



# Congressional Record

PLENARY PROCEEDINGS OF THE 17<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND REGULAR SESSION

## House of Representatives

Vol. 3

Tuesday, December 5, 2017

No. 44

### CALL TO ORDER

*At 4:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Mylene J. Garcia-Albano called the session to order.*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The session is called to order.

### NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). Everybody will please rise to sing the National Anthem.

*Everybody rose to sing the Philippine National Anthem.*

### PRAYER

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). Everybody will please remain standing for a minute of silent prayer and meditation.

*Everybody remained standing for the silent prayer.*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Majority Leader is recognized.

### ROLL CALL

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, good afternoon. I move that we call the roll of Members of the House of Representatives.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). 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. 44, dated December 5, 2017:*

### PRESENT

Abaya  
Abellanosa

Abu  
Abueg

Acharon  
Acop  
Acosta-Alba  
Adiong  
Advincula  
Aggabao  
Albano  
Almario  
Almonte  
Alonte  
Alvarez (F.)  
Alvarez (P.)  
Amatong  
Angara-Castillo  
Aquino-Magsaysay  
Arbison  
Arcillas  
Arenas  
Atienza  
Banal  
Bataoil  
Batocabe  
Bautista-Bandigan  
Belaro  
Belmonte (F.)  
Belmonte (J.C.)  
Benitez  
Bernos  
Biazon  
Billones  
Bolilia  
Bondoc  
Bordado  
Bravo (A.)  
Bravo (M.V.)  
Brosas  
Calderon  
Calixto-Rubiano  
Caminero  
Campos  
Casilao  
Castelo  
Castro (F.L.)  
Castro (F.H.)

Catamco  
Cerilles  
Chavez  
Chipeco  
Co  
Cojuangco  
Collantes  
Cortes  
Cortuna  
Cosalan  
Crisologo  
Cua  
Cuaresma  
Cueva  
Dalipe  
Datol  
Daza  
De Jesus  
De Venecia  
De Vera  
Defensor  
Del Mar  
Del Rosario  
Deloso-Montalla  
Dimaporo (M.K.)  
Durano  
Dy  
Enverga  
Eriguel  
Ermita-Buhain  
Escudero  
Espino  
Fariñas  
Ferrer (J.)  
Ferrer (L.)  
Flores  
Fortun  
Fortuno  
Garbin  
Garcia (G.)  
Garcia-Albano  
Garin (S.)  
Gasataya  
Gatchalian

Go (M.)  
Gonzaga  
Gonzales (A.P.)  
Gonzales (A.D.)  
Gonzalez  
Herrera-Dy  
Hofer  
Jalosjos  
Kho  
Khonghun  
Labadlabad  
Lacson  
Lagman  
Lanete  
Laogan  
Lazatin  
Leachon  
Lee  
Limkaichong  
Lobregat  
Lopez (B.)  
Lopez (C.)  
Lopez (M.L.)  
Loyola  
Macapagal-Arroyo  
Maceda  
Madrona  
Manalo  
Mangaoang  
Mangudadatu (Z.)  
Marcoleta  
Marcos  
Mariño  
Marquez  
Martinez  
Matugas  
Mellana  
Mending  
Mendoza  
Mercado  
Mirasol  
Montoro  
Nava  
Noel  
Nograles (J.J.)  
Nograles (K.A.)  
Oaminal  
Ocampo  
Olivarez  
Ong (E.)  
Ong (H.)  
Ortega (P.)  
Ortega (V.N.)  
PacQUIAO  
Palma  
Panganiban

Papandayan  
Pichay  
Pimentel  
Pineda  
Plaza  
Primicias-Agabas  
Quimbo  
Ramirez-Sato  
Ramos  
Relampagos  
Revilla  
Roa-Puno  
Rocamora  
Rodriguez (I.)  
Roman  
Romero  
Romualdez  
Sacdalan  
Sahali  
Salimbangon  
Salo  
Sambar  
Sandoval  
Santos-Recto  
Sarmiento (C.)  
Sarmiento (E.M.)  
Savellano  
Siao  
Silverio  
Singson  
Suansing (E.)  
Suansing (H.)  
Suarez  
Tambunting  
Tan (A.)  
Tan (S.)  
Tejada  
Teves  
Tinio  
Tolentino  
Trefias  
Tugna  
Umali  
Unabia  
Ungab  
Unico  
Uy (R.)  
Uybarreta  
Vargas  
Velasco-Catera  
VeloSO  
Villafuerte  
Villanueva  
Villarica  
Villarín  
Violago

Yap (M.)  
Yu  
Zamora (R.)  
Zubiri

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. Mme. Speaker, the roll call shows that 208 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). With 208 Members responding to the call, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, considering that copies of the Journal of the previous session have been distributed to the Members, I move that we dispense with the reading of the Journal.

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

#### APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve Journal No. 43 of Monday, December 4, 2017. I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion for the approval of the Journal is hereby approved.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we now proceed to the Reference of Business. I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). 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, Communication and Committee Reports, and the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding references:*

#### BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 6733, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE MEDICAL TOURISM AUTHORITY, TO FOSTER THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF MEDICAL TOURISM, TO PROMOTE

THE NEED FOR A SYSTEMATIC AND STRATEGIC COORDINATION AMONG NUMEROUS STAKEHOLDERS WORKING TOWARD A THRIVING AND RESPONSIVE PHILIPPINE MEDICAL TOURISM INDUSTRY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 6734, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 6 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10000, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘AGRI-AGRA REFORM CREDIT ACT OF 2009’ ”

By Representative Romero  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 6735, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES (LBP) TO FOCUS ON ITS CHARTER TO ALLOCATE SIXTY (60) PERCENT OF ITS TOTAL LOAN PORTFOLIO IN SOLELY PROVIDING SUPPORT AND FINANCING SERVICES FOR FARMERS AND FISHERFOLKS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY, TO PROMOTE INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE ESPECIALLY IN THE COUNTRYSIDE THROUGH THE DELIVERY OF INNOVATIVE SCHEMES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

House Bill No. 6736, entitled:

“AN ACT SYSTEMIZING SPECTRUM USER FEES IMPOSED AGAINST ALL ALLOCATED AND ASSIGNED RADIO FREQUENCY BANDS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7925 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY ACT OF THE PHILIPPINES’ ”

By Representative Cua  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 6737, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM (DAR) PROVINCIAL OFFICE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF

MALITA, PROVINCE OF DAVAO OCCIDENTAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Bautista-Bandigan  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRARIAN REFORM

House Bill No. 6738, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE (PENRO) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MALITA, PROVINCE OF DAVAO OCCIDENTAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Bautista-Bandigan  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 6739, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS AND HOSPITALS TO PROVIDE FOR MOTORCYCLE MEDICAL EMERGENCY FIRST-RESPONDERS”

By Representative Velarde  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

## RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 1490, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION TO INCREASE ITS COVERAGE FOR HEMODIALYSIS FROM NINETY (90) SESSIONS TO ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-SIX (156) SESSIONS”

By Representative De Vera  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Resolution No. 1491, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REMOVAL OF THE MONUMENT OF ANDRES BONIFACIO AT THE MAKATI PARK AND GARDEN”

By Representative Biazon  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1492, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE INADEQUACIES OF PROTOCOLS AND/OR POLICIES TO SAFEGUARD THE CONFIDENTIALITY

OF STATUS OF PERSONS WITH HUMAN  
IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV)”

By Representative Roman  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1493, entitled:

“RESOLUTION COMMENDING ALLAN REY  
SALAZAR AND JOSE FERNANDEZ DATUIN  
FOR REPRESENTING THE COUNTRY IN  
INTERNATIONAL ART EXHIBITIONS AND  
COMPETITIONS, GIVING HONOR AND  
PRESTIGE FOR THE COUNTRY”

By Representative Velarde  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1494, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE  
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO  
INVESTIGATE THE ATTACK ON HUMAN  
RIGHTS WORKERS AND ACTIVISTS  
CONDUCTING A FACT FINDING MISSION  
IN STA. CATALINA, NEGROS ORIENTAL”

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

House Resolution No. 1495, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE  
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO  
INVESTIGATE THE HARASSMENT OF  
LUMAD STUDENTS AND TEACHERS  
DURING THEIR CAMPOUT OUTSIDE  
THE OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION NATIONAL OFFICE”

By Representative Elago  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1496, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE APPROPRIATE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE,  
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, HOW THE ISIS  
WAS ABLE TO INFILTRATE AND RECRUIT  
FILIPINO-MUSLIMS BY THE LURE OF  
FINANCIAL GAIN, IN MARAWI AND  
MINDANAO, IN ORDER TO PROPOSE  
REMEDIAL MEASURES TO PREVENT  
SIMILAR MARAWI INCIDENTS FROM  
RECURRING ANYWHERE IN THE ENTIRE  
COUNTRY BY ENSURING THAT ALL MONIES  
AND GRANTS FOR THE ECONOMIC AND  
OTHER FORMS OF REHABILITATION  
OF MARAWI SHALL BE PROPERLY AND  
EXPEDITIOUSLY UTILIZED”

By Representatives Papandayan and Dimaporo  
(M.K.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1497, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE  
ON VISAYAS AFFAIRS TO CONDUCT AN  
INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,  
ON THE SPIRALING PRICES OF SUGAR”

By Representatives Ferrer (J.) and Cueva  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1498, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING PROFOUND  
CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEMISE  
OF PHILIPPINE ACTOR AND STUNT  
DIRECTOR, MR. TEODORO GALAN  
BALDOMARO”

By Representative Olivarez  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1499, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES CONGRATULATING  
AND COMMENDING MS. KRIZZIAH LYN  
TABORA FOR BEING THE CHAMPION  
IN WOMEN’S DIVISION ON THE 53<sup>RD</sup>  
QubicaAMF BOWLING WORLD CUP  
(BWC) 2017”

By Representative Olivarez  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND  
SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 1500, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE  
APPROPRIATE HOUSE COMMITTEE(S) TO  
INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE  
UNLAWFUL AND ONEROUS IMPOSITIONS  
OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH OF THE  
GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL (GCC)  
ON THE PRE-EMPLOYMENT MEDICAL  
EXAMINATION OF OVERSEAS FILIPINO  
WORKERS (OFWs)”

By Representative Bertiz  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1501, entitled:

“RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE  
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE  
PHILIPPINES FOR BEING RE-ELECTED  
INTO THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME  
ORGANIZATION COUNCIL UNDER  
CATEGORY (C) AND RECOGNIZING  
THE EFFORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT  
OF TRANSPORTATION, THE MARITIME  
INDUSTRY AUTHORITY, THE  
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS,  
AND ALL OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED  
IN THE RE-ELECTION”

By Representative Manalo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1502, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REINSURANCE CONTRACTS AWARDED TO DOMESTIC INSURANCE COMPANIES BY THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM”

By Representative Alvarez (P.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

#### COMMUNICATIONS

Letter dated October 25, 2017 of Harry D. Florida, Municipal Mayor, Municipality of Allacapan, Province of Cagayan, submitting their Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project Implementation for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter ending September 30, 2017.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Report of Atty. Cesar Strait Pareja, Secretary General, House of Representatives, on enrolled bill, submitted to the Office of the President, for His Excellency’s consideration and signature, pursuant to the provision of Rule VI, Section 18, Par. (h) of the Rules of the House of Representatives:

House Bill No. 4942, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY PUDO IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NATONIN, MOUNTAIN PROVINCE.”

TO THE ARCHIVES

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report by the Committee on Legislative Franchises (Committee Report No. 500), re H.B. No. 6754, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO ULTRASONIC BROADCASTING SYSTEM INCORPORATED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8081 ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING THE ULTRASONIC BROADCASTING SYSTEM INCORPORATED A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES’ FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 4974

Sponsors: Representatives Alvarez (F.) and Bataoil  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 501), re H.B. No. 6758, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING MOUNT BULAYLAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CUYAPO, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA A TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 2489

Sponsors: Representatives Gomez, Nograles (K.A.) and Suansing (E.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 502), re H.B. No. 6759, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE DIOCESAN SHRINE OF SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH, ALSO KNOWN AS THE TAONG PUTIK DAMBANA NI SAN JUAN BAUTISTA, IN BARANGAY BIBICLAT, ALIAGA, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA A PILGRIMAGE SITE AND TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 2490

Sponsors: Representatives Gomez, Nograles (K.A.) and Suansing (E.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### PRIVILEGE HOUR

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, with leave of the House, I move that we open the Privilege Hour.

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

The Privilege Hour is hereby opened.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I now move that we recognize the Lady from ....

REP. ATIENZA. Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Majority Leader, just a manifestation of correction and adjustment in the Journal.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). Kindly proceed.

REP. ATIENZA. Yes.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). Yes, kindly proceed.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the honorable Gentleman from BUHAY Party-List, the Hon. Jose “Lito” L. Atienza Jr.

REP. ATIENZA. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Honorable Atienza is recognized. Kindly proceed.

REP. ATIENZA. Salamat po. Yesterday, we delivered a message to the Body, to the Members of Congress on Ninoy Aquino, specifically.

I read the Journal now. It does not say anything about the message that we delivered. The purpose of the whole message is to remind everybody about Ninoy Aquino. We cannot forget, we should not forget and we should always remember the heroism and the sacrifices of this man. That was what we emphasized on, all the alliterations and all the repetition of his accomplishments were all, precisely, to buttress and support that message. Huwag nating kalimutan si Ninoy Aquino. Hindi ko po nakita rito eh. Para ito, eh, parang narration ng papunta sa kawalan.

So, therefore, I urge the Secretariat to take note of that and correct this particular—I would not call it misrepresentation, but it is definitely lacking in substance. And I hope when we deliver messages to Congress, the Secretariat faithfully writes down in the Journal the purpose of the whole message and exercise; otherwise, all of these will be meaningless in the records of this Congress.

Ididiin ko po, ang purpose ng ating message kahapon ay upang ipaalala sa lahat na huwag nating kalimutan ang ating nakaraang pulitiko, Filipino, na nagsakripisyo ng buhay niya para dito sa kalayaan nating ngayon ay tinatamasa.

We are free today. In fact, all of you are Members now of the PDP Laban, the party that he nursed and he also supported, eh, huwag naman nating kalimutan. Iyon po ang aking message na wala po rito sa Journal natin. So, with that, Mme. Speaker, I rest my case. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, at this juncture, I would like to reiterate the motion to recognize the Lady from Party-List BH, the Hon. Bernadette “BH” Herrera-Dy, to avail of the Privilege Hour.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). On what topic does the Representative wish to speak on today? It will ...

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, the topic will be on Child Protection Laws.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). Rep. Bernadette Herrera-Dy is hereby recognized to deliver her privilege speech.

#### PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. HERRERA-DY

REP. HERRERA-DY. Thank you very much, Mme. Speaker, honorable Speaker, distinguished Members of this Congress, ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon.

I come before you today to call upon this august Body to use its powers of oversight to safeguard the rights of our children.

