



Congressional Record

PLENARY PROCEEDINGS OF THE 17th CONGRESS, FIRST REGULAR SESSION

House of Representatives

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Monday, December 12, 2016

No. 54

CALL TO ORDER

At 4:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Gwendolyn F. Garcia called the session to order.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The session is called to order.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). Everybody will please rise to sing the Philippine National Anthem.

Everybody rose to sing the Philippine National Anthem.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). Everybody will please remain standing for the invocation to be led by the Party-List KABATAAN Representative, the Hon. Sarah Jane I. Elago.

Everybody remained standing for the Invocation.

INVOCATION

REP. ELAGO. Gracious life-giving God, You call us to live our faith in many ways that honor You and bless our neighbors. We believe that what we do here in worship does shape our daily witness to God whose disciples and believers we profess to be. We know that our faith is most visible when we live by Your kingdom of values, love, justice and peace.

So, this afternoon, we pray that in our worship, the unfailing treasures of Your kingdom will shape and reshape our hearts, and that our discipleship will be clear in our worship, our witness and our service this day and in the days to come towards achieving a more equitable society and a long and just peace.

These we pray in God's most precious name. Amen.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). Amen. The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Good afternoon, Mme. Speaker.

Mme. Speaker, I move that we defer the calling of the roll.

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

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve Journal No. 53 for the session on December 7, 2016.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the aforesaid Journal is hereby approved.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we proceed to the Reference of Business.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). 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 the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding references:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 4574, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10368, ENTITLED AN ACT PROVIDING FOR REPARATION AND RECOGNITION OF VICTIMS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS DURING THE MARCOS REGIME, DOCUMENTATION OF SAID

VIOLATIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Belmonte (J.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

House Bill No. 4575, entitled:

“AN ACT RESTRUCTURING THE EXCISE
TAX ON TOBACCO PRODUCTS AND
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
PERTINENT SECTIONS OF THE
NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE,
AS AMENDED”

By Representative Salceda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND
MEANS

House Bill No. 4576, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING NOISE POLLUTION
BY CREATING THE NOISE POLLUTION
CONTROL BOARD (NPCB), PROVIDING
FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Tupas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
REORGANIZATION

House Bill No. 4577, entitled:

“AN ACT TO CLASSIFY BAMBOO AS AN
UNREGULATED FOREST PRODUCT AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Savellano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL
RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4578, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE PHILIPPINE
CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION
(PCIC), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1467, AS
AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE CHARTER OF THE PHILIPPINE CROP
INSURANCE CORPORATION”

By Representative De Venecia
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 4579, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A SEPARATE DISTRICT
ENGINEERING OFFICE OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND
HIGHWAYS IN THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE
DISTRICT OF ZAMBOANGA CITY AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Lobregat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4580, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A BODY CORPORATE
TO BE KNOWN AS THE WESTERN
PHILIPPINES MEDICAL CENTER AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Acosta, Abueg and Alvarez
(F.)

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

House Bill No. 4581, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SCIENCE FOR
CHANGE PROGRAM (S4CP)”

By Representative Salceda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 4582, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING BUYING OR SELLING
OF EXPORTABLE CAVENDISH BANANAS
FROM CONTRACTED FARMS TO A NON-
PARTY TO THE CONTRACT AS ECONOMIC
SABOTAGE, PRESCRIBING PENALTIES
THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Mendoza
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF
LAWS

House Bill No. 4583, entitled:

“AN ACT NAMING THE LINAMON –
MATUNGAO – BALOI NATIONAL ROAD
IN THE PROVINCE OF LANA DEL NORTE
AS THE METRO ILIGAN REGIONAL
AGRO-INDUSTRIAL CENTER (MIRAIC)
HIGHWAY”

By Representative Dimaporo (M.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4584, entitled:

“AN ACT NAMING THE POBLACION –
CANIOGAN NATIONAL ROAD IN TUBOD,
LANAO DEL NORTE AS THE ARSENIO
ARCELO QUIBRANZA HIGHWAY”

By Representative Dimaporo (M.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4585, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 27 OF CHAPTER
VIII OF R.A. NO. 7607 OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE MAGNA CARTA OF SMALL
FARMERS, INCREASING ITS PENALTIES
AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4586, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL ALLOTMENT FOR THE SPECIAL CADASTRAL PROGRAM REVOLVING FUND, TO EXPAND THE SUPPORT FOR SURVEY AND REGISTRATION PROGRAMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Romero and Pineda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4587, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 32 OF R.A. NO. 8559 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING ACT OF 1998, INCREASING ITS PENALTIES AND ADMINISTRATIVE SANCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Romero and Pineda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE
AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 4588, entitled:

“AN ACT TO INSTITUTIONALIZE THE POWERS OF THE LAND REGISTRATION AUTHORITY (LRA), RATIONALIZING ITS FUNCTIONS TO PROVIDE FASTER AND MORE EFFECTIVE ADJUDICATION ON ALL LAND REGISTRATION CONCERNS, TO PRESERVE AND MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY OF ALL LAND RECORDS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Romero and Pineda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
REORGANIZATION

House Bill No. 4589, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES MODERNIZATION ACT OF 1997 (RA NO. 8345), RE-ALIGNING ITS ALLOTMENT AND DEFINING ITS DISBURSING GUIDELINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Romero and Pineda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
AND FOOD AND THE COMMITTEE
ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES
RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4590, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE DEPARTMENT

OF AGRICULTURE (DA) TO PROVIDE THE PHILIPPINE RICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE (PHILRICE) WITH ADDITIONAL FUNDING, ENSURING CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4591, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA) WITH ADDITIONAL FUNDING, INCREASING ITS YEARLY ALLOTMENT IN THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT (GAA), AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Romero and Pineda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4592, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE CAPITALIZATION OF THE NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY (NHA), EXPANDING AND ACCELERATING ITS URBAN LAND REFORM AND SOCIAL HOUSING PROGRAM, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Romero and Pineda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND
URBAN DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 4593, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE PHILIPPINE AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING ACT OF 1998 (R.A. NO. 8559), TO GUARANTEE THE DELIVERY OF BASIC AND TECHNICAL SERVICES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Romero and Pineda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4594, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING RENEWABLE ENERGY, MANDATING TAX REBATES FOR INDIVIDUALS PURCHASING RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVICES OR SYSTEMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Yap (A.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Bill No. 4595, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8762, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE

RETAIL TRADE LIBERALIZATION ACT,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Yap (A.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND
INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 4596, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE DEPARTMENT
OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND
SKILLS DEVELOPMENT (DOTESD),
DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7796,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE TESDA ACT
OF 1994, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Yap (A.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE
ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL
EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4600, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING THE DEUS AMOR EST.
BROADCASTING, INC., A FRANCHISE
TO CONSTRUCT, ESTABLISH, INSTALL,
MAINTAIN AND OPERATE FOR
COMMERCIAL PURPOSES AND IN
THE PUBLIC INTEREST, RADIO AND
TELEVISION BROADCAST STATIONS IN
THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Treñas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE
FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 4601, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF ELECTRONIC
LINKAGE BETWEEN THE BUREAU
OF INTERNAL REVENUE AND VAT-
REGISTERED TAXPAYERS UTILIZING
CASH-REGISTER AND/OR POINT-OF-
SALE MACHINES”

By Representative Cua
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND
MEANS

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 598, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE
ON GAMES AND AMUSEMENT TO
CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF
LEGISLATION, ON THE PROLIFERATION
OF ONLINE SABONG ”

