



Congressional Record

PLENARY PROCEEDINGS OF THE 17th CONGRESS, FIRST REGULAR SESSION

House of Representatives

Vol. 4

Wednesday, March 15, 2017

No. 83

CALL TO ORDER

At 4:00 p.m., pursuant to Section 15(h), Rule IV of the House Rules, the Presiding Officer, Rep. Arthur R. Defensor Jr., called the session to order.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Rep. Defensor). The session is called to order.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Rep. Defensor). Let us all rise for the Philippine National Anthem.

Everybody rose to sing the Philippine National Anthem.

PRAYER

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Rep. Defensor). Let us pause for a minute of silent prayer.

Everybody remained standing for the silent prayer.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Rep. Defensor). The Floor Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. LOPEZ (B.). Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the session for a few minutes.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Rep. Defensor). The session is suspended.

It was 4:02 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:29 p.m., the session was resumed with Deputy Speaker Ferdinand L. Hernandez presiding.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). The session is resumed.
The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, may we be allowed to acknowledge the presence of the guests of the distinguished Lady from the Second District of Zamboanga Sibugay, the Hon. Ann K. Hofer, and we have four Board Members and 11 Mayors. The Board Members are Richard Olegario, Mujahid Jajurie, Joval John Samonte and Abdusaid Ahiron. We also have the Mayors: Atty. Lysel Castor-Tan, municipality of Diplahan; Roselyn Silva, municipality of Imelda; Anamel Olegario, municipality of Ipil; Marcelo Baquial, municipality of Malangas; Joeper Mendoza, municipality of Payao; Orlando Ramiso, municipality of Talusan; Restituto Calonge, municipality of Mabuhay; Carlnan Climaco, municipality of Tungawan; Rino Delos Reyes, municipality of Naga; Michael Piodena, municipality of R.T. Lim; Jarvis Acosta, municipality of Siay; George Cainglet, municipality of Kabasalan; and Leonardo Talania, municipality of Titay.

We also have Vice Mayor Ralimson Ramiso.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). Will the guests of Rep. Ann Hofer of the Second District of Zamboanga Sibugay please stand to be recognized. (*Applause*) Welcome to the House of Representatives.

REP. DEFENSOR. We also have the guests of our distinguished Deputy Speaker, the Gentleman from the Second District of Marikina, the Hon. Romero "Miro" S. Quimbo, and they are the most hardworking nurses of the Marikina City Health Offices, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). Will the guests of Deputy Speaker Quimbo please stand to be recognized. (*Applause*) Welcome to the House of Representatives.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

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

The session is suspended.

It was 4:31 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:23 p.m., the session was resumed with Deputy Speaker Romero "Miro" S. Quimbo presiding.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Quimbo). The session is resumed.

The Floor Leader is recognized.

ROLL CALL

REP. SALO. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully move that we call the roll of Members.

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

The Secretary General will please call the roll.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Quimbo relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Ferdinand L. Hernandez.

*The Secretary General called the roll, and the result is reflected in Journal No. 83, dated March 15, 2017.**

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. Mr. Speaker, the roll call shows that 239 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). With 239 Members present, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

The Floor Leader is recognized.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. SALO. Mr. Speaker, I move for the approval of Journal No. 82 of Tuesday, March 14, 2017.

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

REP. SALO. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully move that we proceed to the Reference of Business.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). 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, Message from the Senate, and Communication, and the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding references:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 5242, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE RIGHTS OF MOBILE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICE SUBSCRIBERS, ESTABLISHING THE MINIMUM STANDARDS IN THE QUALITY OF SUCH SERVICES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Castelo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 5243, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES AGRICULTURE AND MARINE AQUACULTURE SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY (SPAMAST) DAVAO DEL SUR CAMPUSES INTO A STATE COLLEGE TO BE KNOWN AS DAVAO DEL SUR STATE COLLEGE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Cagas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 5244, entitled:

“AN ACT TO FURTHER MAKE PHILIPPINE ROADS SAFER, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10913 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-DISTRACTED DRIVING ACT”

By Representative Biazon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 5245, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 12-B PARAGRAPH (C) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8282 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SOCIAL SECURITY LAW”