Mme. Speaker, ladies and gentlemen, my colleagues, when the Philippine government ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1990, it reflected this nation’s commitment to uphold and protect the rights of the Filipino children. The values we hold dear as a Filipino people, which include nurturing and caring for our children for them to grow up to be good people or mabuting tao, were also strengthened by our commitment to the UNCRC.

Through the years since we ratified the Convention, our country has experienced many political, socio-cultural and economic challenges that have dismally affected the lives of our children. We have been through wars, conflicts, man-made and natural disasters, and have seen the escalation of violence and crime in our society. Poverty continues to be a perennial problem which affects many Filipino families. This House of the people mitigated the impact of these issues on children by enacting laws that upheld the right of children to proper care and nutrition, and their special protection from all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty, exploitation, and other conditions, prejudicial to their development, as enshrined in our 1987 Constitution. We have passed many child-friendly legislation which have earned commendations from UN member-states and from the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child. However, it is poignant to note that even with these child-friendly laws in place, our children continue to experience

threats to their survival and development, are subjected to discrimination, violence and abuse, and remain unable to participate in many processes that impact on their well-being.

Mme. Speaker, I am concerned about the implementation of five very important laws that relate to children, namely: RA No. 7610, the Special Protection of Children Against Child Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act; RA No. 9208, the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003; RA No. 10364, the Expanded Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act; RA No. 9262, the Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children Act of 2004; RA No. 9775, the Anti-Child Pornography Act of 2009; and RA No. 9344, the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act of 2006, and its recent amendment under RA No. 10630, an Act Strengthening the Juvenile Justice System in the Philippines. While these laws are considered progressive and globally recognized as respectable legislation that protect children, their implementation has posed a great challenge to our duty bearers at the national and local levels.

The Philippine Legislators' Committee on Population and Development or PLCPD, of which I am a member, has been advocating for the passage of laws and policy reforms that relate to health, children's rights, governance, food and nutrition security, and other important areas of human development.

In 2016, the PLCPD, in partnership with the Ateneo Human Rights Center and the UNICEF, conducted a study to assess the quality of implementation of child protection laws in the Philippines. The study gathered evidence from four LGUs—Zamboanga City; Quezon City; and the municipalities of Bobon, Northern Samar; and Aroroy, Masbate, to support the call to rationalize the creation of different structures or inter-agency councils under the five child protection laws that I have mentioned earlier and to harmonize policies introduced. The findings of the study are a cause for concern as these show the problematic state of our child protection systems at the local level. Allow me to briefly mention some of the results of the probe where gaps in structures and functions, capacities and resources were mentioned.

The study found that most of the Local Council for the Protection of Children or LCPCs and Barangay Councils for the Protection of Children or BCPCs are not, I repeat, are not functional as evidenced by the lack or absence of policies, plans, budgets and accomplishment reports. In some areas, even though the structure is organized, duty bearers were unaware of the functions and roles of the councils, on what activities to perform, and even how to allocate budgets. Moreover, the functionality of LCPCs depends, to a great extent, on the priority and political will of the local chief executives, which place child protection under the whims of local officials.

Inter-agency councils mandated to coordinate and monitor the implementation of each of the five laws were found to have overlapping functions. These inter-agency bodies, composed of the same departments and personnel at the national level, and that need to be mirrored at the local level as local interagency committees, saturate the LGUs on two fronts: in terms of operationalizing the structures and making them functional, and in terms of sustaining the availability of human resources.

While preventive programs are conducted at the local level including information dissemination on child protection laws—these are mostly on RA No. 7610, the Child Abuse, Discrimination and Maltreatment; RA No. 9262, the Anti-VAWC; and RA No. 9208, the Anti-Trafficking—there are limited advocacy activities for the anti-child pornography, and the understanding and appreciation for the Juvenile Justice Welfare Act is still wanting.

The need to increase the capacities of duty bearers to assist them in performing their responsibilities is also one of the main findings of the study. Service providers need training on child-friendly investigation. This is especially true for our police in identifying forms of child abuse; implementing diversion programs; identifying, monitoring and evaluating programs; and even establishing a database on children and crimes committed against them which could aid in program development.

Mindful of the results of the joint PLCPD, AHRC and UNICEF study, it is necessary that this House of the people conduct its own thorough investigation on the implementation of the five child protection laws through legislative inquiry. We need to study the mechanisms and the agencies for child protection at the national, regional and local levels, the inter-agency councils established under enacted laws and our LGUs, in terms of their governance structures, accountability mechanisms, capacity to collect disaggregated data to inform programs that benefit children, and competencies of duty bearers to perform their tasks. Failure of these mechanisms or agencies to perform their mandates will negatively impact the lives of our children.

Mme. Speaker, Members of this honorable Body, what good is a law if we are unable to properly implement it? It is our obligation to ensure that our children grow up in a society that cares, nurtures and protects them from all forms of discrimination, violence and abuse. Laws and policies, when conscientiously and effectively implemented, should facilitate this enabling environment. I know we all have the best interest of our children in our minds and hearts. Let us exercise our power of oversight to safeguard the rights of our children. Let us conduct a legislative inquiry into these five child protection laws. This is our mandate and our obligation to our children.

Thank you very much at magandang hapon po.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the Honorable Herrera-Dy to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, at this juncture, I move that we recognize the Hon. Sarah Jane I. Elago from KABATAAN Party-List for a brief manifestation.

I withdraw that motion, Mme. Speaker.

At this juncture, I move that we recognize the Hon. France L. Castro from the ACT TEACHERS Party-List for her privilege speech on Human Rights Day.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Hon. France L. Castro from the ACT TEACHERS Party-List is hereby recognized.

Please proceed.

#### PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. CASTRO (F.L.)

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Maraming salamat, kagalang-galang na Speaker.

Mme. Speaker, at mga kapwa ko Kinatawan, magandang hapon.

Sa darating na Linggo, December 10, gugunitain natin ang Pandaigdigang Araw ng Karapatang Pantao o ang Universal Declaration of Human Rights, na pinagtibay ng United Nations General Assembly noong 1948. Isa itong makasaysayang dokumento kung saan iprinoklama ang mga karapatang pantao, mga karapatang likas sa lahat at hindi maaaring ipagkait sa sinuman, anuman ang kanyang lahi, kulay, relihiyon, kasarian, wika, pulitikal o iba pang opinyon, pambansa o panlipunang pinagmulan, ari-arian, kapanganakan at iba pang katayuan.

Ayon po sa Universal Declaration of Human Rights, ang bawat tao ay may likas na karapatan sa buhay, karapatan sa edukasyon, karapatan sa mga pangangailangan para sa disentang buhay kabilang na ang kalusugan, pagkain, trabaho, tirahan at iba pang mga serbisyong pampubliko, at karapatan sa malayang opinyon at pagpapahayag.

Mme. Speaker, ginugunita ng mundo ang araw na ito dahil pinahahalagahan natin ang respeto sa dignidad ng bawat tao. Ngunit sa ating bansa, nakakalungkot

at nakakagalit na kasabay ng komemorasyon natin ng International Human Rights Day, papasok din tayo sa panahon ng papatinding pasismo, pasismong inaamin mismo ng Pangulong Duterte, na sa kasamaang-palad ay siya ring Commander in Chief ng Armed Forces of the Philippines at samakatuwid ay bumuo ng puwersang militar sa bansa, kaya nang sinabi ng Pangulo na bombahin ang mga paaralan ng mga batang Lumad, naging polisiya na ang pagbobomba sa Lumad schools. Nang sinabing kapag nakakita ng drug suspect o NPA, shoot to kill, at tila naging marching orders na ito para sa mga pulis at militar, at sinasabing puspusan ang giyera kontra-droga at all-out war laban sa mga terorista at rebelde.