By Representative Panganiban
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 599, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE
ON GOOD GOVERNMENT AND
ACCOUNTABILITY AND/OR THE
COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN
DEVELOPMENT, TO CONDUCT AN
INVESTIGATION, SEPARATELY OR
JOINTLY, ON THE PERCEIVED SNAIL-
PACED IMPLEMENTATION OF HOUSING
RELOCATION AND RESETTLEMENT
PROJECTS FOR THOSE AFFECTED
BY TYPHOON YOLANDA AND FOR
THOSE LIVING IN DANGEROUS ZONES,
AND TO RECOMMEND APPROPRIATE
LEGISLATION”

By Representative Evardone
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 600, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE
OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
CONDEMNING THE LIFTING OF
MORATORIUM ON LARGE SCALE
MINING ACTIVITIES IN THE PROVINCE
OF CAPIZ”

By Representative Zarate
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL
RESOURCES

House Resolution No. 601, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
TO CONDUCT PRELIMINARY
PROBE TO CHECK IF THERE HAD
BEEN GOVERNMENT FAILURE
ON THE INABILITY OF THE LAND
TRANSPORTATION FRANCHISING
AND REGULATORY BOARD TO CURB
THE PROLIFERATION OF MULTIPLE-
FRANCHISE GRANTS TO BUS COMPANIES
THEREBY BETRAYING THE INTENT AND
SPIRIT OF THE FRANCHISE LAW”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 602, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION FOR THE HOUSE
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH TO ENJOIN
THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO
ISSUE OFFICIAL POLICY STATEMENT OR
ADVISORY TO ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE
HOSPITALS OR MEDICAL CLINICS
AGAINST THE RAMPANT VIOLATIONS OF
THE INTENT AND SPIRIT OF REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 9439 THAT PROHIBITS
DETENTION OF PATIENTS ON GROUNDS

OF NONPAYMENT OF HOSPITAL BILLS
OR MEDICAL EXPENSES”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Resolution No. 603, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT RODRIGO R. DUTERTE TO ISSUE A PROCLAMATION TRANSFERRING THE OWNERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION OF A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED AT THE RIZAL PARK IN ERMITA, MANILA TO THE NATIONAL HISTORICAL COMMISSION OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Escudero, Eriguel, Suansing (E.), Ferrer J., Go (M.), Bordado, De Venecia, Cortuna, Herrera-Dy and Tan (A.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION
AND CULTURE

House Resolution No. 604, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CURRENT STATE OF FORCIBLY EVICTED FAMILIES AND THE CONDITION OF THEIR RELOCATION SITES, PARTICULARLY ON THE FAILURE OF THE GOVERNMENT TO ENSURE THAT EVICTED FAMILIES HAVE SAFE AND SECURE ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL FOOD, POTABLE WATER AND SANITATION, LIVELIHOOD SOURCES, AND EDUCATION AND HEALTH CARE FACILITIES, AND RECOMMEND A MORATORIUM ON AMORTIZATION PAYMENTS WHILE POLICY REVIEW IS BEING UNDERTAKEN BY APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT HOUSING AGENCIES”

By Representatives Brosas, De Jesus, Zarate, Tinio, Castro (F.L.), Casilao and Elago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 605, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEES ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION, TO LAUD THE INITIATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, NOTING THE JOINT INITIATIVE, K TO 12 MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION, DISASTER RISK AND VULNERABILITY REDUCTION: LEARNING MATERIALS FOR PHILIPPINE SCHOOLS, UNDERTAKEN

SUCCESSFULLY BY THE DEPED DIVISIONS OF ALBAY WITH THE CLIMATE CHANGE COMMISSION, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE, THE AKO BIKOL PARTY LIST, THE CITY GOVERNMENTS OF LEGAZPI, LIGAO, TABACO, AND THE LOCAL CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION FOR DEVELOPMENT (LCCAD), AND URGING THE NATIONWIDE ADOPTION OF THE K TO 12 LEARNING MATERIALS IN ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS”

By Representative Salceda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION
AND CULTURE AND THE COMMITTEE ON
HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Resolution No. 606, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS TO ALLOCATE A FUND OF PHP 1 BILLION IN SUPPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE BY THE CLIMATE CHANGE COMMISSION, THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A COMMUNITY FOOD GARDENS (CFG) PROGRAM FOR FOOD, WATER AND ENERGY SECURITY IN EVERY BARANGAY IN THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Salceda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Resolution No. 607, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE SPECIAL COMMITTEES ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION TO INSTRUCT THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG) AND THE HOUSING AND LAND USE REGULATORY BOARD (HLURB) TO ORDER ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUs) IN THE COUNTRY TO ADOPT THE PROBABILISTIC APPROACH FOR RISK ASSESSMENT OF PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF HAZARDS AND MULTI-HAZARD MAPS FOR MAINSTREAMING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION, DISASTER RISK AND VULNERABILITY REDUCTION (CCA/DRVR), APPROPRIATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE AMOUNT OF PHP 1 BILLION”

By Representative Salceda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

Reps. Rolando “Klarex” A. Uy and Arnel U. Ty for House Bill No. 1301;

Rep. Ana Cristina Siquian Go for House Bill No. 1563;

Rep. Micaela S. Violago for House Bills No. 1004, 2650, 2651, 2655 and 3771;

Rep. Orestes T. Salon for House Bills No. 192, 193, 194, 995, 996, 998, 1000, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1301, 1302, 1563, 2330, 2650, 2651, 2653, 2654, 2655 and 3771;

Rep. Manuel Monsour T. Del Rosario III for House Bills No. 192, 193, 194, 1301, 1302, 1563, 2330 and 3771;

Rep. Emmanuel F. Madrona for House Bills No. 193, 194, 1302, 1563, 2330 and 3771;

Rep. Deogracias Victor “DV” B. Savellano for House Bills No. 193, 194, 1302, 1563, 2330 and 3771;

Rep. Maximo B. Dalog for House Bills No. 194, 1302, 1563, 2330 and 3771;

Rep. Arlene B. Arcillas for House Bills No. 995, 996, 998, 1000, 1001, 1002, 1003, 1004, 1615, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2654, 2655, 2862, 2863, 2864, 3424, 3852, 3853, 4087, 4088, 4089 and 4090;

Rep. Joey Sarte Salceda for House Bills No. 2318, 2319, 2474, 2953 and 3782;

Rep. Jose Antonio “Kuya Jonathan” R. Sy-Alvarado for House Bills No. 3113, 3234, 3543, 3709, 4153, 4154, 4155, 4366 and 4367;

Rep. Rodel M. Batocabe for House Bill No. 4334;

Rep. Manuel Jose “Mannix” M. Dalipe for House Bills No. 983, 2158, 3305, 3623, 4107, 4403 and 4406;

Rep. Nancy A. Catamco for House Bill No. 3705;

Reps. Ma. Lucille L. Nava, M.D., Raneo “Ranie” E. Abu, Doy C. Leachon, Michael John R. Duavit and Mario Vittorio “Marvey” A. Mariño for House Bill No. 4174;

Rep. Lianda B. Bolilia for House Bills No. 1615, 2862, 2863, 2864, 3853, 3943, 4087, 4088, 4089, 4107 and 4337;

Rep. Rodante D. Marcoleta for House Bills No. 2863, 4107 and 4521;

Rep. Len B. Alonte-Naguiat for House Bill No. 4107;

Rep. Maria Valentina G. Plaza for House Bills No. 3113, 3234, 3543, 3708, 3709, 4153 and 4154;