By Representative Gasataya

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

House Bill No. 5246, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING TITLE X, FUNERALS, ARTICLE 305 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 386, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CIVIL CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Gasataya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 5247, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING TWO (2) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN CITIES IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD, THEREBY AMENDING SECTION 29 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980, AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Gasataya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 5248, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING BENIGNO S. AQUINO DRIVE FROM SAN JUAN STREET TO BURGOS EXTENSION IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Gasataya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 5249, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING BURGOS STREET FROM SAN JUAN STREET TO LACSON STREET IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Gasataya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 5250, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING CORAZON C. AQUINO AVENUE FROM GONZAGA STREET TO BACOLOD - SAN CARLOS ROAD IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Gasataya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 5251, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING HERNAEZ STREET FROM ARANETA STREET TO BACOLOD

-SAN CARLOS ROAD IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Gasataya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 5252, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING HONORATA MANALO DRIVE FROM LACSON STREET TO CIRCUMFERENTIAL ROAD IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Gasataya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 5253, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING LOPEZ JAENA STREET FROM HERNAEZ STREET TO BENIGNO S. AQUINO DRIVE IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Gasataya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 5254, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING LACSON STREET FROM CORNER LIZARES - LACSON STREETS TO BACOLOD - SAN CARLOS ROAD IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Gasataya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 5255, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING MAGSAYSAY AVENUE FROM ARANETA STREET TO CORAZON C. AQUINO AVENUE IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Gasataya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 5256, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MANDATORY PRE-AUDIT SYSTEM OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS DISBURSEMENTS AND USE OF FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF

FIFTY MILLION PESOS (Php 50,000,000) & ABOVE”

By Representative Sagarbarria
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 5257, entitled:

“AN ACT EXEMPTING THE BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE FROM THE COVERAGE OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6758, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SALARY STANDARDIZATION LAW, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Sagarbarria
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 5261, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A POLYTECHNIC STATE COLLEGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ALIAGA, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA TO BE KNOWN AS THE ALIAGA POLYTECHNIC STATE COLLEGE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Suansing (E.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 5262, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING MAY 22 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF GUIMARAS IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS ANNIVERSARY AS A PROVINCE”

By Representative Nava
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 5263, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 35 (B) AND 79 (F) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8424, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997”

By Representative Villarín
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 5264, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING WORKERS’ RIGHT TO SECURITY OF TENURE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 106-109 OF BOOK III AND ARTICLES 294 [279], 295 [280], 296[281], 297[282] AND 298[283] OF BOOK VI OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Bravo (A.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 5265, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO PENA FRANCA BROADCASTING CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8166”

By Representative Robes
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 5266, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN CITIES (MTCC) IN THE CITY OF ORMOC, PROVINCE OF LEYTE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 29 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980’, AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Gomez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 5267, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE NATIONAL YOUTH AGRIPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Amante
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 5268, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE REGIME OF TOTAL SEPARATION OF PROPERTY AS THE GOVERNING REGIME IN THE ABSENCE OF A MARRIAGE SETTLEMENT OR WHEN THE REGIME AGREED UPON IS VOID, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 75 AND 147 OF TITLE IV OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 209, AS AMENDED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 227, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Alvarez (P.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 884, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE CONCERN

OF CONGRESS ON THE INCURSION OF CHINESE SHIPS AT BENHAM RISE AND DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE GOVERNMENT'S STRATEGIC DIRECTION IN SECURING PHILIPPINE INTERESTS IN ITS EASTERN SEABOARD”

By Representative Biazon
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 885, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE HOUSE COMMITTEE(S) TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROCLAMATION NOS. 137 (S. 1987), 458 (S. 1994) AND 145 (S. 2002)”

By Representative Benitez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

*The list of additional coauthors is reflected in Journal No. 83, dated March 15, 2017.**

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Message dated March 13, 2017, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed Senate Bill No. 209, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE TWENTY-FIFTH DAY OF AUGUST OF EVERY YEAR AS THE NATIONAL TECH-VOC DAY”

in which it requests the concurrence of the House Representatives.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

COMMUNICATION

Letters dated March 8, 2017 of Roger E. Dino, Deputy Director, Office of the General Counsel and Legal Services, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, furnishing the House of Representatives with duly certified and authenticated BSP issuances, to wit:

1. BSP Circular Letter No. CL-2017-013 dated 23 February 2017;
2. BSP Memorandum No. M-2017-006 dated 22 February 2017;
3. BSP Memorandum No. M-2017-007 dated 22 February 2017;
4. BSP Memorandum No. M-2017-008 dated 27 February 2017; and

5. BSP Circular No. 948 dated 1 March 2017.
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). The Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move for the enrollment of House Bill No. 4637 and House Bill No. 4631 for their transmittal to the Senate and eventually, to the Office of the President.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. SALO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we acknowledge the presence of the guests of Cong. Wilfredo S. Caminero. With us are, first, the honorable Mayor Jose C. Tumulak, Jr. of the municipality of Oslob, Cebu, as well as the honorable Councilor Merla P. Tumulak, Barangay Poblacion, Oslob, Cebu.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). Will the guests of Congressman Caminero please rise to be identified. (*Applause*) Welcome to the House of Representatives.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). The session is suspended.

It was 5:39 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:41 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). The session is resumed.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we take up matters under our Calendar of Business.

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

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we take up Bills on Second Reading.

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

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 735
ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 735, contained in Committee Report No. 147, as reported out by the Committee on Basic Education and Culture.

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

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

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

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the measure have been previously distributed, the Secretary General read only the title thereof without prejudice to inserting its text in the Congressional Record.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 735, entitled: AN ACT INCLUDING ANATIONAL ARTIST AS A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CULTURE AND THE ARTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7356, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "LAW CREATING THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CULTURE AND THE ARTS."

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate and likewise recognize the Hon. Evelina G. Escudero, the Chairperson of the Committee on Basic Education and Culture, to sponsor House Bill No. 735.

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

The Sponsor, the Hon. Evelina G. Escudero, is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). The session is suspended.

It was 5:42 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:43 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). The session is resumed.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, in behalf of the Sponsor, I move that the Explanatory Note of House Bill No. 735 be considered as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Since there are no Members who registered to interpellate, Mr. Speaker, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). The session is suspended.

It was 5:44 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:47 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). The session is resumed.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, the parliamentary status

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

is that we just closed the period of sponsorship and debate, and we are now proceeding to the period of amendments. So, I move that we open the period of amendments and proceed to consider Committee amendments.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. There being no Committee amendments, Mr. Speaker, I move that we proceed to the individual amendments.

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

The Hon. Jose "Lito" L. Atienza Jr. is recognized.

INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

REP. ATIENZA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

With the kind indulgence of the Sponsor, we would like to propose certain amendments on the following: Item no. 1, on Section 1, lines 17 to 21, after the word "Subcommissions," to delete the statement "EXCEPT FOR THE HEAD OF THE SUBCOMMISSION FOR THE ARTS WHO MUST BE A NATIONAL ARTIST AND WHO SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ORDER OF NATIONAL ARTISTS" and in lieu thereof, to insert a semicolon (;) and the word AND.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, may we know if this is acceptable to the Sponsor?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). What does the Sponsor say?

REP. ESCUDERO. Mr. Speaker, it is acceptable to this Representation.

REP. DEFENSOR. With that, Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve the following amendment: on Section 1, lines 17 to 21, after the word "Subcommissions," to delete the statement "EXCEPT FOR THE HEAD OF THE SUBCOMMISSION FOR THE ARTS WHO MUST BE A NATIONAL ARTIST AND WHO SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ORDER OF NATIONAL ARTISTS" and in lieu thereof, to insert a semicolon (;) and the word AND.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). Is

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

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker, item no. 2, we would like to propose another amendment on Section 1: After paragraph "(m)," to insert a new paragraph (N) which shall read as follows: (N) TWO (2) NATIONAL ARTISTS, WHO ARE DULY RECOGNIZED IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 236, OR THE "HONORS CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES", AND WHO SHALL BE CHOSEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GUIDELINES TO BE SET BY THE COMMISSION.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, may we know if this is acceptable to the Sponsor?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). What does the Sponsor say?

REP. ESCUDERO. Mr. Speaker, this is acceptable to this Representation.

REP. DEFENSOR. With that, Mr. Speaker, I move for the approval of the following amendment: On Section 1, after paragraph "m," to insert a new paragraph (N) which shall read as follows: (N) TWO (2) NATIONAL ARTISTS, WHO ARE DULY RECOGNIZED IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 236, OR THE "HONORS CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES", AND WHO SHALL BE CHOSEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GUIDELINES TO BE SET BY THE COMMISSION.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the amendment is approved.