Ani pa ni Presidente, “So what will be my order to them? Eh di shoot them. Ako na lang magsagot. At pagka bumunot, patayin mo. Kapag hindi bumunot, patayin mo rin para matapos na, eh kaysa mawala pa iyong baril. Ako na ang bahala sa inyo.” Ano ang resulta nito, Mme. Speaker? Araw-araw na ang mga balita sa paglabag sa karapatang pantao sa mga mamamayan sa ating bansa, kawalan ng hustisya para sa mga biktima at pananagutan ng mga responsable sa mga paglabag na ito.

Ayon sa datos ng Karapatan, sa ilalim ng administrasyong Duterte, may naganap nang 422,259 forced evacuations; 39,623 accounts ng paggamit ng pampublikong lugar para sa military purpose; 361,916 indiscriminate firing and bombings; 909 illegal arrests without detention; 228 illegal arrests with detention; 249 frustrated extrajudicial killings; at 104 extrajudicial killings mula July 2016 hanggang October 2017. Labas pa sa datos na ito ang mga pinatay sa ilalim ng tinaguriang giyera kontra-droga na di bababa sa 3,850, kabilang na ang 60 kabataan, ayon sa mga konserbatibong tala. Hindi rin lubusan pang naitatala ang pagsira sa buhay at kabuhayan ng mga kababayan nating Moro sa Mindanao sa ilalim ng martial law.

Ayon din po sa Karapatan, mayroon ding 449 bilanggong pulitikal—30 dito ang matatanda, 42 ang babae, 117 ang may sakit, at lima po ang menor de edad. One hundred twenty-one sa mga ito ay inaresto sa ilalim ng administrasyong Duterte, o isa kada tatlong araw simula nang maluklok siya sa kapangyarihan.

Sa kabila po ng napakaraming House resolutions at mga privilege speech na inihain ng Kinatawang ito at ng buong Makabayan bloc na kumukondena at nagpapatawag ng imbestigasyon sa mga kaso ng human rights violations, wala pa ring ganap na kongkretong aksyon ang Kongresong ito upang makamit ang hustisya sa mga biktima at matigil ang karahasan. Patuloy rin na walang nakakamit na hustisya sa mangilan-ngilang kasong umabot sa mga korte, habang lalong lumalala ang kalagayan ng human rights sa ating bansa, lalo na laban sa mga mahihirap at sa mga aktibistang nilalabanan ang



mga kontra-mamamayang polisiya ng kasalukuyang administrasyon. Samantala, araw-araw, papasidhi nang papasidhi ang karahasan, dumadanak ang dugo ng mga mamamayan kasunod ng mga operasyon ng pulis at militar, at pinapadanak ang dugo ng mga mamamayan ayon sa kumpas ng pasismo.

Patuloy na nilalabag ng gobyerno ang karapatan sa edukasyon ng mga kabataang Lumad. Napilitan na naman silang magbakwit dahil sa militarisasyon ng kanilang mga komunidad. Partikular po na gustong ilapit ng Kinatawang ito ang nagaganap na karahasan laban sa mga Lumad sa Lianga, Surigao del Sur, kung saan ang 75<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion ay hinarang ang mga pagkain at ayuda ng mga organisasyon at simbahan para sa mga bakwit na Lumad na ilang linggo nang lumikas papalayo sa kanilang mga lupang ninuno, tahanan at kabuhatan dahil sa tumitinding militarisasyon sa kanilang komunidad.

Matatandaan po natin na noong nakaraang SONA, may pahayag ang ating Pangulo na bobombahin niya ang mga paaralan ng mga Lumad na sinusugan ng pahayag ng AFP Chief na isusunod ang pambobomba ng Marawi at ang mga Lumad sa Surigao del Sur. Nagpapatuloy po ito ngayon. Ayon po sa community-based Lumad school na ALCADDEV, November 23, 2017, tatlong truck na punung-puno ng military troops ang dumating sa Km. 6 Neptune. Ito ang checkpoint na naka-set up noong November 24 at sapilitang pinababa ang mga pasahero at pinasulat sa logbook ang kanilang mga pangalan. Noong November 25, may military troops naman po na nagpunta sa mga Lumad communities sa Km. 16 and Han-ayan, at ang mga drone po ay makikita sa mga komunidad. November 26, 2017, at around 1:00 p.m., 12 Lumad communities in Barangay Diatagon, Lianga and Barangay Buhisan, San Agustin in Surigao del Sur, along with 706 students, nine of which are Lumad schools and 51 teachers of ALCADDEV and TRIFPSS, are currently in evacuation due to military operations.

Isa pa, at kamakailan lamang ito ay naisapubliko, noong December 3 sa Lake Sebu, South Cotabato, walong T'boli at Dulangan Manobo na mag-aani sana ay minasaker ng mga militar sa ilalim ng 27<sup>th</sup> at 33<sup>rd</sup> IB. Dalawa pa ang sugatan. Ang mga biktima ay kabilang sa mga Lumad na matagal nang naninindigan laban sa land-grabbing ng Consunji-DMCI. Samantala, ang mga B'laan ng Lilab, Basyawan, Balataan, Banlas, Nabol at Makol, sa boundary ng Alabel at Malapatan, Sarangani province, ay nagsimula na ring bumakwit noong December 1 buhat nang walang patumanggang atake ng mga elemento, at tinatayang 210 pamilya na ang apektado.

Sa Agusan del Sur naman, 21 Banwaon families, composed of 139 individuals, from the villages of San Pedro, Binicalan, at Mahagsay in San Luis town, were forcibly evacuated from their communities, kahapon po, December 4, 2017, dahil po sa military operations ng

26<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion ng Philippine Army. Kahapon po, around 3:00 p.m., habang ang mga bakwit ay naroroon po sa San Luis Municipal Hall, may mga elemento ng 26<sup>th</sup> IB na humarang sa mga personnel mula sa Rural Missionaries of the Philippines at volunteers of people's organizations na nagdadala lang ng pagkain at supplies sa mga bakwit.

Alas-diyes kaninang umaga, si Jean Baguio Bustamante, a 17-year-old Lumad and member of the Compostela Farmers Association-Youth in Barangay Mambusao, Compostela, Compostela Valley, was forcibly taken by elements of the 66<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion and was brought to their detachment. Sobra-sobra na ang pinsalang hatid ng militarisasyon sa Mindanao. Inirerehistro ng Kinatawang ito ang mahigpit na pagtutol ng mamamayang Lumad at Moro sa martial law sa Mindanao at ang bantang extension nito.

Mula sa mga karahasan na dinanas at dinaranas ng ating mga kapatid sa Marawi, ang karahasang dinaranas ng mga mamamayan ng buong Mindanao sa ilalim ng martial law, ang libu-libong namatay sa ilalim ng giyera kontra-droga, ang papatinding karahasan laban sa mga aktibista at crackdown laban sa mga progresibong organisasyon, lider at mga miyembro nito at ang papatinding counter-insurgency campaign laban sa CPP-NDF-NPA, makikita natin na napakarahas ng administrasyong ito sa kaniyang mga mamamayan. Ginagamit ang buong makinarya ng gobyerno mula sa puwersang militar hanggang sa makinaryang legal upang supilin ang mamamayang lumalaban. Kanina lamang po, Mme. Speaker, inaresto sa kasong paglabag sa Public Service Act si George San Mateo, presidente ng PISTON, na kasalukuyang puspusang lumalaban sa jeepney phaseout at so-called transport modernization.