Rep. Ramon V.A. “Rav” Rocamora for House Bills No. 3113, 3234, 3543, 3708, 3709, 4153, 4154 and 4575;

Rep. Gus S. Tambunting for House Bill No. 2650;

Rep. Luis Jose Angel N. Campos Jr. for House Bills No. 2798, 4107 and 4144;

Rep. Carmelo “Jon” B. Lazatin II for House Bills No. 2652 and 4107;

Rep. Strike B. Revilla for House Bill No. 209;

Rep. Harlin Neil J. Abayon III for House Bill No. 4144;

Rep. Lawrence H. Fortun for House Bill No. 3254;

Rep. John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto for House Bills No. 4411 and 4483;

Rep. Mario Vittorio “Marvey” A. Mariño for House Bills No. 3113, 3234, 3543, 3708, 3709, 4107, 4153, 4154, 4155 and 4521;

Reps. Evelina G. Escudero, Rodel M. Batocabe, Christopher S. Co, Alfredo A. Garbin Jr. and Fernando V. Gonzalez for House Resolution No. 605;

Rep. Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong for House Bill No. 4575; and

Rep. Scott Davies S. Lanete, M.D. for House Bill No. 4144.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, may we recognize the Hon. H. Harry L. Roque Jr. on a matter of privilege.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). Dep. Majority Leader, Cong. Harry Roque is hereby recognized.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE OF REP. ROQUE (H.)

REP. ROQUE (H.). ~~Thank you, Mme. Speaker. I rise for the first time on a matter of personal and collective privilege.~~

~~At noon today, the Party-List had its regular press briefing in our media room. I was expected to talk about the death penalty, as well as, possibly, my opposition to Sec. Paulyn Jean B. Rosell-Ubial's appointment by the Commission on Appointments. But the reporter asked me about a question referring to a press release apparently emanating from the KABAYAN Party-List. For the information of this Body, that web page that published the press release is controlled by no other than my second nominee, Cong. Ron P. Salo. That press release purportedly reported that the KABAYAN Party-List is investigating me because of my conduct when the House investigated the drug trading in Muntinlupa, specifically, when I questioned Ronnie Dayan on whether or not he took advantage of the frailties of Sec. Leila De Lima as a woman. The press release said that that conduct was supposedly unethical, and even cited the *Rappler* article, which featured my picture, together with Majority Leader Rodolfo C. Fariñas, as well as Deputy Speaker Fredenil H. Castro and another Congressman.~~

Mme. Speaker, how did that press release come about? Over the weekend, I attempted to contact the leadership of KABAYAN Party-List because of the news report that our second nominee Ron Salo, who is seated there, has been charged in court for estafa, through falsification of public documents. The falsification had to do with the P3-billion plus license plates procurement, the very scandalous procurement that is responsible for why we do not have license plates until today. This is the reason not one of us has a courtesy license plate bearing number "8", because the supplier did not deliver.

The *Philippine Star* reported that charges in court had been filed against Cong. Ron Salo because he was responsible for falsifying the financial statement of the winning bidder of that contract. That is what *The Philippine Star* reported. I wanted the leadership to discuss the issue because I thought that a party that stood for noble ideas such as KALUSUGAN, PABAHAY and KABUHAYAN should be shielded from scandals such as these. Of course, Ron Salo will claim presumption of innocence, but that does not detract from the fact that a panel of prosecutors has found probable cause against him. Under the law that means they have determined that a crime was probably committed, and Ron Salo, our distinguished colleague is responsible for that crime.

Records would indicate that in the Sixteenth Congress, these anomalous license plates have already been investigated by this House. News stories indicate that Congressman Jose Christopher "Kit" Y. Belmonte was particularly irked by the palusot of then Atty. Ron Salo. Why am I revealing this? It is not for purposes of washing dirty laundry in the public. He did that when he issued that press release. That web page, I reiterate, has always been under his full control. He obviously wanted a counteroffensive because in case the board of KABAYAN would side with me he would be replaced. Because unlike ordinary District Congressmen, we have up to a fifth nominee in KABAYAN Party-List.

There is no reason we should insist that a person who has been indicted in court for estafa, through falsification, should continue to serve. Well, I might as well tell you the history.

Many of you will know that I do not even speak a word to our second nominee. And yet, those of you who campaigned for me in the last elections would know that single-handedly, I campaigned for KABAYAN and I could pinpoint the names of Members of Congress who saw me in the campaign trail. He did not campaign on the pretext that his wife apparently had a critical pregnancy.

Pagdating nga po sa pondo, nakakalap pa ng pondo. Alam ninyo ang ginawa niya noong filing ng SOCE? Hindi niya ginastos ang pera, humingi pa ng resibo sa akin para hindi niya kinailangang ibalik iyong P2 milyong nakalap niya na hindi naman ginastos para sa eleksyon.

Am I not in the right position to question his continuance in Congress despite the fact that we have a fourth and fifth nominee? Oo nga pala po, saan nga ba nagsimula itong away namin?

Alam po ninyo, itong si Ron Salo ay estudyante ko naman po iyan sa UP College of Law. Hindi masyadong matalino, pero natutuwa naman ako kasi mahilig sumipsip. Kaya nga po hindi masyadong mataas na grade ang ibinigay ko at hindi naman ho masyadong mababa. Humingi siya ng recommendation para sa isang scholarship at binigyan ko naman dahil nais ko na ang lahat ng estudyante ko ay makuha ang lahat ng puwede nilang makuha to further their academic careers.

Saan nagsimula ang hindi namin pagkakasundo? Nadiskubre ko po kasi na iyong third nominee na siya ang nagsulat at siya ang nagpasok allegedly in exchange for valuable consideration e nadesiplina na ng Integrated Bar of the Philippines. Ang apelyido po noong mama ay Calanglang. So, ang sabi ko, how dare you make me run with a person who has a dubious background? Dapat iyan, noong nalaman mong mayroon nang kaso sa IBP ay hindi mo na inilagay as third nominee. Iyon pala po, only to find out ngayon dito sa report ng *The Philippine Star*, iyong third nominee po niya ay co-defendant niya doon sa estafa through falsification of documents. Kaya naman pala hindi niya matanggal as third nominee.

Iyon na po ang simulang aming hidwaan matapos pong manalo ang KABAYAN nang hindi siya nangampanya; hindi siya gumastos, at kumita pa. Sinubukan niya pa ho akong sibakin. Paano po niya ginawa iyan? Siya po ay bumuo ng dubious board sa KABAYAN.

Mayroon pong corporate secretary na pumirma ng aming Certificate of Nomination, at tinanggal po niya iyon. Ipinatawag niya ako, mantakin ninyo ha, propesor ako, ninong pa niya. Aba ay magboard meeting sa bahay niya at pumunta daw ako doon. Tama ba iyon? At doon po pinalitan ang corporate secretary. At buti na lang po, hindi niya masyadong binasa ang jurisprudence, doon po nadesisyunan ng Korte Suprema na kapag nahalal na po ang isang Party-List Congressman ay hindi na po matatanggal.

REP. SALO. Mme. Chair, point of order.

REP. ROQUE (H.) Except kung mamatay iyong Congressman na iyon, kung siya po ay matanggal ng Kamara de Representante o hindi naman kaya ay mag-resign ...

REP. SALO. Point of order, Mme. Chair. Mme. Speaker, point of order.

REP. ROQUE (H.) Mme. Speaker, I have the floor.

REP. SALO. Point of order, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ROQUE (H.) What is the violation of the rules, Mme. Speaker?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. DEFENSOR. I move for a few minutes suspension of the session, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The session is suspended.

