



Congressional Record

PLENARY PROCEEDINGS OF THE 17th CONGRESS, SECOND REGULAR SESSION
House of Representatives

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Wednesday, March 21, 2018

No. 78

CALL TO ORDER

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

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

NATIONAL ANTHEM

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

Everybody rose to sing the Philippine National Anthem.

PRAYER

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

Everybody remained standing for the silent prayer.

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

ROLL CALL

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we call the roll of Members.

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

The Secretary General will please call the roll.

*The Secretary General called the roll, and the result is reflected in Journal No. 78, dated March 21, 2018.**

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. Mr. Speaker, the roll call shows that 219 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). With 219 Members responding to the call, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move for the deferment of the approval of the Journal of the previous session.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we now proceed with the Reference of Business and request that the Secretary General be directed to read the same.

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

The Secretary General is hereby directed to read the Reference of Business.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 7415, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING SUBSTITUTE CIVIL SERVICE ELIGIBILITY TO AND PROVIDING FOR SECURITY OF TENURE FOR ALL NON-REGULAR EMPLOYEES OF THE GOVERNMENT INCLUDING NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, LOCAL GOVERNMENT

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

UNITS, STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES, GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND -CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS AND ALL OTHER GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES, WHO HAVE RENDERED AT LEAST SIX (6) MONTHS OF CONTINUOUS SERVICE, AND FOR OTHER RELATED PURPOSE”

By Representatives Zarate, Tinio, De Jesus, Castro (F.L.), Brosas, Casilao and Elago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 7416, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO EGOR DMITRIEV”

By Representative Del Rosario
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 7417, entitled:

“AN ACT PENALIZING THE HOARDING, PRICE MANIPULATION OF RICE AND ENGAGING IN CARTEL OPERATIONS IN ORDER TO INFLUENCE THE DEMAND AND SUPPLY OF RICE IN THE COUNTRY”

By Representative Lopez (M.L.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 7418, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE MUNICIPALITY OF ALABEL IN THE PROVINCE OF SARANGANI INTO A COMPONENT CITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE CITY OF ALABEL”

By Representative Pacquiao
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 7419, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE REPAIR OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND THE SALE OF AUTOMOTIVE SPARE PARTS, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF”

By Representative Bernos
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 7420, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE DOMESTIC TRANSFER OF HUMAN REMAINS AND CADAVERS”

By Representative Gatchalian
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 7421, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS OF MEMBERS OF THE CITIZEN ARMED FORCES OR THE RESERVE FORCE OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 7423, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE COTABATO REGIONAL AND MEDICAL CENTER IN COTABATO CITY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8316, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Sema
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 7424, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING COMPENSATION FOR BARANGAY OFFICIALS, AMENDING SECTION 393 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991’, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Zubiri
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 7425, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 6 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6657, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM LAW OF 1988”

By Representative Relampagos
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRARIAN REFORM

House Bill No. 7426, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE eHEALTH SYSTEM AND SERVICES IN THE DELIVERY OF HEALTH SERVICES WITH THE USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY IN THE PHILIPPINES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF”

By Representative Vargas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 7427, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING FIRE SAFETY AWARENESS AMONG ELEMENTARY

AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 7428, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 2640 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘AN ACT TO CREATE A PUBLIC CORPORATION TO BE KNOWN AS THE VETERANS FEDERATION OF THE PHILIPPINES, DEFINING ITS POWERS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES’ ”

By Representative Mendoza
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS AND WELFARE

House Bill No. 7431, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING POLITICAL TURNCOATISM AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR”

By Representative Barbers
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

House Bill No. 7434, entitled:

“AN ACT IMPOSING THE COLLECTION OF A TAX ON FOREIGN VISITORS IN THE COUNTRY FOR THE PURPOSE OF GENERATING FUNDS FOR TOURIST WELFARE SERVICES”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 7438, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING PUBLIC UTILITY DRIVERS TO SECURE A SPECIAL UTILITY LICENSE”

By Representative Silverio
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 7439, entitled:

“AN ACT DESIGNATING THE 3RD SUNDAY OF NOVEMBER AS THE NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ROAD CRASH VICTIMS, SURVIVORS & FAMILIES”

By Representative Robes
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 7440, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE BULACAN STATE

UNIVERSITY SYSTEM, INTEGRATING MODERNIZATION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Sy-Alvarado
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 7441, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A BASIC EDUCATION SCHOOL IN EVERY INDIGENOUS PEOPLES COMMUNITY IN THE COUNTRY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Sy-Alvarado
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 1794, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A FIVE-YEAR INCOME TAX MORATORIUM ON THE SALARIES OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF MARAWI AND THE PROVINCE OF LANA DEL SUR AND SUSPENSION OF THEIR LOAN PAYMENTS INCLUDING INTEREST FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE (5) YEARS”