Ganap na ang tahasang panghahas sa human rights defenders. Noong November 28, tinugis ang mga miyembro ng fact-finding mission. Isa sa mga pumanaw si Elisa Bandayos, Karapatan Central Visayas coordinator. Noong Linggo, pinatay si Pastor Lovelito Quiñones sa Sitio Anapla, Barangay Don Pedro, Mansalay, Oriental Mindoro. Wala po talagang humpay ito, Mme. Speaker. Kagabi lamang ay nabalitaan naman natin ang pagpatay kay Fr. Tito Paez sa Nueva Ecija. Si Fr. Paez ay dating parish priest ng Guimba at kasalukuyang coordinator ng Rural Missionaries of the Philippines sa Central Luzon. Earlier that day, Fr. Tito assisted in facilitating the release of political prisoner Rommel Tucay who is detained in the BJMP jail in Cabanatuan. Fr. Tito was also a founding member of Bagong Alyansang Makabayan in Central Luzon.

Habang patuloy ang pagpatay, tinitiyak din ang mabagal na pagkamatay ng mamamayan sa kamay ng gutom at labis na karalitaan. Ang mga polisiya na anti-mahihirap na isinusulong ng administrasyon tulad ng tax reform, patataasin lamang ang presyo ng mga bilihan; "Build, Build, Build" Infrastructure Program na magde-demolish lamang sa mga tirahan ng mga maralita at magsasaka; ang kawalan

sa nakabubuhay na suweldo para sa mga manggagawa sa pribado at pampublikong sektor; ang pananatili ng kontraktwalisasyon, at ang kawalan ng tunay na reporma sa lupa ay mga porma ng pandarahas sa mga mamamayan.

Kagalang-galang na Ispiker, ginugunita natin ang Pandaigdigang Araw ng Karapatang Pantao at magpapatuloy tayong ipaglalaman ito sa kabila ng papatinding pamamasista ng administrasyon. Sa kabila ng kanilang mga pahayag laban sa tagapagtanggol ng karapatang pantao, sa mga nababalitang patayan at mga harassment laban sa mga mahihirap at mga aktibista, sa kabila ng napakalaking badyet ng pulis at militar kumpara sa badyet para sa serbisyong panlipunan, sa kabila ng proklamasyon sa pagtigil sa usaping pangkapayapaan, at sa kabila ng mga pahayag at pagtatayo ng di umano ay revolutionary government na nakikita nating hakbang lamang patungo sa diktadurya, ang Kinatawagang ito, Mme. Speaker, kasama ng buong Makabayan bloc at mga progresibong pangmasang organisasyon, ay patuloy na maninindigan para sa pagtatanggol sa karapatan ng bawat Pilipino.

Ang pagkakapantay-pantay, ganap na hustisya at kalayaan ang kailangan natin upang matigil ang karahasan at makamit ang makatarungan at pangmatagalang kapayapaan.

Maraming salamat, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the Honorable Castro to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The speech of the Honorable Castro is referred to the Committee on Rules.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we acknowledge the presence of some guests in the House of Representatives, specifically the Botolan Federation of Senior Citizens from Botolan, Zambales, led by the President of the Municipal Federation of Senior Citizens' Association of the Philippines, Botolan Chapter, Mr. Diosdado Dedicatoria and the Vice President Nena Suero, and other officers of the Botolan Federation of Senior Citizens. All of them are guests of the Hon. Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla, the Hon. Francisco Datol Jr., and the Hon. Milagros Aquino-Magsaysay.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). Welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we also acknowledge the presence of other guests of the House of Representatives, namely: our fellow public servants and officials and employees of the municipalities of La Paz, Danglas and San Juan in the province of Abra, led by Mayor Menchie B. Bernos of La Paz, Mayor Denise Florence Bragas of Danglas, Vice Mayor Benito Nono of La Paz, Sangguniang Bayan member Up-john Palos of La Paz, Sangguniang Bayan member Jane Roxanne Tagudar of San Juan, Danglas Chief of Police Mark Tubadeza, and other officials and public servants. They are guests of the Hon. Joseph Sto. Niño B. Bernos.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). Welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we also acknowledge the presence of the guests of the Hon. Michael L. Romero, PhD of 1-PACMAN Party-List, specifically Dr. Cecille Arillo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). Welcome to the guest of Representative Romero. *(Applause)*

Please proceed.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, at this juncture, I move that we recognize the Hon. Ariel "Ka Ayik" B. Casilao of Party-List ANAKPAWIS to deliver his privilege speech regarding the arrest of a PISTON leader.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Hon. Ariel Casilao from the Party-List ANAKPAWIS is recognized. Kindly proceed.

#### PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. CASILAO

REP. CASILAO. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

Magpapahayag po ang Kinatawagang ito para kondena po ang pag-aresto kanina sa leader ng PISTON na si kasamang George San Mateo.

Mme. Speaker, habang ako po ay nakaupo sa executive session ng Committee on Labor para ipinalisa ang panukalang batas hinggil sa kontraktwalisasyon, nakatanggap po ako ng mensahe mula sa aking mga kasamahan sa PISTON na nagsasabi na si kasamang George ay nanganganib, dahil kagabi lamang ay lumabas ang isang nakakatawa ngunit nakakagalit na warrant of arrest kay kasamang George San Mateo na inisyu ng Branch 43 ng Quezon City, sa sala kuno ng paglabag sa Commonwealth Act of 1930.

Mme. Speaker, ako po ay dali-daling pumunta at

pinuntahan ang lokasyon ni kasamang George San Mateo para samahan siya na mag-post ng bail. Habang papunta kami sa Hall of Justice sa Quezon City, naayos na po ng kanyang abogado ang lahat ng mga requirements para magpiyansa ang isang respondent o akusado. Ang kinakailangan na lang po ay ang personal appearance sa judge ni George San Mateo. Nang pagbaba namin sa sasakyan ay hinarang kami ng mahigit 100 mga kapulisan. Nasa hagdanan na kami ng Hall of Justice at ipinaliwanag ng Kinatawang ito kay Senior Superintendent Dela Cruz, ang Station Commander ng Quezon City Central Police District Station 10, at nagpakilala ang Kinatawang ito bilang Kinatawan ng ANAKPAWIS, na na-comply na ni kasamang George San Mateo ang proseso ng pag-post ng bail. Pero ganunpaman, bagamat tayo ay nagpakilala, Mme. Speaker, puwersahang dinampot at nagkabalyahan kanina dahil puwersahan nilang inaresto si kasamang George San Mateo kuno sa bisa ng warrant of arrest.

Mme. Speaker, ang Kinatawang ito ay nagtatanong, kasalanan na ba ngayon o krimen ang isinasaad ng Saligang Batas ng 1987, Article III, Section 4, na ang karapatan ng bawat mamamayan, karapatang magsalita, karapatang mag-assemblya ng mapayapa, at ang karapatang pumuna sa anumang polisiya ng gobyerno o the right to grievances against the policies of the government? Pero ang pagprotesta ng mga maliliit na driver at operator sa pangunguna ni kasamang George San Mateo laban sa nakaambang phaseout ng mga public utility jeepneys ay isang lehitimong isyu, ngunit krinikriminalisa ito ng kasalukuyang rehimen.

Ang mas nakakagalit, Mme. Speaker, the irony of ironies, ilang araw mula ngayon ay mamarkahan natin ang ika-72 ng taon nang pagdedeklara ng Pandaigdigang Deklarasyon ng Karapatang Pangtao, pero imamarka natin ito na puno ng dugo at buhay ng mga martir at mga biktima ng nagpapatuloy na pamamaslang, pampulitikang pamamaslang sa kasalukuyang rehimen.

