

Number one, I am already 70 years old but I have not yet seen anybody from Samar or Leyte being elected to the Senate. Why? It is because population is overconcentrated in Metro Manila and so, representation has been tilted in favor of Metro Manila. If I will be given the opportunity to participate in a constituent assembly, I will really work for equal representation of all the states that will be created out of this federalism that we will have.

Number two, Mr. Speaker, yesterday, there was a

problem on how poor states or poor provinces could be assisted by rich provinces like Cebu and so, the proposition, Mr. Speaker, was that Leyte and Samar will be grouped together with Cebu in order that, in the meantime, we will have Cebu subsidize the needs of Leyte and Samar. I gave a proposal yesterday, which I am reiterating to the Gentleman from Samar. If there will be 10 states, for example, all that we have to do is add up all their income and divide the total by 10. The average will be the benchmark in the matter of what a particular state can now appropriate and spend from its income. For example, if the NCR already has obtained P300 billion, it can already appropriate P300 billion and spend that, and the rest should be given to the federal government for distribution to the poorer states. That is my principal consideration on the matter of distribution of wealth.

Anyway, Mr. Speaker, I do not like to belabor my colleagues here. I would just like to state on record that: number one, all of us here are qualified to become members of the constituent assembly. We have been elected by the people. We have been selected to serve them in whatever capacity via legislation and implementation of the Constitution or revision of the Constitution. Number two, Mr. Speaker, those who will be elected to the constitutional convention are untested yet. Well, sad to say, there are a lot of things that I abhor in the present Constitution that we have, but that is water under the bridge. I just hope, Mr. Speaker, that the mistakes committed by the constitutional commission will not be repeated by the delegates of the constitutional convention whose picture, whose image we still have to figure out after the election of delegates to the constitutional convention.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. TUGNA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we refer the privilege speech of the Honorable Sarmiento (E.) and the interpellations thereon to the Committee on Rules.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any objection? (Silence) The Chair hears none; the privilege speech of the Gentleman from the First District of Samar, including the interpellations thereon, is referred to the Committee on Rules.

REP. TUGNA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the Privilege Hour.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any objection? (Silence) The Chair hears none; the motion is suspended—the session is suspended.

REP. TUGNA. Mr. Speaker, we suspend the Privilege Hour.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The Privilege Hour, as moved by the Dep. Majority Leader, is suspended.

ROLL CALL

REP. TUGNA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we call the roll.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The Secretary General will please call the roll.

The Secretary General called the roll, and the result is as follows, per Journal No. 3, dated July 27, 2016:

PRESENT:

Barbers Abaya Bataoil Abayon Bautista-Bandigan Abellanosa Abu Belaro Belmonte (F.) Abueg Acharon Belmonte (J.) Belmonte (R.) Acop Acosta **Benitez** Bernos Acosta-Alba Bertiz Adiong Advincula Biazon Aggabao Billones Alcala Biron Alejano **Bolilia** Bondoc Almario Bordado Almonte Bravo (A.) Alonte-Naguiat Bravo (M.) Alvarez (F.) Alvarez (M.) **Brosas Bulut-Begtang** Alvarez (P.) Calderon Amante Calixto-Rubiano Amatong Caminero Angara-Castillo Campos Antonio Canama Aragones Casilao Arbison Castelo Arcillas Arenas Castro (F.L.) Castro (F.H.) Atienza Catamco Aumentado Cayetano Austria-Barzaga Celeste **Bagatsing**

Cerilles

Banal

Chavez Gonzalez Chipeco Gorriceta Co Gullas Cojuangco Hernandez Herrera-Dy Cortes Cortuna Hofer Cosalan **Jalosjos** Crisologo Javier Cuaresma Kho Cueva Khonghun Labadlabad Dalipe Dalog Lacson De Jesus Lagman De Venecia Lanete De Vera Laogan Lazatin Defensor

Del Rosario Limkaichong
Deloso-Montalla Lobregat
Dimaporo (A.) Lopez (B.)
Dimaporo (M.) Lopez (C.)
Durano Lopez (M.)
Dy Loyola

Lee

Del Mar

Elago Macapagal-Arroyo Erice Maceda Eriguel Madrona Ermita-Buhain Malapitan Escudero Mangaoang Espino Marcoleta Estrella Marcos Eusebio Marquez Evardone Martinez Fariñas Matugas Fernando Mercado Ferrer (J.) Mirasol Ferriol-Pascual Montoro Floirendo Nava **Flores** Nieto Fortun Noel Fortuno Nograles (J.) Fuentebella Nograles (K.) Garbin Nolasco

Garcia (G.) Nuñez-Malanyaon Garcia (J.) **Oaminal** Garcia-Albano Olivarez Garin (R.) Ong (E.) Garin (S.) Ong (H.) Ortega (P.) Gasatava Gatchalian Ortega (V.) Geron Pacquiao Go (A.C.) Paduano Go (M.) Palma Gomez Pancho Gonzaga Panotes Gonzales (A.P.) Papandayan Gonzales (A.D.) **Pichay**