By Representative Mendoza
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Resolution No. 1795, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CALL ON THE FILIPINO PEOPLE TO PROACTIVELY PARTICIPATE AND TO ENJOIN ALL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO MAKE THEIR RESPECTIVE COMMUNITY-BASED PROGRAMS READILY AVAILABLE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION YES FOR PEACE -BAYANIHAN NG BAYAN”

By Representative Herrera-Dy
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PEACE, RECONCILIATION AND UNITY

House Resolution No. 1796, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PLANE CRASH AT THE PLARIDEL AIRPORT INVOLVING A PIPER PA-23 APACHE AIRPLANE OPERATED BY

LITEAIR EXPRESS, AND THE CONDITION OF PLARIDEL AIRPORT AS WELL AS ITS IMPACT ON THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITY”

By Representatives Pancho and Manalo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

SUBPOENA *DUCES TECUM*

Pursuant to Section 150, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives transmitting the Subpoena *Duces Tecum* dated 6 February 2018 issued by Maria Olivia Elena A. Roxas, Director, General Investigation Bureau-B, Field Investigation Office, Office of the Ombudsman, re Case No. FF-C-17-0956, directing to submit within five (5) days from receipt hereof, a *Certification under oath* stating whether or not Richard Santuile and Rex Balut are employees/staffs of Congressman Ricardo “RJ” T. Belmonte, Serbisyo sa Bayan Party-List (SBP) Representative and certified true copies of the following documents, to wit:

1. Latest Personal Data Sheet with Photo;
2. Appointment Papers;
3. Oath of Office;
4. Service Record;
5. Position Description Form;
6. Contract of Employment, if any; and
7. All other pertinent documents.

Pursuant to Section 150, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives transmitting the Subpoena *Duces Tecum* dated 28 February 2018 issued by Ma. Althea Rholene J. Raypon, Assistant Special Prosecutor I, Office of the Special Prosecutor, Office of the Ombudsman, re Crim Case Nos. SB-18-CRM-0054 to 0056, directing to produce within five (5) days from receipt hereof the original copies/certified true copies/authenticated copies of the following:

1. Service Record of Augusto L. Syjuco, Jr.; and
2. Personal Data Sheet of Augusto L. Syjuco, Jr.

Pursuant to Section 151, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives transmitting the Subpoena *Duces Tecum* dated 19 February 2018 issued by Alfred Yann G. Oguis, Officer-in-Charge, Field Investigation Bureau, Office of the Deputy Ombudsman for Visayas, Office of the Ombudsman, re: FF-V-17-0793, directing to submit within fifteen (15) days from receipt hereof, clear and authenticated copy of the following documents pertaining to Richard Garin, Jr., Representative, 1st District of Iloilo:

1. Updated Personal Data Sheet or its equivalent (with photo); and

2. Statement of Assets Liabilities and Net Worth from year 2013 up to 2017.

Pursuant to Section 151, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives transmitting the Subpoena *Duces Tecum* dated 19 February 2018 issued by Alfred Yann G. Oguis, Officer-in-Charge, Field Investigation Bureau, Office of the Deputy Ombudsman for Visayas, re: FF-V-17-0793, directing to submit within fifteen (15) days from receipt hereof, a clear and authenticated copy of the following documents pertaining to Janette L. Garin, former Representative, 1st District of Iloilo:

1. Updated Personal Data Sheet or its equivalent (with photo); and
2. Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Net Worth from year 2004 up to 2013.

Pursuant to Section 151, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives transmitting the Subpoena *Duces Tecum* dated March 1, 2018 issued by Maria Olivia Elena A. Roxas, Director, General Investigation Bureau-B, FIO, Office of the Ombudsman, re: Case No. FF-C-17-0742, directing to submit within five (5) days upon receipt, clear and certified true copy of the following documents:

1. House Resolution No. 1014, series of 2017, entitled “A Resolution Calling for an Investigation of the Department of Justice Handling of Cases Involving Secretary Aguirre’s Former Clients from Sulu”; and
2. Minutes of the hearing(s) conducted thereof, if any.