Mme. Speaker, nabanggit na ng aking kasamahan sa ACT TEACHERS Party-List ang maraming listahan ng mga pamamaslang, pagbabakwit, ilegal na pag-aresto na naganap lamang sa halos iilang buwan mula noong tinagurian at nilusaw ang pormal na usapang pangkapayapaan ng gobyerno at ng NDFP at pinirmahan ni Pangulong Duterte ang Proclamation No. 360, terminating the peace negotiation.

Mme. Speaker, ngayon lang din ay lumabas sa balita, pinirmahan na rin ni Pangulong Duterte and proklamasyong nagdedeklara na ang CPP at ang NPA ay mga terorista, at gayon din, na ang ikakaso sa kanila ay ang paglabag sa Anti-Terrorism Law. Hindi lingid sa ating kaalaman, Mme. Speaker, sa mga nakaraang ipinahayag at deklarasyon ni Pangulong Duterte, binantaan niya ang mga ligal, lehitimo, demokratikong pangmasang mga organisasyon na kritikal sa kanyang

mga polisiya ay bahagi ng istruktura ng legal fronts ng CPP-NPA. Ano ang ibig sabihin nito, Mme. Speaker?

This Representation would like to register in the coming days that we will expect more illegal arrests, more enforced disappearances, and more lists of political killings. Dadami at dadami po ang mga pampulitikang pamamaslang, hindi ng mga NPA, kung hindi ng mga organisasyong walang armas ngunit kritikal sa mga patakaran ng gobyerno.

Mme. Speaker, ang mga ganitong uri ng sistema at pamamaraan ay hindi bago sa ating bansa. Kung sa kasalukuyan, ang kampanya kontra-droga na may tinatawag na Oplan Double Barrel Reloaded, sa tingin po ng Kinatawang ito ay magkakaroon ng Oplan Bantay Laya o high breed na naganap noong kasagsagan ng panahon ng dating administrasyong Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. Walang ipinag-iba at mas masahol ang mga pangyayari sa kasalukuyan, Mme. Speaker. Kaya hindi po ang paggunita po ng ika-72 taon ng deklarasyong ng Pandaigdigang Karapatang Pantao ay gugunitain po ito ng ANAKPAWIS Party-List, ng Makabayan, ng Bagong Alyansang Makabayan, at ng Karapatan sa isang malaking kilos-protesta sa darating na ika-10 ng Disyembre.

Mme. Speaker, fellow Legislators, I leave this message to you: "In the face of tyranny, defiance and resistance is the only way."

Good afternoon, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the Honorable Casilao to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we terminate the Privilege Hour.

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

The Privilege Hour is hereby terminated.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we now proceed with the consideration of the measures under the Calendar of Business.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

Please proceed, Majority Leader.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 6604  
ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, under the Calendar of Business for the Day, I move that we consider House Bill No. 6604, contained in Committee Report No. 454, as reported out by the Committee on Suffrage and Electoral Reforms.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). 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. 6604, entitled: AN ACT REGULATING THE RATES OF POLITICAL PROPAGANDA ON TELEVISION, RADIO AND PRINT DURING AN ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN PERIOD AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 11 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9006, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE FAIR ELECTION ACT".

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that the Chairperson of the Committee on Suffrage and Electoral Reforms be recognized to begin the sponsorship of the measure, the Hon. Sherwin Tugna.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Hon. Sherwin N. Tugna is hereby recognized to begin the sponsorship of the measure.

REP. TUGNA. Mme. Speaker, my dear colleagues, good afternoon.

House Bill No. 4898 or "An Act Regulating the Rates of Political Propaganda on TV, Radio and Print During an Electoral Campaign Period Amending for the Purpose Section 11 of Republic Act No. 9006, Otherwise Known as "The Fair Elections Act" seeks to level the playing field in the local and national elections.

Mme. Speaker, let the Explanatory Note of the Bill be its sponsorship speech.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, there being no interpellation and no Member who wishes to speak against this measure, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). Is there any objection? *(Silence)*

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I withdraw that previous motion and I would like to reiterate the request, and move that the Explanatory Note of the Bill be considered as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, there being no interpellants or any Member who wishes to speak against the measure, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

The period of sponsorship and debate is hereby terminated.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

The period of amendments is hereby opened.

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, there being no Committee or individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The period of amendments is hereby closed.

REP. NOEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 6604, under Committee Report No. 454.

#### VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). There is a motion to approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 6604.

As many as are in favor, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

#### APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 6604 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The *ayes* have it; House Bill No. 6604 is approved on Second Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, may I request for a one-minute suspension of the session.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The session is suspended.

*It was 5:00 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 5:00 p.m., the session was resumed.*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). Session resumed.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 6702 ON SECOND READING

#### PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move

that we consider House Bill No. 6702, contained in Committee Report No. 487, as reported out by the Committees on Welfare of Children, and Appropriations.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). 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. 6702, entitled: AN ACT REGULATING THE IMPORTATION, MANUFACTURE, DISTRIBUTION AND SALE OF CHILDREN'S PRODUCTS CONTAINING HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that the Chairperson of the Committee on Welfare of Children, Representative Yu, be recognized to begin sponsorship of the measure.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved. The Honorable Divina Grace C. Yu, Chairperson of the Committee, is hereby recognized to begin the sponsorship of the measure.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note of the measure, House Bill No. 6702, be considered as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, having no interpellators or no Member who wishes to speak

\* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

against the measure, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion to terminate the period of sponsorship and debate is hereby approved.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

The period of amendments is hereby opened.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, there being no Committee or individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved. The period of amendments is hereby closed.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Second Reading on House Bill No. 6702, as contained in Committee Report No. 487.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

#### VIVA VOCE VOTING

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

As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 6702, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

#### APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 6702 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The *ayes* have it; House Bill No. 6702 is approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 6686 ON SECOND READING

##### PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 6686, contained in Committee Report No. 482, as reported out by the Committees on Agrarian Reform, and Appropriations.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). 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. 6686, entitled: AN ACT GRANTING FULL INSURANCE COVERAGE TO ALL QUALIFIED AGRARIAN REFORM BENEFICIARIES OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9700, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM EXTENSION WITH REFORMS."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that the Honorable Relampagos, the Chairperson of the Committee on Agrarian Reform, be recognized to begin the sponsorship of the measure.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved. The Hon. Rene L. Relampagos is hereby recognized for his sponsorship of the measure.

##### SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REP. RELAMPAGOS

REP. RELAMPAGOS. Thank you, Mme. Speaker, thank you, Mr. Majority Leader.

\* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

Dear colleagues of this august Chamber, a pleasant day to all of you. I wish to express my appreciation for the House leadership and its entire membership for the inclusion of our measure in today's plenary agenda.

Finally, I stand before all of you this afternoon to sponsor a very significant piece of legislation that would provide immediate financial protection, assistance and relief from losses to affected agrarian reform beneficiaries.

Our country is an archipelago located along the Ring of Fire, located along a typhoon belt where many earthquakes and volcanic eruptions occur. And due to its location, the Philippines is exposed to natural hazards. Our country has suffered from agricultural damage brought about by extreme weather disturbances, and this phenomenon has negatively affected the farmers mainly because of poor productivity.

Due to these factors, it is imperative for the government to provide the much-needed aid for the affected sectors in the form of the provision of insurance. It is a risk-management tool which is primarily centered to cater to the underprivileged sector that are deprived, through social or economic condition, of some of the fundamental privileges—to hedge and balance against the risk of contingent and uncertain losses.

Mme. Speaker, insurance for the agrarian reform beneficiaries is extremely important because it would protect them from extreme financial losses due to an unfortunate emergency, accident, or negative unforeseen events. These events would normally lead to the devastation of crops, non-crop assets, livestock and fisheries brought about by natural calamities such as typhoons, floods, drought, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, as well as plant diseases and pest infestations.