It was 4:19 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:46 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The session is resumed.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, upon conference with the concerned parties during the suspension of session, to address the point of order raised by the Hon. Ron P. Salo, I move that we remove from the Record the mention of his name, the Hon. Ron P. Salo and the reference to him, in the matter of personal and collective privilege being raised by the Hon. H. Harry L. Roque Jr.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. With that Mme. Speaker, I move that we again recognize the Hon. H. Harry L. Roque Jr. on this matter of personal and collective privilege.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The Hon. H. Harry L. Roque Jr. is recognized.

REP. ROQUE (H.). Mme. Speaker, upon the request of our esteemed Dep. Majority Leader and upon the request of many of our colleagues, I will no longer proceed with the rest of my privilege speech.

I highlight though the need to continue the investigation of this anomalous LTO plates and to make sure that all those responsible, high and mighty as they may be, should be meted the corresponding penalty because you and I are paying for the corrupt acts of the supplier of this botched license plates deal.

Thank you, Mme. Speaker, and good evening.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). Thank you, the Hon. H. Harry L. Roque Jr. The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. DEFENSOR. I move for suspension of the session, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The session is suspended.

It was 4:48 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:49 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The session is resumed.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Before we proceed, Mme. Speaker, may we acknowledge the presence of the guests of the distinguished Gentleman from Pangasinan, the Hon. Conrado M. Estrella III. They are the three Vice Presidents of the Pangasinan State University—we have Dr. Virgilio Barongan, Dr. Manolito Manuel, Dr. Gloria Domantay, and Mrs. Maria Corazon Puzon.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The guests of Cong. Conrado M. Estrella III, please rise. Welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*) The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, may we also acknowledge the presence of the guests of the Gentleman from MANILA TEACHERS Party-List, the Hon. Virgilio S. Lacson. They are from the Manila Teachers Savings and Loans, Inc. (*Applause*)

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The guests of the Hon. Virgilio S. Lacson, please rise. Welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*) The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Also, Mme. Speaker, may we acknowledge the presence of the guests of the honorable Deputy Speaker Raneo “Ranie” E. Abu. They are from the Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ—4th Watch. They are Bishop Osinando Quillao, Pastor Mona Quillao, and Bro. Johnny Pecayo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). We

welcome the guests of the honorable Deputy Speaker Raneo “Ranie” E. Abu. (*Applause*)

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

PRIVILEGE HOUR

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we proceed to the Privilege Hour.

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

The Chair declares a Privilege Hour.

REP. DEFENSOR. First to speak, Mme. Speaker, is the Gentleman from 1-ANG EDUKASYON. May we recognize the Hon. Salvador B. Belaro Jr.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The Hon. Salvador B. Belaro Jr. of Party-List 1-ANG EDUKASYON is recognized.

Please proceed.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. BELARO

REP. BELARO. The title of my speech is: “Lawyers are Indispensable in the War Against Drugs.”

Shakespeare’s Henry VI was the origin of the now-famous joke, “But first, let us kill all the lawyers.” Apparently, the President, Pres. Rodrigo R. Duterte, has read it as he was quoted as saying last week that he will set as the next target in the drug war the lawyers of drug lords.

Honorable colleagues, lawyers in this august Body as well as in the gallery, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Integrated Bar of the Philippines, our national organization of lawyers, released a statement citing the President’s pronouncement as very dangerous. Accordingly, if the President’s statement will be taken as true, it will undermine the rule of law upon which our democracy is founded. According to the IBP, it also denigrates the constitutional right to counsel of every accused and the attendant’s right to be presumed innocent until proven guilty, as well as the right to a fair trial.

Ladies and Gentlemen, this Representation understands exactly where that statement of the IBP is coming from. In fact, in this regard, our Party-List, 1-ANG EDUKASYON, is with the legal community on this as we believe that lawyers are needed in ferreting out the truth in any event and in the espousal of critical thinking, which lawyers are supposed to input in any democratic process.

Honorable colleagues, I rise here before you as a member of the legal profession, who has been practicing Law for the past 20 years, as a former College of Law

Dean and a former Commissioner of Bar Discipline. I rise in this occasion to echo the alarm and grave concern the statement of the President has sent to the legal community. However, let us remember, as a basic premise, that lawyers are also officers of the court, as it is their duty to help dispense the administration of justice. It is in this regard that, with all due respect, this Representation appeals to the President to clarify his pronouncements, if not reconsider them if such is indeed the intent.

In any case, this Representation would also like to appeal to the legal community not to take the statements of the President literally but to take that they are only directed to errant lawyers who get waylaid from the pursuit of justice by allowing themselves to become their clients’ accomplices in the obstruction of justice. Likewise, Ladies and Gentlemen, I also would like to appeal to the general public to adopt the same attitude as allowing ourselves to be engrossed by such pronouncements which might be used by the enemies on the war on drugs to deflect the public from the gains that the war on drugs has made so far. After all, nitpicking on it might lead us not to appreciate the gravity of the war on drugs. Recent statistics show that around five percent of the Philippine population or around four million Filipinos are already steeped in drugs. This is very worrisome, Ladies and Gentlemen. The drug problem has already reached epidemic proportions and zeroing in on such statements waters down the urgency of acting on it.

I also would like to appeal to the members of the media, it being the fourth estate or the fourth branch of government as they call it, more than the aim of getting accurate reporting, I implore you, members of the media, to take the war on drugs in its entirety, not just on a piecemeal consideration of news relating to it to suit slants which you think are newsworthy at the moment.

I also would like to take this opportunity to appeal to my colleagues in this august Body that such event should make us realize that, now more than ever, we need to rally as a people to solidify the war against drugs. This we can do, how? By passing appropriate legislative measures that will not only strengthen the legal profession but will also further professionalize it so that all its members will be able to perform their solemn duty as officers of the court and as worthy representatives in the pursuit of justice. It is high time, Ladies and Gentlemen, that we review and amend the present law creating the Legal Education Board, to strengthen the Integrated Bar of the Philippines and even the Philippine Association of Law Schools so that we could count on our lawyers to become faithful to their oath.

Over time, lawyers have become the butt of jokes. We have been labeled as crocodiles, as vultures or as leeches, but as a practitioner, we have been accustomed

to it. The labeling or mislabeling is after all a part of the job, or if you might want to call it “hazard of the trade.” But despite the jokes, the legal profession continues to thrive over the years, over time. In fact, if longevity is an indication of the stability of a profession, we have here one of the most stable, as it also answers one of the indispensable needs in any society—that of legal representation.

Let me tell you an anecdote, Ladies and Gentlemen:

In the gates of heaven, three dead men were being screened by St. Peter before entering heaven or hell, as the case may be. All the three men died because of a heated duel with the first two as the combatants, and the third one as the lawyer who died in the crossfire. St. Peter, being a man of wisdom, would like to base his decision on the evidence at hand. So, he first asked the first man who pointed who was the culprit, and the first pointed to the second man and, in turn, the second man pointed out to the first. When it was the lawyer’s turn, he admitted, to which the first two agreed, that he was just caught in the crossfire. So what was St. Peter’s verdict? St. Peter asked him, “Who of the two is liable?” And the lawyer answered that he needs to talk to the other witnesses. That being the case, St. Peter detained the first and the second man in purgatory, the place where a soul’s final destination is yet to be determined and sent the lawyer back to earth to gather more evidence.

By way of closing, let me go back to my opening quotation, that of Shakespeare “to kill all the lawyers.” While it may sound as if it means what it states, experts in literature, in fact, are all agreed to interpreting it in a broader context. The context of that Shakespearean character is a revolution and the statement was meant to refer to all the opponents of such revolution, and not just the lawyers.