Pursuant to Section 151, Rule XXIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives transmitting the Subpoena *Duces Tecum* dated February 6, 2018 issued by Paul Elmer M. Clemente, Deputy Ombudsman for the Visayas, re: Case No. FF-V-17-0424, directing to submit clear and certified true copies of the following documents pertaining to former representative Julio “Jules” Ledesma IV, to wit:

1. Recent Personal Data Sheet with latest picture;
2. Appointment/Designation Papers;
3. Oath of Office;
4. Travel Authority;
5. Service Record; and
6. Statement of Assets, Liabilities and Network from CY 2007-2016.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letters dated March 14 and 16, 2018 of Roger E. Dino, Deputy Director, Office of the General Counsel and

Legal Services, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), furnishing the House of Representatives with duly certified and authenticated BSP issuances, to wit:

1. Circular No. 999 dated 14 March 2018;
2. Circular Letter No. CL-2018-018 dated 2 March 2018;
3. Circular Letter No. CL-2018-020 dated 14 March 2018; and
4. Circular Letter No. CL-2018-021 dated 8 March 2018.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

Letter dated 16 March 2018 of Roger E. Dino, Deputy Director, Office of the General Counsel and Legal Services, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), furnishing the House of Representatives with a duly certified and authenticated copy of Circular Letter No. CL-2018-019 dated 8 March 2018.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report by the Committee on Health (Committee Report No. 680), re H.B. No. 7437, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE PRIVATIZATION AND CORPORATIZATION OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS, PUBLIC HEALTH FACILITIES AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 2475, 3491 and 3857

Sponsors: Representatives Tan (A.), Zarate and Atienza

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Welfare of Children and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 681), re H.B. No. 7442, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE SPECIAL PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IN SITUATIONS OF ARMED CONFLICT AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 13, 1280, 2345, 3050 and 4676

Sponsors: Representatives Yu, Nograles (K.A.), Dalipe, Belmonte (J.C.) and Belmonte (F.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship Development and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 682), re

H.B. No. 7445, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP SKILLS AMONG GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES TO INSPIRE INNOVATIVENESS AND TO ENSURE THEIR PRODUCTIVITY EVEN BEYOND GOVERNMENT SERVICE”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 3335

Sponsors: Representatives Unabia, Nograles (K.A.), Noel and Laogan

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship Development and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 683), re H.B. No. 7446, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING A SOCIALIZED MICROFINANCING PROGRAM FOR MICRO ENTERPRISES THEREBY PROMOTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 5158 and 5920

Sponsors: Representatives Unabia, Nograles (K.A.), Tan (A.) and Limkaichong

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, may we acknowledge the presence of some guests in the gallery. First off are the members of the Liga ng mga Barangay, Oas, Albay Chapter, headed by their President Greggory Ricarte Jr. They are the guests of the Hon. Fernando V. Gonzalez from the Third District of Albay.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Please rise. The guests of Cong. Fernando V. Gonzalez are welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

REP. DE VENECIA. Next off, Mr. Speaker, we would like to acknowledge the presence of the guests of the Hon. Eugene Michael B. De Vera of ABS Party-List. They are the students of Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Marikina, namely: Kevin Javier, Marvin Marcial, Adrian Gatbunton, Jasper Malloga, John Paul Dela Paz, John Darwin Ignacio, Renz Santos, Haidee Poncio, Christelle Pinca, Alfredo Arsenio Jr., Michelle Dulay, Joy Salas, Pearlyn Pimentel, Susie Regachuelo, Zandro Cariño, Camillo Davantes, Ismael Manguerra, Arthur Guieb, Joyce Anne Mandos, Michael Midallada, John Nuñez, Reymark Estacio, Rodrigo Refugido Jr., Armond Soriano, Jaymar Mariano, Mello Raagas, Liezl Espina, Victorio Paiton III, Catherine Muzar, Roxan

Flores, Jessica Agcaoili, Kleeny Lachica, Noriko Legaspi, Kris Grimaldo, Veronica Alonso, John Sawyer, Cindy Cerbir, Gerry Gregorio, Frances Bongoyan, Alisa Aquino, Cherish Calfoforo, Zandra Real, Franz Centeno, Aaron Agudo—just six more—Joseph Javier, Jayvee Belier, Lady Survilla, Mark Gre, Shari Tamares, and Mary Rose Rarago.

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

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 7185
ON THIRD READING

REP. DE VENECIA. All right, Mr. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 7185 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The Secretary General is hereby directed to read the title of House Bill No. 7185.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on March 15, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7185, entitled: AN ACT RECOGNIZING THE FOREIGN DECREE OF TERMINATION OF MARRIAGE AND ALLOWING ITS SUBSEQUENT REGISTRATION WITH THE PHILIPPINE CIVIL REGISTRY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 209, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 78, dated March 21, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7185
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). With 202 affirmative votes, 3 negative votes and no abstention, House Bill No. 7185 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 7230
ON THIRD READING