Tambunting Pimentel Pineda Tan (A.) Tan (S.) Plaza Tejada Primicias-Agabas Teves **Ouimbo** Ramirez-Sato Tiangco Ting Ramos Relampagos Tinio Revilla Tolentino Roa-Puno Treñas Rocamora Tugna **Tupas** Rodriguez (I.) Rodriguez (M.) Unabia Roman Ungab Romero Unico Uy (J.) Romualdez Uy (R.) Romualdo Roque (H.) Vargas

Roque (R.) Vargas-Alfonso

Sagarbarria Velarde Salimbangon Velasco

Salo Velasco-Catera

Salon Veloso
Sambar Vergara
Sandoval Villafuerte
Santos-Recto Villanueva
Sarmiento (C.) Villaraza-Suarez

Sarmiento (E.)

Savellano

Villarin

Sema

Violago

Siao

Yap (M.)

Silverio

Yap (V.)

Singson

Yu

Suansing (E.) Zamora (M.)
Suansing (H.) Zamora (R.)
Suarez Zarate
Sy-Alvarado Zubiri

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. Mr. Speaker, the roll call shows that 252 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). With 252 Members present, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

The distinguished Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

PRIVILEGE HOUR Continuation

REP. TUGNA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we resume the Privilege Hour.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the Privilege Hour is resumed.

REP. TUGNA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Representative from the Second District of Parañaque City, Congressman Gus S. Tambunting, for his privilege speech.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; Congressman Tambunting of Parañaque City is hereby recognized.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. TAMBUNTING

REP. TAMBUNTING. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak about a subject which I and many of us, and many of our people, consider of prime importance—freedom of information. Why is freedom of information important? Because, along with the freedom of speech, it is the very essence of democracy. Democracy in the immortal words of Abraham Lincoln is: "Government of the people, by the people, for the people."

Freedom of information enables the people to participate in the decision-making process of the government. It allows them to monitor and check any abuses of power or wrongdoing by leaders whom they have elected in office. Why is freedom of information important? Because all the principles of ethics and all the precepts of religions state, in no uncertain terms, that it is wrong to tell a lie, it is wrong to steal. Freedom of information helps the people to prevent government officials from committing these wrongdoings at the expense of and to the detriment of the people they yowed to serve.

Freedom of information, in fact, is so important that it has been enshrined in our Constitution, both in the 1973 and 1987 Constitutions. They both recognize the right of access of the people to matters of public concern. They guarantee the right of the people to access to official records, documents, papers pertaining to official acts, transactions, decisions and research data used as bases for policy development. Said access, however, is subject to such limitations as provided for by law.

There have been laws passed in the past that require government officials to make available information needed by the public or the courts. These are the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act, the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees and the Government Procurement Reform Act. These laws are all well and good and have been used successfully in several high-profile cases involving the high and mighty of the land. But in general, and at the middle and lower levels where most acts of graft and corruption are taking place, these laws have not been effective in

curbing the commission of anomalous transactions in the government. Ordinary citizens, even in media, have difficulty obtaining the data they need to ensure that transactions of government agencies are all aboveboard. In fact, corruption has remained and has even grown rampant in our country to this day.

These laws were all enacted to cover specific cases, but no general and all-encompassing enabling law has yet been passed on freedom of information. It is for this reason that I, along with several other Congressmen, have introduced and sponsored an FOI Bill in the last Sixteenth Congress. Unfortunately, it failed to pass at the time as Members of Congress probably felt there were more urgent and pressing bills that merited their attention.

So, last June 30, on the very first regular session of the Seventeenth Congress, we have reintroduced House Bill No 126. That the people want a Freedom of Information Law passed now is evident from the election of Rodrigo Duterte as President by an overwhelming margin. Coming up with such legislation was one of the promises of our President during his campaign. Voting for him was tantamount to a mandate from the people for us in Congress to pass the law as well.

Another reason we need to pass the Freedom of Information Bill is to help achieve another goal in the President's agenda, that is, alleviating if not eradicating poverty in our country. He hopes to do this by attracting more companies, international and local companies alike, to invest in businesses in the country.

Companies have been hesitant to bid for government projects in the past because of this perception, and the reality in many cases is that the bidding process was not open and transparent. With the freedom of information in place, and strongly enforced and followed, more companies will be encouraged to do business in our country. This will open up more job and income opportunities for more of our countrymen. This will also help increase government revenues from the taxes that these new companies will pay, which can be spent by the new administration for its anti-poverty programs.

A study by *Rappler*, of freedom of information laws in other parts of the world, revealed that the laws have the following common features: 1) an overall policy-making information available; 2) limited access; 3) prescribed process by which information may be accessed; and 4) measures to ensure that access policies are enforced through oversight bodies and penalty clauses.