By analogy, Ladies and Gentlemen, let us not take the President’s statements outside of the context of the war against drugs, the curbing of which is the revolution of our time. Begging your kind indulgence, Ladies and Gentlemen, so be it in the case of the President’s comments to kill all the lawyers.

In view of the national interest involved, it should be better interpreted as referring to all the enemies of the drug war, who are not necessarily lawyers.

Thank you and good afternoon.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). Thank you, Congressman Belaro.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the Honorable Belaro to the Committee on Rules.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the speech of the Honorable Belaro is referred to the Committee on Rules.

REP. DEFENSOR. Next to speak, Mme. Speaker, may we recognize the Lady from GABRIELA, the Hon. Emmi A. De Jesus.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The Hon. Emmi De Jesus from the Party-List Gabriela is recognized.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. DE JESUS

REP. DE JESUS. Thank you, Mme. Speaker, at maraming salamat po at sana mabigyan ng pagkakataon ang tinig na ito.

Mme. Speaker, mga kasamang Kinatawan, ngayong Lunes, ika-12 ng Disyembre ay International Day Against Trafficking. Ginugunita sa araw na ito ang pagpirma ng Pilipinas at iba pang mga bansa na vulnerable sa human trafficking sa Palermo Protocol o Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children ng United Nations sa Palermo, Italy noong 2000.

Ang human trafficking ay isa sa mga isyung malapit sa puso ng Gabriela Alliance at ng Gabriela Women’s Party. Ang mga kaso ng sex trafficking ang ilan sa mga pinakaunang tinutukan ng Gabriela Alliance noong Dekada ‘80. Isa na rito ang kampanya laban sa PHILNOR, isa sa tatlong pinakamalalaking marriage bureaus sa Norway. Sa pamamagitan ng mga malawakang protesta sa Pilipinas at maging sa Norway, naipagbawal sa nasabing bansa ang paglalako ng mail-order brides.

Ang kaso naman ni Lisa Mamac na tumampok noong 1987 ay isa sa matagumpay na kampanya ng pagpapanagot sa mga sangkot sa sex trafficking. Pinangakuan na magiging receptionist si Lisa, sa halip ay naging sex worker sa iba’t ibang club sa The Netherlands. Sa suporta ng GABRIELA at iba pang tagapagtaguyod ng hustisya para sa mga biktima ng human trafficking dito sa Pilipinas at sa The Netherlands, nakasuhan at nakulong ang isang city fiscal at isang Dutch national. Mula noon, napakarami pang mga kaso ng human trafficking ang pinangunahan at sinuportahan ng Gabriela Alliance at ng Gabriela Women’s Party.

Sa lumabas noong Hunyo na Trafficking in Persons Report ng US State Department para sa 2016, tumaas ang ranggo ng Pilipinas mula sa Tier 2 patungong Tier 1, dahil ito umano sa pagpapaigting ng mga programa, pagdadagdag ng pondo para sa mga ahensya, at pagtrain sa mga empleyado ng gobyerno na may kinalaman

sa paglaban sa human trafficking. Subalit, Mme. Speaker, mga kasama sa Kongreso, hindi ito dapat ipakahulugan na bumaba na ang mga kaso ng sex at labor trafficking sa ating bansa.

Sa pagbubukas ng Ikalabimpitong Kongreso, ipinahayag ng Kinatawan ito ang pagkabahala sa posibleng pagsulpot ng bagong henerasyon ng Asian comfort women dahil sa pananatili ng military facilities at personnel ng Amerika sa South Korea. Ayon sa mga report, may mga Pilipinang desperadong makahanap ng trabaho sa Maynila ang naeengganyong mangibang bansa at nabibigyan ng E-6 visa para maging entertainers sa ating kapitbahay na bansa sa Asya. Pero sa halip na entertainer, sila ay ginagawang sex slaves sa mga “juicy bars” na nagseserbisyo sa mga sundalong Amerikano. Mismong ang US State Department, sa report nito noong 2015, ang kumilala sa lumalaking problemang ito. Ayon sa report, to quote:

Foreign women on E6-2 entertainment visas—mostly from the Philippines, China and Kyrgyzstan—are subjected to forced prostitution in entertainment establishments near ports and US military bases.

Ang higit na nakakabahalang trend ng human trafficking sa kasalukuyan ay ang paggamit ng teknolohiya para sa tinatawag na “cybersex trafficking,” kung saan malaking porsyento ng nagiging biktima ay mga bata.

Kung maaalala natin ang eksperimentong isinagawa ng Dutch NGO na Terre des Hommes noong April hanggang June 2013 upang makatulong sa pagbibigay solusyon sa tinatawag nitong “webcam child sex tourism,” may 20,000 tao mula sa mahigit 70 na bansa, partikular sa US, United Kingdom, at India, ang boluntaryong nagbayad ng malaking halaga upang makita ang 10 taong gulang na si Sweetie—isang computer-generated image lamang na iwinangis sa image ng isang batang Pilipino—na magsasagawa ng iba’t ibang uri ng sex acts.

Sa tala pa rin ng US State Department, 80 porsyento ng mga biktima ng human trafficking sa Pilipinas ay mga batang babae edad 18 pababa. Tinatayang 60,000 to 100,000 na mga bata ang nasa sex industry, partikular sa cybersex.

Sa report naman ng International Justice Mission sa UK Parliament noong April 2016, sinabi nito na bago ang panahon ng Internet, isa lamang sa bawat 307 na biktima ng sex trafficking ang bata. Sa kasalukuyan, mahigit kalahati ng mga biktima ay 12 taon pababa.

Bakit nga ba hindi masugpu-sugpo ang human trafficking sa bansa? Bakit isa ito sa itinuturing na ikatlo sa most profitable organized crimes in the world na kumikita ng mahigit na US\$30 billion yearly?

Ayon sa Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking

(IACAT), September 2016 report, mayroon pa lamang 265 convictions at 288 na indibidwal na naparusahan ng ahensya mula noong 2005. Ang mababang bilang na ito ang tila nang-eengganyo sa mga masasamang loob na magpatuloy sa kanilang gawain. Umaasa ang Gabriela Women’s Party na makakatulong ang pagdaragdag ng pondo at pagpapaigting ng mga programa ng gobyerno sa pagtaas sa bilang ng mga napapanagot na sangkot sa human trafficking. Ngunit higit sa lahat, Mme. Speaker, mga kasamang Kinatawan, upang masolusyunan ang human trafficking ay kailangan talaga nating tuntunin kung ano ang ugat nito.

Sa pinakahuling survey ng Social Weather Station na isinagawa nito lamang September, may 9.4 milyong Pilipino ang nagsasabing sila ay mahirap. May 5.4 porsyento pa rin ng populasyon ang unemployed at 17.3 percent naman ang underemployed. Patuloy pa rin at higit na lumalala ang kontraktwalisasyon at kawalan ng seguridad sa trabaho ng mga manggagawang Pilipino. Sa kasalukuyan, anim sa sampung manggagawa ang hindi regular, agency-hired, o hindi kaya ay nasa informal sectors. Halimbawa, sa service sector na siyang pinakamalaking sektor ng ekonomiya ng bansa, 80-90 percent ang contractual. Talamak din ang contractualization sa Special Export Zones at Export Processing Zones na masugid na ibinebenta ng ating economic planners bilang daan tungo sa economic growth.