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 7230 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on March 14, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7230, entitled: AN ACT RENAMING THE PORTION OF RADIAL ROAD 10 TRAVERSING BONIFACIO DRIVE AT ANDA CIRCLE IN STATION KILOMETER (STA KM) 1+100, UP TO MARALA BRIDGE AT THE FOOT OF ESTERO DE MARALA STA KM 6+445, ALL IN THE CITY OF MANILA AS MEL LOPEZ BOULEVARD.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 78, dated March 21, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7230
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). With 207 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 7230 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 6724
ON THIRD READING

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 6724 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on March 15, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 6724, entitled: AN ACT CHANGING THE NAME OF LUPON SCHOOL OF FISHERIES IN LUPON, DAVAO ORIENTAL, INTO THE DAVAO ORIENTAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 78, dated March 21, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 6724
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). With 208 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 6724 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 7310
ON THIRD READING

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 7310 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on March 15, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7310, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EXTENSION PROGRAM OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES (USTSP) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF VILLANUEVA, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 78, dated March 21, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7310
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). With 213 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 7310 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 7327
ON THIRD READING

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 7327 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on March 15, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7327, entitled: AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF VALENZUELA MEDICAL CENTER IN THE CITY OF VALENZUELA, FROM TWO HUNDRED (200) TO FIVE HUNDRED (500) BEDS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 78, dated March 21, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7327
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). With 213 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 7327 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 7346
ON THIRD READING

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 7346 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on March 15, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7346, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SOUTHERN LEYTE SPORTS ACADEMY AND TRAINING CENTER IN THE CAPITAL CITY OF MAASIN, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 78, dated March 21, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7346
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). With 213 affirmative votes, no negative votes and no abstention, House Bill No. 7346 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 7362
ON THIRD READING

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 7362 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on March 15, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7362, entitled: AN ACT CONVERTING THE SAN LORENZO RUIZ WOMEN'S HOSPITAL IN MALABON CITY, METRO MANILA INTO A GENERAL HOSPITAL TO BE KNOWN AS THE SAN LORENZO RUIZ GENERAL HOSPITAL, INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY FROM TEN (10) TO TWO HUNDRED (200) BEDS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 78, dated March 21, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7362
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). With 213 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 7362 is hereby approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker, good afternoon.

As the Chairman of the House of Representatives' Ad Hoc Committee on Familiarization and Inspection Trips, may I be allowed to give a brief report, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. FARIÑAS. Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Under the leadership of Speaker Pantaleon Alvarez, the Seventeenth Congress has initiated a project which has never been done before in any Congress of the Philippines. This is a project that brings Members of the House on Familiarization and Inspection Trips all over the country in order for them, for us, to be familiarized and to see first-hand the actual conditions in our respective districts.

The Speaker came up with this project in order that when the Executive Department submits its National Expenditure Program to us in July or August, we will be knowledgeable about the actual needs of our constituencies.

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

So, last year, Mr. Speaker, upon our adjournment on March 16, for 12 days, we had the Manila–Davao–Manila Familiarization and Inspection Trip which, using the West Nautical Highway, brought us from Manila up to Davao, passing through Batangas, Mindoro, of course, Aklan, then, Iloilo, and the Negros provinces. We crossed going to Zamboanga del Norte, then, we drove to Zamboanga del Sur up to Misamis Oriental, Cagayan de Oro, Bukidnon, all over, until Davao. After that, we returned using the Eastern Nautical Highway, passing through Compostela Valley, Agusan del Sur, Agusan del Norte, Surigao del Sur, and Surigao del Norte. We crossed going to Southern Leyte, then Leyte itself, Samar, and Northern Samar. Then we crossed again the seas leading us to Sorsogon, then to Albay, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, Quezon and down to Manila.

On June 1 of last year, we also did the Northern and Central Luzon Familiarization and Inspection Trip which brought us to Northwestern Luzon. From Manila, we drove down to Bulacan, Pangasinan, Tarlac, La Union, Ilocos Sur, Ilocos Norte, then we went around Cagayan, Isabela, Kalinga, Ifugao, Nueva Vizcaya, Baguio, down to Pangasinan. Then we went to Zambales. We went to Bataan and back to Manila.

Last Thursday, Mr. Speaker, March 15 to 18, we did the Northern and Central Luzon Familiarization and Inspection Trip, taking us from day one—we will show the video. It is a 10-minute video for everybody to enjoy. The Speaker plans on doing this again in other parts of the country for our Third Regular Session.

May I have the video, please.

(Video presentation)

For lunch, we were hosted by Rep. Mikki Violago and her husband, our former colleague here, Joseph Violago, in cooperation with Ria Vergara, Ging Suansing, Maegen Antonino, at the house of the Violagos in San Jose, Nueva Ecija.

This is Baler, where we were hosted by Senator and Mrs. Sonny Angara, as well as former Senate President Edgardo Angara. We were about 65 Members of the House, who joined the trip, and on the last day, we ended with about 30. They had surfing in Baler, Aurora. The first time that they saw the Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives, as well as ...