I must admit that House Bill No. 126 is not perfect, far from it, But I hope that through further debates, deliberations and requisite public hearings, we can still come up with a law that includes all essential elements of the Freedom of Information Law which has been

already tried and tested in other countries. Now is also a good time than ever before to have a law in our country because of the quantum advances in the field of information and communications technology. Said advances have made it easier, faster, cheaper now to store, update and retrieve data filed in digital form than before when data were printed on paper and filed in cabinets.

Your Honor, fellow Congressmen, many of us including those in the opposite camps of the President before he was just a candidate, have expressed our support to him, having seen how the Filipino people have given him a resounding mandate. We also have seen how, in the first few weeks of his presidency alone, he has already shown through his forthright action his sincerity and determination in fulfilling his promise to put an end to crime, corruption and poverty in the country. In fact, the President has gone one step ahead of all of us or to use his words during the SONA, "he has stolen the thunder from us." Exercising his constitutional authority as the country's Chief Executive, he has already signed and issued an executive order requiring public disclosure of documents related to government transactions, assets, liabilities and net worth of government officials, and other documents to the media and the public, subject to only certain conditions such as national security and the like. But the President has admitted that he cannot achieve the goals he has set all by himself, or just by the Executive Branch. He needs the help and support of the Legislative and Judicial Branches of the government. What a better way than manifesting our support for him by enacting a Freedom of Information Law at the soonest possible time. Let us show him that he may have stolen the thunder from us with regard to the FOI, but we can produce our own thunder that will reverberate to the Filipino people as much as that of the President did.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, let us pass a Freedom of Information Bill now. The President and the Filipino people expect nothing less from us. No, they demand nothing less from us.

Thank you for your kind attention.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the Hon. Gus Tambunting to the Committee on Rules.

I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the speech of the distinguished Representative Tambunting is referred to the Committee on Rules.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, I move that we terminate the Privilege Hour. I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the Privilege Hour is hereby terminated.

CONSIDERATION OF H. CT. RES. NO. 6

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Concurrent Resolution No. 6.

May I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read the title and text of the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The Secretary General is directed to read the title and text of the measure.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Concurrent Resolution No. 6, entitled: CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR FOR THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES.

RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That the Legislative Calendar for the First Regular Session of the Seventeenth Congress of the Philippines shall be as follows:

CALENDAR OF SESSION FIRST REGULAR SESSION

Commencement of Session
 Adjournment of Session

2. Adjournment of Session3. Resumption of Session4. Adjournment of Session

Resumption of Session
 Adjournment of Session

7. Resumption of Session

8. Adjournment of Session

-July 25, 2016 - October 21, 2016

-October 22, 2016 - November 6, 2016

-November 7, 2016 - December 16, 2016 -December 17, 2016 - January 15, 2017

-January 16, 2017 - March 17, 2017 -March 18, 2017 - May 1, 2017

-May 2, 2017 - June 2, 2017 (sine die adjournement)

-June 23, 2017 - July 23, 2017

(Sgd.) DANILO E. SUAREZ Minority Leader (Sgd.) RODOLFO C. FARIÑAS Majority Leader

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, I move that we adopt House Concurrent Resolution No. 6.

I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

ADOPTION OF H. CT. RES. NO. 6

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is

there any objection? (Silence) The Chair hears none; the motion is hereby approved.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 6 is adopted.

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Majority Leader is recognized.

ELECTION OF ADDITIONAL MEMBER TO THE COMMISSION ON APPOINTMENTS

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, I move for the election to the Commission on Appointments of Rep. Jerry P. Treñas.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES

REP. FARIÑAS. I move for the election of the following Members to their respective committees:

The Majority Leader read the names of the House Members elected to the various committees, per Journal No. 6, dated August 3, 2016.

COMMITTEE ON AGRARIAN REFORM

Rep. Rene L. Relampagos as Chairperson

COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

Rep. Luis "Jon-Jon" A. Ferrer IV as Chairperson

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION

Rep. Henedina R. Abad as Chairperson

COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Rep. Alfredo "Albee" B. Benitez as Chairperson

COMMITTEE ON INDIGENOUS CULTURAL COMMUNITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Rep. Nancy A. Catamco as Chairperson

COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

Rep. Reynaldo V. Umali as Chairperson

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

Rep. Randolph S. Ting as Chairperson

COMMITTEE ON METRO MANILA DEVELOPMENT

Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo as Chairperson

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate as Chairperson

COMMITTEE ON PEOPLE'S PARTICIPATION

Rep. Kaka J. Bag-ao as Chairperson

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Rep. Peter "Sr. Pedro" M. Unabia as Chairperson

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Rep. Cesar V. Sarmiento as Chairperson

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND WELFARE

Rep. Leopoldo N. Bataoil as Chairperson

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The said Members are elected to the abovementioned committees.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adjourn the session until August 8, 2016, Monday, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The session is adjourned to resume on August 8, 2016 at four o'clock in the afternoon.

It was 5:35 p.m.