During the deliberations on the measure, the Committee also acknowledged the significance of including the accident security scheme into the insurance package to ensure protection that covers death of the beneficiary due to accident.

Mr. Speaker, and honorable colleagues, the measure that I am referring to is the substitute measure to House Bills No. 229 and 2177, entitled: AN ACT GRANTING FULL INSURANCE COVERAGE TO ALL QUALIFIED AGRARIAN REFORM BENEFICIARIES OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9700, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM EXTENSION WITH REFORMS."

The entire community of agrarian reform beneficiaries laud the valiant efforts of the principal Sponsors of the measures for taking the cudgels for them. For this, we tip our hats off to the honorable Deputy Speaker Eric D. Singson of the Second District of Ilocos Sur, and the much-admired and respected Representative of the Sixth District of Batangas, the Hon. Vilma Santos-Recto.

The much-needed insurance protection against compensable losses arising from plant diseases refer to those caused by pathogens, bacteria, fungi, viruses, virus-like pathogens and other similar foreign bodies and pest infestations caused by nematodes, insects, mites and spiders, millipedes and centipedes, symphylans, slugs and snails, sow bugs and pill bugs, parasitic higher plants, and other parasites.

This measure will also promote a positive impact on the lives of the farmer-beneficiaries and will ensure the efficiency of support services accorded by the Department of Agrarian Reform, the Department of Agriculture, and more particularly, the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation, which has a principal mandate to provide insurance protection to the country's agricultural producers, particularly, the subsistence farmers. Due to this, the best interest of the CARP beneficiaries and the national economy shall be afforded the highest consideration. In this manner, it will take pressure off the ARBs in managing risk arising from the production of commodities, price variability and rise against poverty.

Further, the concerns of the ARBs in situations beyond their control, like the increasingly unpredictable weather patterns and adverse weather conditions brought about by the intensifying climate change and weather uncertainties will be addressed accordingly. It will also provide the ARBs a safety net against challenges and difficulties faced by agricultural producers. Immediate financial support to affected farmers would make losses more bearable as they are afforded such relief rather than remaining penniless and waiting for the next planting season or resorting to borrowing money with corresponding usurious rates.

With the amount from the insurance proceeds, the agrarian reform beneficiaries can immediately go back to the planting activity as soon as the existing weather conditions allow it. And so, this risk management tool will provide a mechanism to mitigate the effects of unforeseen complications on food production, thus sustaining the income of the farmers' family. Similarly, it will also serve as a credit reduction mechanism and a surrogate capital for actual capital and will facilitate credit access especially in formal lending institutions like the LANDBANK of the Philippines which require agricultural insurance from ARB borrowers.

This Bill will strongly complement the agricultural insurance for agrarian reform beneficiaries participating in the Agrarian Production Credit Program and the Credit Assistance Program for Program Beneficiaries Development and the financing programs implemented by the Department of Agriculture, by the Department of Agrarian Reform, and the LANDBANK of the Philippines, which covers all the regular insurance products implemented by the PCIC.

More importantly, this Bill will provide for a choice

of insurance windows for the ARBs and address the various issues that impede the availment of insurance in agriculture. In contrast to some on-farm strategies that contribute to financial loss, this substitute Bill also allows mitigation from severe correlated risk.

Lastly, the passage of this Bill will enable the government to support the ARBs in its biggest and broadest enterprise to date as a mechanism for managing risks which the ARBs can, cost-free, avail of and utilize. So, to this end, the risk-averse ARBs will be encouraged to engage in riskier and more profitable activities such as the adoption of higher-yielding varieties. This would be tantamount to an economically progressive countryside where a typical Filipino farmer will be a prosperous farmer with access to a farmer-controlled financial system.

Mme. Speaker, and my dear esteemed colleagues, we are compelled to abide by our primary function as enshrined in our Preamble, which states that we should fulfill the constitutional duty to make laws that respond to the needs of the Filipino people and sustain the policy enshrined in the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program, which states that the welfare of the landless farmers and farmworkers will receive the highest consideration to promote social justice and to move the nation towards sound rural development and industrialization, thereby contributing in helping every Filipino farmer rise out of poverty.

I earnestly therefore implore, Mme. Speaker, this august Chamber, for your support for the passage of this measure.

Thank you and good afternoon.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, having no interpellators or any Member who wishes to speak against the measure, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). I withdraw that motion, Mme. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. Mme. Speaker.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Edcel Lagman of the First District of Albay for his interpellation.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Honorable Lagman is recognized. Kindly proceed.

REP. LAGMAN. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

Will the distinguished Sponsor yield to a few questions?

REP. RELAMPAGOS. With pleasure, Mme. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. At the outset, I would like to manifest that I am in favor of this measure but let me just ask some questions, clarificatory questions.

It is my impression that it will be the government which will pay for the premiums, insurance premiums of the covered qualified agrarian reform beneficiaries. Is that correct?

REP. RELAMPAGOS. Yes, you are correct on that.

REP. LAGMAN. As of today, what is the count of the total qualified agrarian beneficiaries in the country?

REP. RELAMPAGOS. We have 2.8 million, Mr. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. It is 2.8? And what would be the insurance premium for each qualified agrarian reform beneficiary?

REP. RELAMPAGOS. Mr. Speaker, the total premium subsidy would be in the amount of P15.7 billion and we have 2.8 million beneficiaries, so that would come out, more or less, to P5,600 per ARB beneficiary, Mme. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. This insurance coverage will apply to all qualified agrarian reform beneficiaries?

REP. RELAMPAGOS. Yes, Mme. Speaker, 100 percent, it will apply to all.

REP. LAGMAN. If it is 100-percent application to 2.8 million qualified beneficiaries, do we have the necessary funding to implement this measure?

REP. RELAMPAGOS. We will have the funds for this with the yearly appropriations to be provided for this, Mme. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. What is the initial annual appropriation?

REP. RELAMPAGOS. For next year, Mme. Speaker, we will have an initial P3.5 billion.

REP. LAGMAN. That will be short of covering all the qualified agrarian reform beneficiaries. Is that correct?



REP. RELAMPAGOS. Initially, yes, Mme. Speaker, but eventually, we would be able to cover them all.

REP. LAGMAN. Yes, I am talking about the initial coverage. So it will not cover all?

REP. RELAMPAGOS. Mme. Speaker, given that we will only have 3.5 billion for next year as the initial funding to be made available, so, it would mean that we would not be able to cover all.

REP. LAGMAN. If not all will be covered, who is going to prioritize? Who among the qualified beneficiaries will be covered first because of the lack of funding resource?

REP. RELAMPAGOS. Those who would be covered under the RSBSA or under the Registry System for Basic System and Acquisition, will be under the Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture.

REP. LAGMAN. Yes, but my question is, because not all of the qualified beneficiaries will be covered, who is going to prioritize the qualified beneficiaries to be covered? For example, will the qualified agrarian beneficiaries, the First District of Albay, be prioritized? Of course not.

REP. RELAMPAGOS. Mme. Speaker, ...

REP. LAGMAN. So, who is going to prioritize and what is the mode of prioritization?

REP. RELAMPAGOS. Mme. Speaker, insofar as prioritizing who would be covered initially, it will be provided for in the discussion in the formulation of the IRR of the said Bill.

REP. LAGMAN. We cannot do that, Mme. Speaker. This is a very substantial aspect of the measure and it could not be given or delegated to the formulation of the IRR. It should be contained in the law itself because of your funding deficiency.

Now, I am trying to perfect the measure, I am not opposed to it. I am the principal author of the CARP, and what is now being amended, the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program Extension with Reforms.