On day 2, we went to Quirino and we were hosted by Gov. Junie Cua and our former colleague, Mary Ann Cua, and of course, our very own Dax Cua, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the House.

Incidentally, our host in Aurora was the Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the Senate. So, in a way, they were thanking us for the passage of TRAIN 1. By the way, TRAIN 2 was filed this afternoon.

This is at the riverside of Nagtipunan in Quirino, a beautiful resort with white river rafting.

We have a very beautiful country. It is a pity that a lot of people do not get to see it, so what a better way to promote tourism. We were, of course, accompanied by the Chair of our Tourism Committee, as well as si Lucy. Special thanks to the Chairman of Transportation, Cesar Sarmiento, for being our coordinator. Iyan po iyong river rafting nila doon, may cliff diving, mayroon ding wakeboarding as you will see later on in Cabarroguis.

Ito po ay sa Nagtipunan. Ang gaganda po ng kalye. We were surprised, from Manila to Baler, puro sementado po. From Baler to Quirino, passing through Nagtipunan, Cabarroguis, going out in Isabela, puro sementado po ang kalye, ang ganda na po ng infrastructure natin.

Cliff diving by some of the Members—mataas po iyan, mga 20 feet yata. This was from Nagtipunan. We drove to Cabarroguis where the Provincial Capitol is, and where the Governor and the First Lady of the province hosted us. Ganyan po ang kalye, ang gaganda, pati iyong road protection works, very impressive. Of course, we were accompanied by the top echelon officials of the DPWH, the Department of Tourism and the Department of Transportation.

Last year, we also visited the place of our presiding Speaker in Capiz, maski hindi siya nakikinig, ah nakikinig pala—Mr. Speaker.

This is an eternity pool in Cabarroguis where they had wakeboarding. Itong wakeboarding, akala ko sa CamSur lang iyan mayroon at saka sa Pampanga. Mayroon din pala sa Quirino province. And, considering that it is Quirino and Baler, it is a province less travelled, so ang ganda po. Si Ricky Sandoval was so impressed with their beach, iyong papunta sa Dinglasan. Hindi ba ang ganda? Tapos kokonti ang tao, e kapag ganitong panahon po ng March 15, ang dami nang tao sa mga beach. Iyan, dancer po namin si Apple Pancho. “Apple, pakitaan mo nga sila ng konting dance moves mo diyan.”

So, it was more than the inspection of facilities. It was also a very rare bonding experience for Members. So, I hope that we will have more participants in the coming familiarization and inspection tours. Dito po, iyong kaharian ni Banti Cuaresma iyan. Pinagbibigyan po kami ng napakagandang mga walis. Thank you, Banti and, of course, for hosting lunch. We also had several motorcycle riders with us. Mayroon po iyong mga puro jump shot. Most of the Members rode on buses. Kakaunti po ang nag-private vehicles and, for the information of the public, last year po, nag-RORO pa ho kami. We did not take any aircraft or any flight going to all provinces from Manila to Davao and coming back to Manila. Puro kotse, truck at RORO po ang gamit namin.

This was our trip travel from Santa Fe in Nueva Vizcaya. We negotiated Dalton Pass to get back to San Jose del Monte and onward to Victoria, Tarlac where our former colleague, now Governor of Tarlac, Susan Yap,

and our very own, Vic Yap, hosted for us a sumptuous merienda. They wanted to host dinner but we also had our host in Clark.

So, nakita ninyo naman po, those who participated, most of them were there on day 1 until day 4. We started Thursday morning at 7:30. After our adjournment last Wednesday, the following day, we all met up in NLEX Petron and punctually kicked off at nine in the morning.

I wish to congratulate Cesar and all our Members for being punctual—I think punctuality has become part of our character. Pia also joined us on the third night. In Angeles, Mr. Speaker, in Clark Field, we were hosted by Secretary Art Tugade and the whole DOTr family. All his undersecretaries were there, all attached agency heads were there, and of course, co-hosting him was Vince Dizon, the Chairperson of the Bases Conversion and Development Authority. Ang ganda po noong development ng mga Koreano doon. Iyong ginawa nilang golf course, imported po iyong kanilang grass na ginamit for their greenery and fairways. Nakita ninyo naman po itong bus na ito, singkuwenta ho yata kaming nandiyan sa loob pero kasama naman namin iyong Secretary of Transportation kaya hindi kami sinita ng LTO. Ayan po iyong golf course. That is Secretary Tugade. May ilang housing—all sold out. They have villas constructed already there, but sold out to mostly Koreans, some Japanese, and some Chinese, but they are developing another housing project there. That is Col. Mayo of the Philippine Air Force.