Ang minimum wage na tinatanggap ng may 16.5 milyong manggagawa o 24.6 porsyento ng total workforce para sa Metro Manila ay P491; sa Region I ay P243; sa Region IV-A ay P378; at sa iba pang parte ng bansa. Maliit kung tutuusin ang sahod na ito kumpara sa sinasabi ng IBON Foundation na pangangailangan ng family living wage habang limpak-limpak na tubo na ang naipasok ng mga manggagawa sa mga negosyante at kapitalista. Ang kawalang ito ng oportunidad na umasenso sa sariling bansa ang nagtutulak sa ating mga kababayan na mangibang bayan at naglalagay sa kanila sa higit na panganib na mabiktima ng human trafficking.

Mme. Speaker, mga kapwa ko kasamahan dito sa Kongreso, ngayong Anti-Human Trafficking Day, muling nananawagan ang Gabriela Women’s Party na higit nating pag-ibayuhin ang pagwawakas sa human trafficking na bumibiktima sa ating mga kababaihan at bata. Maliban sa pagpapatupad ng batas at sa pagpapanagot sa mga sangkot dito, kailangang solusyonan ang mga ugat nito sa pamamagitan ng eradication of poverty, wakasan ang kahirapan; itaas ang sahod at benepisyo ng mga manggagawa; itigil ang contractualization at bigyan ng kasiguraduhan sa trabaho ang bawat Pilipino; at wakasan na ang labor export policy at gumawa ng trabaho sa loob ng bansa,.

Bilang pagwawakas, Mme. Speaker, kinikilala ko ang presensya ng kinatawan ng Migrant International

na nasa plenaryo ngayon at nagtutulak ng mga patakaran para sa kagalingan ng ating mga kababayan para hindi na mangibang bayan.

Maraming salamat sa inyong pakikinig at magandang gabi po sa ating lahat.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the Hon. Emmi De Jesus to the Committee on Rules.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the speech of the Honorable De Jesus is referred to the Committee on Rules.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, before we proceed, may we acknowledge the presence of the guests of Reps. Tomasito “Tom” S. Villarin and Edcel C. Lagman. Their advocacy is against the reimposition of the death penalty. Included, among others, is CHR Commissioner Karen Dumpit.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). Will the guests of Rep. Tom Villarin and the Hon. Edcel Lagman, please rise. Welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, may we likewise acknowledge the presence of the guests of, again, the Hon. Tom Villarin. They are organizations from In Defense of Human Rights and Dignity Movement (iDEFEND): we have Children’s Legal Rights and Development Center, ALAB KATIPUNAN, Families of Victims of Involuntary Disappearance (FIND), ASEAN Youth Forum (AYF), #Block Marcos, PUP Speak, Philippine Alliance of Human Rights Advocates, Task Force Detainees of the Philippines, Amnesty International Philippines, and Association of Major Religious Superiors of the Philippines.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). May we ask the guests of the Hon. Tom Villarin to please rise. Welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Also, Mme. Speaker, let us acknowledge the presence of the guests of honorable Speaker Pantaleon D. Alvarez, Deputy Speaker Romero “Miro” S. Quimbo, and Hon. Joey Sarte Salceda. They are from the American Council of Young Political Leaders, Washington D.C. We have the honorable Kesha Ram, the honorable Travis Tranei, Mr. Tom Bartlett,

Ms. Holly Bargmann, Miss Jennifer Crall, Mr. Paul Holland, Mr. Matthew Yalowitz and Mr. Fritzie Aguado. They are accompanied by Ms. Czarina Nava Sacaguino, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). We welcome the guests of the Hon. Pantaleon Alvarez, House Speaker, Deputy Speaker Miro Quimbo and Rep. Joey Salceda. Welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we suspend the Privilege Hour.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the Privilege Hour is now suspended.

ROLL CALL

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we call the roll.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). 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. 54, dated December 12, 2016:

PRESENT

Abaya	Antonio
Abayon	Aragones
Abellanosa	Arcillas
Abu	Arenas
Abueg	Atienza
Acop	Aumentado
Acosta	Bagatsing
Acosta-Alba	Baguilat
Advincula	Banal
Agarao	Barzaga
Aggabao	Bataoil
Aglipay-Villar	Batocabe
Albano	Bautista-Bandigan
Alejano	Belaro
Almario	Belmonte (F.)
Almonte	Belmonte (J.C.)
Alonte-Naguiat	Bernos
Alvarez (F.)	Bertiz
Alvarez (P.)	Billones
Amatong	Biron
Angara-Castillo	Bolilia
Antonino	Bondoc

Bordado	Ferrer (J.)	Mirasol	Santos-Recto
Bravo (A.)	Ferrer (L.)	Montoro	Sarmiento (E.M.)
Bravo (M.V.)	Ferriol-Pascual	Nava	Savellano
Brosas	Floirendo	Nieto	Siao
Bulut-Begtang	Fortun	Noel	Singson
Cagas	Fortuno	Nogralas (J.J.)	Suansing (E.)
Calderon	Fuentebella	Nogralas (K.A.)	Suarez
Calixto-Rubiano	Garbin	Nolasco	Sy-Alvarado
Campos	Garcia (G.)	Nuñez-Malanyaon	Tambunting
Canama	Garcia (J.E.)	Ong (E.)	Tan (A.)
Casilao	Garcia-Albano	Ortega (P.)	Tan (M.)
Castelo	Garin (R.)	Ortega (V.N.)	Tejada
Castro (F.L.)	Garin (S.)	Pacquiao	Teves
Castro (F.H.)	Gasataya	Paduano	Tiangco
Catamco	Geron	Palma	Tinio
Cayetano	Go (M.)	Pancho	Tolentino
Celeste	Gomez	Panganiban	Tugna
Cerafica	Gonzaga	Panotes	Turabin-Hataman
Cerilles	Gonzales (A.P.)	Pichay	Ty
Chipeco	Gonzales (A.D.)	Pimentel	Umali
Co	Gonzalez	Pineda	Unabia
Cojuangco	Gorriceta	Plaza	Ungab
Collantes	Hernandez	Primicias-Agabas	Uy (J.)
Cortes	Herrera-Dy	Quimbo	Uy (R.)
Cortuna	Hofer	Radaza	Vargas
Cosalan	Javier	Ramos	Velarde
Crisologo	Kho	Relampagos	Velasco
Cua	Labadlabad	Roa-Puno	Velasco-Catera
Cuaresma	Lacson	Rocamora	Veloso
Cueva	Lagman	Rodriguez (I.)	Vergara
Dalipe	Lanete	Rodriguez (M.)	Villafuerte
Dalog	Laogan	Roman	Villanueva
Daza	Lazatin	Romero	Villaraza-Suarez
De Jesus	Leachon	Romualdez	Villarica
De Venecia	Lee	Romualdo	Villarin
De Vera	Limkaichong	Roque (H.)	Violago
Defensor	Lobregat	Roque (R.)	Yap (A.)
Del Mar	Lopez (B.)	Sacdalán	Yap (M.)
Del Rosario	Lopez (C.)	Sagarbarria	Yap (V.)
Deloso-Montalla	Lopez (M.L.)	Salo	Yu
Dimaporo (M.K.)	Macapagal-Arroyo	Salon	Zarate
Durano	Maceda	Sambar	Zubiri
Dy	Madrona	Sandoval	
Elago	Malapitan		
Enverga	Manalo		
Erice	Mangaoang		
Eriguel	Mangudadatu (S.)		
Ermita-Buhain	Marcoleta		
Escudero	Marcos		
Espina	Mariño		
Espino	Marquez		
Estrella	Martinez		
Eusebio	Matugas		
Evardone	Mellana		
Fariñas	Mendoza		
Fernando	Mercado		

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. Mme. Speaker, the roll call shows that 241 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). With 241 Members present, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, before we proceed, may we acknowledge the presence of the guests of the Hon. Sabiniano S. Canama and the Hon.