REP. ATIENZA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Finally, item no. 3, the title of the Bill is hereby amended to read as follows: AN ACT INCLUDING TWO (2) NATIONAL ARTISTS AS MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CULTURE AND THE ARTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC NO. 7356, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "LAW CREATING THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CULTURE AND THE ARTS."

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, may we know if this amendment is acceptable to the Sponsor?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). What does the Sponsor say?

REP. ESCUDERO. We accept the amendment, Mr. Speaker.

REP. DEFENSOR. With that, Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve the following amendment: The title of the Bill is hereby amended to read as follows: “AN ACT INCLUDING TWO (2) NATIONAL ARTISTS AS MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CULTURE AND THE ARTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7356, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘LAW CREATING THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CULTURE AND THE ARTS.’ ”

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the amendment to the title is approved.

REP. ATIENZA. That is all. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

REP. DEFENSOR. There being no other individual amendments, Mr. Speaker, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move for the approval on Second Reading of House Bill No. 735, as amended.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez.). As many as are in favor of approving House Bill No. 735, as amended, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez.). As many as are against, please say *nay*.

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

APPROVAL OF H. B. NO. 735, AS AMENDED, ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez.). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 735, as amended, is approved on Second Reading.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 5224 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 5224, contained in Committee Report No. 163, as reported out by the Committee on Basic Education and Culture.

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

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

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

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the measure have been previously distributed, the Secretary General read only the title thereof without prejudice to inserting its text in the Congressional Record.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 5224, entitled: AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE RULES ON THE PROPER USE AND DISPLAY OF OUR NATIONAL SYMBOLS AND THE RENDITION OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8491, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “FLAG AND HERALDIC CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES.”

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate. For this measure, Mr. Speaker, still, our Sponsor is the Chairperson of the Committee on Basic Education and Culture, the Hon. Evelina G. Escudero.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. On behalf of the Sponsor, I move that the Explanatory Note of House Bill No. 5224 be considered as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

REP. DEFENSOR. There being no Member who registered to interpellate or speak against the bill, Mr. Speaker, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments to consider both Committee and individual amendments.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. There being no Committee or individual amendments, Mr. Speaker, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move for the approval on Second Reading of House Bill No. 5224.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez.). As many as are in favor of the approval on Second Reading of House Bill No. 5224, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez.). As many as are against, please say *nay*.

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 5224 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez.). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 5224 is approved on Second Reading.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 5211 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we

consider House Bill No. 5211, contained in Committee Report No. 155, as reported out by the Committee on Legislative Franchises.

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

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

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

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the measure have been previously distributed, the Secretary General read only the title thereof without prejudice to inserting its text in the Congressional Record.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 5211, entitled: AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO GATEWAY U.H.F. TELEVISION BROADCASTING, INC., PRESENTLY KNOWN AS GATEWAY TELEVISION BROADCASTING, INC., AND DOING BUSINESS UNDER THE NAME AND STYLE OF HOPE CHANNEL PHILIPPINES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7223, ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING GATEWAY U.H.F. TELEVISION BROADCASTING, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES UHF TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, for this measure, we have here today, the Sponsor, the Chairman of the Committee on Legislative Franchises, the distinguished Gentleman from the First District of Palawan, the Hon. Franz E. Alvarez.

For this measure, in behalf of the Sponsor, I move that we consider the Explanatory Note of House Bill No. 5211 as its sponsorship speech.

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

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. There being no Member who registered to interpellate or speak against the Bill, Mr. Speaker, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments to consider both Committee and individual amendments.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Since there are no Committee or individual amendments, Mr. Speaker, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. With that, Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve House Bill No. 5211 on Second Reading.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). As many as are in favor of approving House Bill No. 5211 on Second Reading, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). As many as are against, please say *nay*.

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 5211 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 5211 is hereby approved on Second Reading.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 5212 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 5212, contained in Committee Report No. 156, as reported out by the Committee on Legislative Franchises.