Ito po iyong last leg namin from Clark to Manila. So, on behalf of our membership, we thank the Speaker for his style of leadership in bringing us all around the country. On behalf of the Speaker, I thank all the Members who participated and all government agencies that cooperated with us.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. *(Applause)*

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

OMNIBUS CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL BILLS ON SECOND READING

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider bills under the Calendar of Business for Thursday and Friday.

Mr. Speaker, I move for the omnibus consideration of the following measures:

1. House Bill No. 7293, contained in Committee Report No. 635;
2. House Bill No. 7311, contained in Committee Report No. 643;
3. House Bill No. 7345, contained in Committee Report No. 647;
4. House Bill No. 7355, contained in Committee Report No. 650;

5. House Bill No. 7363, contained in Committee Report No. 652; and

6. House Bill No. 7386, contained in Committee Report No. 664.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we consider the respective Explanatory Notes as the sponsorship speeches on the said measures.

I so move.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. 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.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. 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.

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

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, at the moment, we only have one amendment that is on House Bill No. 7355, as contained in Committee Report No. 650, entitled: AN ACT CONVERTING THE ZIGA MEMORIAL DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN THE CITY OF TABACO, PROVINCE OF ALBAY, INTO AN EXTENSION HOSPITAL OF THE BICOL REGIONAL TRAINING AND TEACHING HOSPITAL, AND INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY FROM FIFTY (50) TO ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (150) BEDS TO BE NOW KNOWN AS THE DR. LORENZO P. ZIGA MEMORIAL DISTRICT HOSPITAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The amendment, Mr. Speaker, is that, we are changing “ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (150) BEDS” to TWO HUNDRED FIFTY (250) BEDS.

I so move, Mr. Speaker

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). What does the Sponsor say about the proposed amendment?

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Edcel Lagman.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Cong. Edcel Lagman is recognized.

REP. LAGMAN. Mr. Speaker, we are supporting the amendment because the last time, the bed capacity of this hospital was increased, and that was 45 years ago.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The amendment is noted.

REP. LAGMAN. Can we have the amendment approved, Your Honor?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Any motion for that matter?

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve the amendment.
I so move.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no individual amendments, I move that we terminate the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Now, Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve on Second Reading the following House Bills, again, these are: House Bills No. 7293, 7311, 7345, 7355, 7363 and 7386, as amended.
I so move, Mr. Speaker.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of the approval of House Bills No. 7293, 7311, 7345, 7355, 7363 and 7386, as amended, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

OMNIBUS APPROVAL OF LOCAL BILLS, AS AMENDED, ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

The bills enumerated in the omnibus motion are hereby approved, as amended, on Second Reading.*

The Majority Leader is recognized.

RATIFICATION OF CONF. CTTEE. RPT. ON H.B. NO. 5792 AND S.B. NO. 1533

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, we are in receipt of the bicameral Conference Committee Report reconciling the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 5792 and Senate Bill No. 1533.

May I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the titles of the measures.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read only the titles of the measures.

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the Conference Committee Report have been previously distributed, the Secretary General read only the titles of the measures without prejudice to inserting the text of the report in the Congressional Record.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 5792, entitled: AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE BALIK SCIENTIST PROGRAM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR; and Senate Bill No. 1533, entitled: AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE BALIK SCIENTIST PROGRAM, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSE.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we ratify the said bicameral Conference Committee Report.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of approving the bicameral Conference Committee Report, please say *aye*.

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye.*

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

The bicameral Conference Committee Report is approved.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that all bills approved on Third Reading be immediately transmitted to the Senate for their consideration and approval.

I so move.

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

RATIFICATION OF CONF. CTTEE. RPT.
ON H.B. NO. 6782 AND S.B. NO. 108

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, we are in receipt of the bicameral Conference Committee Report reconciling the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 6782 and Senate Bill No. 108.

May I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the titles of the measures.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read only the titles of the measures.

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the Conference Committee Report have been previously distributed, the Secretary General read only the titles of the measures without prejudice to inserting the text of the report in the Congressional Record.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 6782, entitled: AN ACT DECLARING APRIL 27 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF LAPU-LAPU, PROVINCE OF CEBU, IN HONOR OF THE HEROISM OF LAPU-LAPU IN DEFENDING MACTAN AGAINST FOREIGN AGGRESSION DEPICTED ESPECIALLY IN THE HISTORIC BATTLE OF MACTAN WHEN HE LED FILIPINOS IN FIGHTING FERDINAND MAGELLAN AND HIS FORCES; and Senate Bill No. 108, entitled:

AN ACT DECLARING APRIL 27 OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL WORKING PUBLIC HOLIDAY THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY TO COMMEMORATE THE VICTORY OF LAPU-LAPU AND HIS MEN OVER THE SPANIARDS LED BY FERDINAND MAGELLAN IN THE HISTORIC BATTLE OF MACTAN ON APRIL 27, 1521, TO BE KNOWN AS LAPU-LAPU DAY OR ADLAW NI LAPU-LAPU.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we ratify the said bicameral Conference Committee Report.