Anthony M. Bravo, Ph.D. They are the guests of the COOP-NATCCO Party-List. They are: Alejandro Responte, Diego Palacat, Wilbert Ignacio, Kristian Jade Celada, Nilda Almencion, Florife Arordo, Junbard Mahinay, Dennis Santander and Florencia Celada.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). To the guests of the Representatives from COOP-NATCCO, please rise. Welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move for the change of referral of the following measures:

1) House Bill No. 1534 – establishing the Philippine Legislative Academy, from the Committee on Higher and Technical Education to the Committee on Civil Service and Professional Regulation;

2) House Bill No. 1830 – establishing a partnership program in Foreign Language Education, from the Committee on Higher And Technical Education to the Committee on Basic Education and Culture;

3) House Bill No. 1885 – expanding the Special Education Fund, from the Committee on Higher and Technical Education to the Committee on Local Government;

4) House Bills No. 1710 and 2768 – establishing a College Education Trust Fund for children of GSIS and SSS members, from the Committee on Higher and Technical Education to the Committee on Government Enterprises and Privatization;

5) House Bill No. 1181– providing for additional support and compensation for educators in basic education, from the Committee on Basic Education and Culture to the Committee on Appropriations;

6) House Bill No. 3586 – creating the Philippine Medical Academy and establishing the Philippine Medical Scholarship Program, from the Committee on Health to the Committee on Higher and Technical Education;

7) House Bill No. 3658 – establishing standards for the fitness profession and fitness centers in the Philippines, from the Committee on Health to the Committees on Civil Service and Professional Regulation, and Health;

8) House Bill No. 3810 – requiring the mandatory labeling of food, food products and their derivatives, from the Committee on Health to the Committee on Trade and Industry;

9) House Resolutions No. 444 and 480 – inquiry re school-based immunization of Tetravalent Dengue Vaccine of the Department of Health, from the Committee on Health to the Committees on Good Government and Public Accountability, and Health.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

PRIVILEGE HOUR

Continuation

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we resume the Privilege Hour.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Next to speak, Mme. Speaker, and so I move that we recognize the Gentleman from the Third District of Camarines Sur, the Hon. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The honorable Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr. from the Third District of Camarines Sur is hereby recognized.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. BORDADO

REP. BORDADO. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. Magandang hapon po sa lahat.

Mme. Speaker, it is now December 12, just 13 days before Christmas. Some keen observers though assert that for most Filipinos, Christmas unofficially starts in September, the first of the so-called “ber months.” Underscoring our fondness, Mme. Speaker, for an emotional attachment to the season celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, that is not at all surprising because Christmas is supposed to be the season of love, peace and unity. Mme. Speaker, I, therefore, find the pronouncement made by President Rodrigo Duterte during the traditional lighting ceremonies of the Christmas tree in Malacañang as immensely inspiring in the context of the current season.

Mme. Speaker, let me quote what the President said:

I plead for unity of the country that we shall be freed from menial work. I plead for peace so that citizens can move around anytime of the day. And I ask everybody in government that together we will stop corruption.

Mme. Speaker, let me assure the President of the Republic of the Philippines that I, and I am certain, all of us here in the House of Representatives, will support his quest for peace, unity and a corruption-free government.

Mme. Speaker, I dare say however that such a quest should be underpinned by justice and love, especially love, for with love, Mme. Speaker, everything falls

into place. In fact, Christmas, the season we Filipinos have been looking forward to, is the very embodiment of divine love.

So, Mme. Speaker, let every day be Christmas day in the Philippines.

God bless the President. God bless the Vice President who is also calling for peace and unity. God bless us all. Merry Christmas.

Thank you very much, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the Honorable Bordado to the Committee on Rules.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the speech of the Hon. Gabriel Bordado is referred to the Committee on Rules.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, next to speak is the Gentleman from ANAKPAWIS. I move that we recognize the Hon. Ariel “Ka Ayik” B. Casilao for his privilege speech.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). Rep. Ariel Casilao from Party-List ANAKPAWIS is recognized.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. CASILAO

REP. CASILAO. Thank you, Mme. Speaker, Dep. Majority Leader.

My speech will be about the recent, this early-morning incident, a violent dispersal of illegitimately protesting agrarian reform beneficiaries in Tagum, Davao del Norte. We denounce the violence against agricultural workers of Tagum, Davao del Norte committed by the armed guards of the Lorenzo Lapanday Corporation.

Honorable Speaker, mga kapwa Mambabatas, today is an enraging day for farmers and agricultural workers who are fighting for their rights to land and aspiring for genuine agrarian reform in this country. Earlier this morning, the armed security guards of the Lapanday Food Corporation under the ACDISA Security Agency opened fired at the protesting agricultural workers under the Madaum Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Association, Incorporated or MARBAI, who are demanding the return of their 145-hectare lands that were covered by an agri-business venture agreement with Lapanday. We all know that Lapanday is owned by the Lorenzo family, fronted by former Agriculture Secretary Luis

“Cito” Lorenzo, and their armed-to-the-teeth private army wounded seven agricultural workers and farmers, namely: Jose Balucos, Emmanuel Buladaco, Belardo Francisco, Jojo Gomez, Talban Miparanun and a certain Rico. They were all brought to the regional hospital in Tagum City, Davao del Norte.

We from ANAKPAWIS totally denounce this feudal arrogance of the Lorenzos, who think that with their money, influence and armed goons they could do everything to protect their interests in the land at the cost of outright abuses against the agricultural farmers and workers.

The atrocity was the repression of some 2,000 agricultural workers and farmers who assembled since the day before the commemoration of the 66th International Human Rights Day last December 10, and they cried for their rights to land. Their 145-hectare lands were formerly part of the Hijo Plantation which were covered by the CARP, and the Department of Agrarian Reform promoted its coverage with an agri-business agreement with the Lapanday in 1998.

After more than a decade, the agrarian reform beneficiaries realized the inequity of the agreement and pushed for the individual distribution of the lands, which the Department of Agrarian Reform ordered on June 21, 2010, as per DAR Region XI Regional Director Datu Yusoph Mama, Case No. A-1100-0303-09. Naturally, Lapanday opposed this order which led to a Davao City RTC case with a decision favoring the agricultural workers in April 2011.

Kaya ngayong 2016, mula nang iniutos ng DAR na ipamahagi ang lupa sa mga agricultural workers at magsasaka, mahigpit pa rin ang kontrol ng Lapanday sa lupa. Noong Oktubre, nag-commit din si Secretary Rafael “Ka Paeng” Mariano na ipamahagi ito. Sa kabila ng mga legal basis na pumapabor sa mga agricultural workers, ang mga Lorenzo ay umaaktong feudal lord, gamit mismo ang armadong goons nila upang supilin ang mga agricultural workers at magsasaka sa pagbawi ng kanilang lupa.

We blame this injustice on the preservation of a feudal set-up in the countryside, the bankruptcy of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program.

Kanina bago po pinaputukan at matapos paputukan ang mga magsasaka at ang mga agricultural workers, pilit at sadyang nagpa-spray ito ng mga kemikal para buwagin ang asembleya ng mga magsasaka.

I, as a Representative of the ANAKPAWIS Party-List, and an advocate of the victims of rights violation as well as for land and livelihood, urge the House of Representatives to investigate this phenomenon, seek justice for the victims and hold the Lorenzo family accountable. I urge the Members of the House to join my call.