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

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

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

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the measure have been previously distributed, the Secretary General read only the title thereof without prejudice to inserting its text in the Congressional Record.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 5212, entitled: AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO FILIPINAS BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION, INC., PRESENTLY KNOWN AS WORD BROADCASTING CORPORATION, UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7485 ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING FILIPINAS BROADCASTING ASSOCIATION, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES RADIO BROADCASTING AND TELEVISION STATIONS IN THE VISAYAS AND MINDANAO AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, in behalf of the Sponsor, I move that we consider the Explanatory Note of House Bill No. 5212 as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

REP. DEFENSOR. Since there are no Members who registered to interpellate or speak against the Bill, Mr. Speaker, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments to consider both Committee and individual amendments.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Since there are no Committee or individual amendments, Mr. Speaker, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve House Bill No. 5212 on Second Reading.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). As many as are in favor of approving House Bill No. 5212 on Second Reading, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). As many as are against, please say *nay*.

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 5212 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). The ayes have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 5212 is hereby approved on Second Reading.

The Dep. Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we take up the Business for Thursday and Friday, the local bills, Mr. Speaker.

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

OMNIBUS CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL BILLS ON SECOND READING

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move for the omnibus consideration of the following House Bills on Second Reading:

1. House Bill No. 5151, contained in Committee Report No. 135, entitled: AN ACT EXTENDING THE DEADLINE FOR COMPLIANCE OF THE MOUNTAIN PROVINCE STATE POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION FOR ITS CONVERSION INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10583, ENTITLED: "AN ACT CONVERTING THE MOUNTAIN PROVINCE STATE POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BONTOC, MOUNTAIN PROVINCE INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS MOUNTAIN PROVINCE STATE UNIVERSITY, WITH CAMPUSES IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF TADIAN, BAUKO, PARACELIS AND BARLIG, ALL LOCATED IN MOUNTAIN PROVINCE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR";

2. House Bill No. 2737, contained in Committee Report No. 136, entitled: AN ACT AMENDING SEC. 25 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10597 TO EXTEND THE DEADLINE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) FOR THE CONVERSION INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY;

3. House Bill No. 705, contained in Committee Report No. 144, entitled: AN ACT DECLARING DECEMBER 8 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF AGOO, PROVINCE OF LA UNION, TO BE KNOWN AS "AGOO DAY";

4. House Bill No. 5172, contained in Committee Report No. 145, entitled: AN ACT DECLARING JUNE 19 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE WHOLE PROVINCE OF LAGUNA IN HONOR OF THE BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR NATIONAL HERO, DR. JOSE P. RIZAL, TO BE KNOWN AS "ARAW NG KAPANGANAKAN NI DR. JOSE P. RIZAL";

5. House Bill No. 5173, contained in Committee Report No. 146, entitled: AN ACT DECLARING SEPTEMBER 17 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LOS BAÑOS, PROVINCE OF LAGUNA IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY AND THE ANNUAL BAÑAMOS FESTIVAL;

6. House Bill No. 5183, contained in Committee Report No. 152, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY HAMPANGAN, MUNICIPALITY OF HILONGOS, PROVINCE OF LEYTE TO BE KNOWN AS HAMPANGAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;

7. House Bill No. 5202, contained in Committee Report No. 153, entitled: AN ACT DECLARING MAY 15 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE, TO BE KNOWN AS “ADLAW NAN PROBINSYANAN SURIGAO DEL NORTE”, THEREBY AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7553, ENTITLED “AN ACT DECLARING JUNE NINETEEN OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE, TO BE KNOWN AS “ADLAW NAN SURIGAO DEL NORTE”;

8. House Bill No. 5203, contained in Committee Report No. 154, entitled: AN ACT MOVING THE DATE OF “CATARMAN DAY” TO AUGUST 30 OF EVERY YEAR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9203, ENTITLED “AN ACT DECLARING THE FIFTEENTH (15TH) DAY OF AUGUST OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CATARMAN, PROVINCE OF CAMIGUIN, TO BE KNOWN AS “CATARMAN DAY”;

9. House Bill No. 5214, contained in Committee Report No. 157, entitled: AN ACT DECLARING JANUARY 6 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF TOLEDO, PROVINCE OF CEBU, IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS CHARTER DAY ANNIVERSARY; and

10. House Bill No. 2615, contained in Committee Report No. 158, entitled: AN ACT DECLARING SEPTEMBER 11 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE, IN COMMEMORATION OF THE BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF FORMER PRESIDENT FERDINAND EDRALIN MARCOS, TO BE KNOWN AS “PRESIDENT FERDINAND EDRALIN MARCOS DAY.”