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

The bicameral Conference Committee Report is approved.

DESIGNATION OF MEMBERS TO THE
BICAM. CONF. CTTEE.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we designate the following as members of the bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 6221 and Senate Bill No. 1738, regarding the Filipino Identification System Act: Reps. Sol Aragones, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, Arnolfo "Arnie" A. Teves Jr., Robert Ace S. Barbers, Dakila Carlo E. Cua and Alfredo A. Garbin Jr.

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

The Members nominated are so designated.

RATIFICATION OF CONF. CTTEE. RPT.
ON H.B. NO. 6772 AND S.B. NO. 1444

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, we are in receipt of the bicameral Conference Committee Report reconciling the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 6772 and Senate Bill No. 1444.

May I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the titles of the measures.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read only the titles of the measures.

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the Conference Committee Report have been previously

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

distributed, the Secretary General read only the titles of the measures without prejudice to inserting the text of the report in the Congressional Record.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 6772, entitled: AN ACT ENSURING THE PRESERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF PROTECTED AREAS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7586, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM ACT OF 1992”; and Senate Bill No. 1444, entitled: AN ACT DECLARING PROTECTED AREAS AND PROVIDING FOR THEIR MANAGEMENT, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7586, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM (NIPAS) ACT OF 1992, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we ratify the said bicameral Conference Committee Report.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of approving the bicameral Conference Committee Report, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are against, please say *nay*. (*Silence*) The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

The bicameral Conference Committee Report is approved.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, as requested by the Joint Committees on Good Government and Public Accountability and Energy, through their Chairpersons, Reps. Johnny Ty Pimentel and Lord Allan Jay Q. Velasco, respectively, I move that we recommit Committee Report No. 632 on House Resolution No. 1741, pursuant to House Resolution No. 1161 to the Joint Committees on Good Government and Public Accountability and Energy.

I so move.

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

CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 1757

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that

we consider House Resolution No. 1757, contained in Committee Report No. 649, 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. Castro, F.H.). 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. 1757, entitled: RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO REQUIRE ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE BASIC EDUCATION SCHOOLS TO PRIORITIZE IN THEIR CONDUCT OF EDUCATIONAL FIELD TRIPS VISITS TO HISTORICAL SITES, LANDMARKS, AND MUSEUMS WITHIN THE PHILIPPINES.

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

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. DE VENECIA. I move for a one-minute suspension of the session, Mr. Speaker

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The session is suspended.

It was 5:19 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:20 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The session is resumed.

REP. DE VENECIA. All right. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adopt the said House Resolution as read by the Secretary General.

ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 1757

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

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

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

House Resolution No. 1757 is adopted.
The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 1770

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Resolution No. 1770, contained in Committee Report No. 662, 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. Castro, F.H.). 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. 1770, entitled: RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT RODRIGOR DUTERTE TO ISSUE A PROCLAMATION TRANSFERRING TO THE NATIONAL HISTORICAL COMMISSION OF THE PHILIPPINES (NHCP) THE OWNERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION OVER A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED AT RIZAL PARK, ERMITA, MANILA, WHERE ITS OFFICE BUILDING HAS BEEN CONSTRUCTED.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adopt the said resolution as read by the Secretary General.

ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 1770

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

House Resolution No. 1770 is adopted.
The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DAZA. Mr. Speaker.

REP. DE VENECIA. Yes, what is the pleasure of the Honorable Daza?

REP. DAZA. May I move for a reconsideration on the approval of the House Resolution because I just want to discuss with the Majority Leader a paragraph of the Resolution.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). For what reason?

REP. DAZA. May I ask for a two-minute suspension of the session, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). What is the reaction of the Majority Leader?

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. DE VENECIA. We move for a two-minute suspension of the session, Mr. Speaker.
I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The session is suspended.

It was 5:21 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:24 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The session is resumed.

REP. DAZA. Mr. Speaker.

REP. DE VENECIA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
The parliamentary status is that we have just adopted House Resolution No. 1770, as contained in Committee Report No. 662, entitled: RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT RODRIGO R. DUTERTE TO ISSUE A PROCLAMATION TRANSFERRING TO THE NATIONAL HISTORICAL COMMISSION OF THE PHILIPPINES (NHCP) THE OWNERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION OVER A PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED AT RIZAL PARK, ERMITA, MANILA, WHERE ITS OFFICE BUILDING HAS BEEN CONSTRUCTED.