I am also demanding the immediate disbanding of the private armed group of the Lapanday which is the main perpetrator of this violation.

Since the start, we have been appealing to the President, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, to realize land and justice, primarily for the benefit of the marginalized, oppressed and exploited peasant class in the country. We appeal to the leadership of the House to work around these ideals for the attainment of fundamental reforms in our country.

Nagpapatuloy pa rin po ang tensiyon sa kasalukuyan. Bagama't nandoon na ang mga kapulisan, ngunit dahil sa patuloy na pangaharas ng mga private armed goons, sa ngalan ng mga security agency ng ACDISA, ay hina-hunting ang mga lider at maging ang mga aktibong kalahok sa assemblyang iyan, at sila ay patuloy na tina-target ng armed goons na ito.

Justice for the agricultural worker victims of the Lapanday!

Land and Justice now!

Maraming salamat, Mme. Speaker. Magandang hapon. Maayong hapon kaninyong tanan.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the Honorable Casilao to the Committee on Rules.

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

The speech of the Hon. Ariel "Ka Ayik" B. Casilao is referred to the Committee on Rules.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Next to speak, Mme. Speaker, is the Gentleman from MANILA TEACHERS. I move that we recognize the Hon. Virgilio S. Lacson.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The Hon. Virgilio Lacson is hereby recognized.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. LACSON

REP. LACSON. Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, fellow public servants, Ladies and Gentlemen, good afternoon.

I rise to express this Representation's regret and disappointment over the refusal of the Commission on Higher Education's Chairperson to submit her courtesy resignation despite the numerous calls demanding her to leave office from various student organizations and even from President Rodrigo Roa Duterte.

Mme. Speaker, public officers, elective or appointive, along with all civil servants in the government bureaucracy, serve under the maxim of "Public office is a public trust," as enshrined in our

Constitution. With President Duterte receiving the mandate from the people who have forwarded their utmost trust and confidence in his leadership, it is then imperative for the President, as he is accountable for the effective delivery of his promised change in the lives of the Filipino people.

For these reasons, Mme. Speaker, it is the humble opinion of this Representation that in order for the President to be successful in his endeavor to translate his promise into reality, Members of the Executive must have the fullest trust and confidence of the President in helping him achieve national objectives and to effectively run the government.

Mme. Speaker, Chairperson Patricia B. Licuanan failed to tender her courtesy resignation despite the issuance of President Duterte, through Exec. Sec. Salvador C. Medialdea, of Memorandum Circular No. 4, asking for the courtesy resignation of all appointees of the previous administration in order to get rid of corruption in the bureaucracy and to enable the President to choose officials whom he deem fit in helping him achieve his policies.

Recently, Chairperson Licuanan, has been given orders to desist from joining cabinet meetings. Chairperson Licuanan, in response to these developments, still remains adamant in keeping her position at the Commission on Higher Education.

Mme. Speaker, without prejudice to the law that gives Chairperson Licuanan her security of tenure in office, as a cabinet official in one of the most vital agencies of the government, she serves at the pleasure of the President. As I have mentioned earlier in my premise, members of the Executive must have the fullest trust and confidence of the President in helping the President achieve national objectives and to effectively run the government.

It is my opinion that the President has lost confidence in the capabilities of Chairperson Licuanan. Therefore, out of delicadeza, the CHED Chairperson should and must resign.

Mme. Speaker, the President is not alone in pressing Chairperson Licuanan to resign. Student organizations such as the National Union of Students of the Philippines join the call for the resignation of Chairperson Licuanan as she has been accused of being an anti-student and a pro-capitalist for supporting increases in tuition and other school fees. The CHED under her chairmanship approved for academic year 2016-2017 the application for tuition and other school fees for an increase of 304 schools. She was also quoted as telling students not to pursue college and instead just finish technical-vocational courses to satisfy the global demands for cheap labor, effectively discouraging students from pursuing higher education.

The CHED released a memorandum that dictates that undergraduate students who stopped schooling are only given until Academic Year 2017-2018 to finish

their bachelor's degrees. Otherwise, the Outcome-Based Education Curriculum and the Revised General Education Curriculum to be completed will entail them to go to senior high school first.

Furthermore, in this Representation's utter dismay, Mme. Speaker, the CHED was allotted in 2104, P5.2 billion in appropriations to help 391,817 poor college students—nearly 10 times more than the usual number of beneficiaries—through scholarships, grants and loans. However, the COA reported that P1.23 billion of the amount were unspent because the CHED was not able to absorb its allocation due to faulty implementation of the Student Assistance Programs and several internal control weaknesses of the Commission.

Deficiencies of the CHED based on COA report:

1. Excess, double or multiple payments made to 703 students totaling P3.44 million;
2. Cash advances of P108 million, which cannot be verified to have been received by the beneficiaries;
3. Delayed releases of allowances by up to 14 months to at least 25,442 students; and
4. Checks worth P9.3 million that were not claimed because the beneficiaries were not notified.

Mme. Speaker, with the inefficiencies and inconsistencies of the CHED under the chairmanship of Dr. Licuanan under the new order of governance under President Rodrigo Duterte, I sincerely believe that the CHED Chairperson Patricia Licuanan must resign from her post as the head of an agency that is created by law for the attainment of higher education of the citizenry.

She has lost the confidence, not only of the President, but also of the public which she serves.

This standstill between her and the President may only do more harm than good if it lingers. To prolong the rift between her and the President will definitely compromise the delivery of service of her office to various stakeholders and will imperil the whole higher education system of the Philippines.

Mme. Speaker, my colleagues in legislature, I am filing a resolution for the resignation of CHED Chairperson Licuanan. I enjoin everyone to support the call for Chairperson Licuanan to step down from office. Let us support the President's advocacies in delivering quality and responsive higher education system to the people by giving him the opportunity and the avenues to appoint officials whom he trusts fully and he is confident working with. Let us support him to rid the *status quo* in the bureaucracy for the realization of national progress and for the greater good of the country and the Filipino people.

Thank you Mme. Speaker and my dear colleagues.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the Hon. Virgilio S. Lacson to the Committee on Rules.

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

The speech of the Hon. Virgilio Lacson is hereby referred to the Committee on Rules.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we terminate the Privilege Hour.

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

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move for a suspension of the session.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The session is suspended.

It was 5:50 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:32 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The session is resumed.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we proceed to the Additional Reference of Business.

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

The Secretary General will please read the Additional Reference of Business.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Secretary General read the following Committee Reports, and the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding references:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report by the Committee on Public Works and Highways (Committee Report No. 44), re H.B. No. 2785, entitled:

“AN ACT RENAMING THE WAWA ROAD AT BARANGAYSANRAFAEL, MUNICIPALITY OF RODRIGUEZ, PROVINCE OF RIZAL, AS GENERAL LICERIO I. GERONIMO HIGHWAY”

recommending its approval without amendment
Sponsors: Representatives Lobregat and Rodriguez (I.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Public Works and Highways (Committee Report No. 45), re H.B. No. 4660, entitled:

“AN ACT NAMING THE BY-PASS ROAD STRETCHINGFROMBARANGAYBENGLAG, CITY OF LAOAG, TO BARANGAY BUYON, MUNICIPALITY OF BACARRA, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE AS THE RODOLFO G. FARIÑAS, JR. BY-PASS ROAD”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 7
Sponsors: Representatives Lobregat and Quimbo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we adjourn the session until tomorrow, December 13, 2016 at four o'clock in the afternoon.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia, G.). The session is adjourned until tomorrow at four o'clock in the afternoon, December 13, 2016.

It was 6:33 p.m.