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider the respective Explanatory Notes of the House Bills as the sponsorship speeches thereon.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. There being no Member who registered to interpellate or speak against the Bill, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments and that we approve the Committee amendments, if any, as contained in the respective Committee Reports of the aforementioned Bills.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, may I make an omnibus motion that we approve on Second Reading House Bills No. 5151, 2737, 705, 5172, 5173, 5183, 5202, 5203, 5214 and 2615.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). As many as are in favor of approving the aforementioned House Bills, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). As many as are against, please say *nay*. (*Silence*)

OMNIBUS APPROVAL OF LOCAL BILLS ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

The House Bills enumerated in the omnibus motion are hereby approved on Second Reading.*

CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 769

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Resolution No. 769, contained in

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

Committee Report No. 143, as reported out by the Special Committee on Peace, Reconciliation and Unity.

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

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

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

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the measure have been previously distributed, the Secretary General read only the title thereof without prejudice to inserting its text in the Congressional Record.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Resolution No. 769, entitled: RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT RODRIGO R. DUTERTE TO CONTINUE THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES (GRP) AND THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FRONT OF THE PHILIPPINES (NDFP), CONSIDERING THE UNPRECEDENTED AND SIGNIFICANT ADVANCES MADE ON THE SUBSTANTIVE AGENDA OF THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FILIPINO PEOPLE.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, there being no Members who registered to interpellate, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we proceed to the period of amendments and approve the following Committee amendments:

1. On the title, after the word "URGING", change "PRESIDENT RODRIGO R. DUTERTE" to PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE;

2. On page 2, first "WHEREAS", line 10, after the word "includes", delete the phrase "free land distribution" and insert the phrase THE DISTRIBUTION OF LAND FOR FREE; and

3. On page 3, line 1, after the word "Congress", delete the word "hear" and insert the phrase AS THE VOICE OF ITS CONSTITUENTS HEED.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the amendments are approved.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, there being no other Committee amendments and no individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). As many as are in favor of the aforementioned House Resolution No. 769, as amended, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). As many as are against, please say *nay*. (*Silence*)

ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 769, AS AMENDED

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Resolution No. 769, as amended, is adopted.

CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 835

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Resolution No. 835, contained in Committee Report No. 151, as reported out by the Committee on Public Information.

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

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

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

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the measure have been previously distributed, the Secretary General read only the title thereof without prejudice to inserting its text in the Congressional Record.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Resolution No. 835, entitled: RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING FILMMAKER DIRECTOR BRILLANTE MENDOZA FOR WINNING THE AWARD FOR BEST DIRECTOR FOR HIS FILM "MA ROSA" AT THE 54TH GIJON INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL, AND FOR RECEIVING THE ECUMENICAL JURY PRIZE-SPECIAL MENTION IN THE 68TH CANNES FILM FESTIVAL FOR HIS FILM "TAKLUB."

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, I move for the adoption of House Resolution No. 835.

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

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). As many as are in favor of adopting House Resolution No. 835, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). As many as are against, please say *nay*. (*Silence*)

ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 835

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.
House Resolution No. 835 is adopted.

REP. DEFENSOR. Mr. Speaker, in accordance with our Rules, I move that we authorize all Committees to conduct meetings or public hearings, if deemed necessary, during the House recess from March 18 to May 1, 2017.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). The session is suspended.

It was 6:04 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:04 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). The session is resumed.

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, I move that we declare the position of Chairperson of the following Committees vacant: Civil Service and Professional Regulation; Government Reorganization; Muslim Affairs; Natural Resources; Overseas Workers Affairs; People's Participation; Poverty Alleviation; Public Information; Women and Gender Equality; and the Special Committee on Land Use.

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

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, I move to declare vacant the position of Deputy Speaker for Central Luzon.

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

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, I move that we elect as Chairperson of the Committee on Basic Education and Culture, Rep. Ramon "Red" H. Durano VI vice Rep. Evelina G. Escudero.

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

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adjourn our session until Tuesday, May 2, 2017, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

REP. QUIMBO. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). The session is adjourned ...

REP. QUIMBO. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). ... until May 2, 2017, ...

REP. QUIMBO. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez). ... Tuesday, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

It was 6:05 p.m.