REP. RELAMPAGOS. Mme. Speaker, under Section 4 of the Bill, it provides that within 30 days from the approval of the Act, the Department of Agrarian Reform, in coordination with the Department of Agriculture, the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation and the Department of Budget and Management shall issue the necessary implementing rules and regulations

for the effective implementation of this Act, Mme. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. No, I am not going to that yet—I will go to that, the appropriation language. But, I am asking, since there will be deficient funds to cover all of the 2.8 agrarian reform beneficiaries, who is going to prioritize? Who among these 2.8 qualified agrarian reform beneficiaries will be prioritized in the coverage?

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 6686

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, to allow the Committee on Agrarian Reform to collate the information, as requested, I move that we suspend the consideration of House Bill No. 6686.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 6714 ON SECOND READING

#### PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 6714, contained in Committee Report No. 492, as reported out by the Committees on Civil Service and Professional Regulation, and Appropriations.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). 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. 6714, entitled: AN ACT REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF FOOD TECHNOLOGY IN THE PHILIPPINES, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE

\* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

THE BOARD OF FOOD TECHNOLOGY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the principal author of the measure, the Hon. Evelina G. Escudero, to begin the sponsorship of said measure.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Hon. Evelina G. Escudero is recognized to begin the sponsorship of House Bill No. 6714.

REP. ESCUDERO. Mme. Speaker, I adopt my Explanatory Note to be the sponsorship of my particular Bill, House Bill No. 6714, AN ACT REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF FOOD TECHNOLOGY IN THE PHILIPPINES, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE BOARD OF FOOD TECHNOLOGY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

I so, Mme. Speaker, I wish that this could be adopted and approved.

Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we include the Explanatory Note of the Bill as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, there being no interpellators or no Member who wishes to speak against the measure, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The period of sponsorship and debate on House Bill No. 6714 is hereby closed.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

The period of amendments is hereby opened.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, there being no Committee or individual amendments, I move that we terminate the period of amendments.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Second Reading on House Bill No. 6714.

#### VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 6714, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). As many as are against, please say *no*. (*Silence*)

#### APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 6714 ON SECOND READING

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

House Bill No. 6714 is approved on Second Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 3222 ON SECOND READING

#### PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 3222, contained in Committee Report No. 494, as reported out by the Committees on Basic Education and Culture, Appropriations, and Ways and Means.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). 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. 3222, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL VISION SCREENING PROGRAM FOR KINDERGARTEN PUPILS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that the Chairperson of the Committee on Basic Education and Culture, the Hon. Ramon “Red” H. Durano VI, be recognized to begin the sponsorship of the measure.

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

The Hon. Ramon Durano VI is hereby recognized to begin the sponsorship of House Bill No. 3222.

REP. DURANO. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. Thank you, Majority Leader.

Mme. Speaker, allow me to submit to this august Chamber the recommendations of the Committee on Basic Education and Culture on the establishment of a National Vision Screening Program for Kindergarten pupils, through Committee Report No. 494 on House Bill No. 3222 by Deputy Speaker Pia S. Cayetano, in consolidation with House Bills No. 1387 by Rep. Alfred D. Vargas III, and 2822 by Rep. Estrellita B. Suansing.

Mme. Speaker, I also ask that the Explanatory Note of this Bill be submitted as my sponsorship speech.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note of the measure be considered as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). Is

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, there being no interpellators or no Member who wishes to speak against the measure, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

The period of sponsorship and debate is hereby terminated.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

The period of amendments is hereby opened.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve the following Committee amendments as contained in Committee Report No. 494:

On Section 9, page 3, line 3, between the acronym “NVSP” and punctuation mark period (.), insert the phrase WHICH SHALL BE SUBJECT TO EXISTING BUDGETING, ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING RULES AND REGULATIONS;

On Section 10, page 3, lines 6 to 11, delete the entire Section and in lieu thereof, substitute the following:

SEC. 10. *TAX EXEMPTION.* – ALL GRANTS, BEQUEST, ENDOWMENTS, DONATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS MADE TO THE DEPED, DOH, OR PERI FOR THE NVSP AND FOR THE VSCR FUND TO BE USED ACTUALLY, DIRECTLY AND EXCLUSIVELY BY THE DEPED, DOH, OR PERI FOR THE NVSP AND FOR THE VSCR FUND SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM DONOR’S TAX AND THE SAME SHALL BE ALLOWED AS ALLOWABLE DEDUCTION FROM THE GROSS INCOME OF THE DONOR FOR PURPOSES OF COMPUTING THE TAXABLE INCOME OF THE DONOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISION OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED.; and

On Section 11, page 3, lines 12 to 20, delete the entire Section and in lieu thereof, substitute the following:

SEC. 11. *APPROPRIATIONS*. – THE AMOUNT NECESSARY TO COVER THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT FOR PUBLIC KINDERGARTEN PUPILS SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE BUDGETS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT. HOWEVER, FOR KINDERGARTEN PUPILS ENROLLED IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS, THE FUNDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THEIR RESPECTIVE SCHOOL'S VISION SCREENING PROGRAM SHALL BE ASSUMED BY THE PRIVATE SCHOOLS CONCERNED.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, there being no further Committee amendments or any individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Second Reading on House Bill No. 3222, as amended.

#### VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 3222, as amended, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

#### APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 3222, AS AMENDED, ON SECOND READING

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

House Bill No. 3222, as amended, is hereby approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we include additional coauthors of House Bills No. 6604, 6649 and House Resolution No. 1421, as contained in the lists to be submitted by the Committee on Rules.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 1421

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider House Resolution No. 1421, contained in Committee Report No. 473, as reported out by the Committee on Tourism.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). 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. 1421, entitled: A RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM (DOT) TO INSTITUTIONALIZE AND PROMOTE THE KALAPATI FESTIVAL OF BARANGAY HOLY SPIRIT IN QUEZON CITY.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move for the adoption of House Resolution No. 1421.

#### ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 1421

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

House Resolution No. 1421 is adopted.

\* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider bills under the Calendar of Business for Thursday and Friday.

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

#### OMNIBUS CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL BILLS ON SECOND READING

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, pursuant to our Rules, I move for the omnibus consideration of the following measures:

House Bill No. 6585 under Committee Report No. 442;

House Bill No. 6602 under Committee Report No. 452;

House Bill No. 6603 under Committee Report No. 453;

House Bill No. 6681 under Committee Report No. 478;

House Bill No. 6682 under Committee Report No. 479;

House Bill No. 6683 under Committee Report No. 480;

House Bill No. 6711 under Committee Report No. 491;

House Bill No. 6715 under Committee Report No. 493;

House Bill No. 6740 under Committee Report No. 496;

House Bill No. 6741 under Committee Report No. 497; and

House Bill No. 6742 under Committee Report No. 498.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we consider the respective Explanatory Notes as the sponsorship speeches on the said measures.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate or speak against the said local bills, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments, and approve the Committee amendments, if any, as contained in the respective Committee reports of the aforementioned Bills.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, there being no individual amendments, I move that we terminate the period of amendments.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Second Reading on the aforementioned House bills—local bills.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

#### VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). As many as are in favor, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

#### OMNIBUS APPROVAL OF LOCAL BILLS ON SECOND READING

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

The aforementioned Bills are approved on Second Reading.\*

\* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, may I request for a one-minute suspension of the session.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The session is suspended.

*It was 5:37 p.m.*

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 5:38 p.m., the session was resumed.*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garcia-Albano). The session is resumed.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we adjourn the session until tomorrow, Wednesday, December 6, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

*It was 5:38 p.m.*