REP. DAZA. Mr. Speaker.

REP. DE VENECIA. Yes, please.

REP. DAZA. During the recess, I mentioned to the Majority Leader my doubt as to a paragraph in this Resolution but as the Majority Leader has mentioned,

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

this is not a Bill; this is just a Resolution. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, with that understanding, I am withdrawing my motion for reconsideration.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The withdrawal of the motion is noted.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 1793

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Resolution No. 1793, contained in Committee Report No. 672, as reported out by the Committee on Youth and Sports Development.

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

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

The Secretary General is directed to read 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. 1793, entitled: RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE PHILIPPINE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE UNDER ITS NEW LEADERSHIP.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adopt the said resolution, contained under Committee Report No. 672, again, RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE PHILIPPINE OLYMPIC COMMITTEE UNDER ITS NEW LEADERSHIP.

I so move.

ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 1793

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

House Resolution No. 1793 is adopted.
The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7385 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 7385, contained in Committee Report No. 663, 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. Castro, F.H.). 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. 7385, entitled: AN ACT RENEWING THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO PHILIPPINE COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE CORPORATION (PHILCOMSAT) TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE IN THE PHILIPPINES GROUND SATELLITE TERMINAL STATIONS FOR TELECOMMUNICATION WITH SATELLITE FACILITIES AND DELIVERY TO COMMON CARRIERS.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we now recognize the Chairperson of the Committee on Legislative Franchises, the Hon. Franz "Chicoy" Alvarez, to begin his sponsorship of the said measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Congressman Alvarez is hereby recognized.

REP. ALVAREZ (F.). Mr. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note of the Bill be considered as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate the Sponsor or to speak against the measure, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Committee amendment, I move that we now proceed to consider the individual amendments, if any.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no individual amendment, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that vote on Second Reading on House Bill No. 7385.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7385, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7385 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The ayes have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 7385 is approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7193 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 7193, contained in Committee Report No. 614, as reported out by the Committees on Human Rights, and Appropriations.

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

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

The Secretary General is directed to read 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. 7193, entitled: AN ACT PROVIDING A FRAMEWORK FOR THE RIGHT TO ADEQUATE FOOD, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Chairperson of the Committee on Human Rights, the Hon. Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla, be recognized to begin her sponsorship of the said measure.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Congresswoman Cheryl Deloso-Montalla is hereby recognized.

REP. DE LOSO-MONTALLA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note of the Bill be considered as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate the Sponsor or to

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

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

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

REP. DE LOSO-MONTALLA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Committee amendment, I move that we proceed to consider the individual amendments, if any.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to introduce individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we vote on Second Reading, or rather, let me amend that motion, Mr. Speaker. I move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 7193.

I so move.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7193, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7193 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 7193 is approved on Second Reading (*Applause*)

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7180 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 7180, contained in Committee Report No. 608, as reported out by the Committee on Justice.

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

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

The Secretary General is directed to read 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. 7180, entitled: AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO FATHER JULIAN C. MAZANA.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we recognize the Hon. Tobias “Toby” M. Tiangco to sponsor the said measure.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Congressman Toby Tiangco is hereby recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Honorable Tiangco, I move that the Explanatory Note of the Bill be considered as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate the Sponsor, ...

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

REP. LAGMAN. Mr. Speaker.

REP. DE VENECIA. ... I move ...

REP. LAGMAN. Mr. Speaker.

REP. DE VENECIA. Yes, what is the pleasure of the Honorable Lagman?

REP. LAGMAN. I would like to make a manifestation and a short interpellation.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Congressman Edcel C. Lagman is hereby recognized.

REP. LAGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is not my intention to derail the eventual approval of this measure. I will not object to its approval but I would like to be consistent with my concern that until now, the Committee on Justice and the House of Representatives have not adopted policy standards under which foreigners can be granted congressional Filipino citizenship. This is a very important matter because there should be definite policy directions and guidelines as attributes of Philippine citizenship that we vest on a foreigner are of overriding importance.

May I know whether the distinguished Sponsor is willing to answer some questions.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Sponsor may respond.

REP. TIANGCO. Yes, Mr. Speaker. Of course, I am willing to answer the questions from our senior Member, Rep. Edcel Lagman.

REP. LAGMAN. May we know from the distinguished Sponsor whether he is aware of any set of guidelines or policies adopted by the Committee on Justice and the House of Representatives with respect to requirements and disqualifications on the grant of Philippine citizenship by this Congress to foreigners?

REP. TIANGCO. Mr. Speaker, the procedure that the Committee follows is the internal rules. But with regard to specific guidelines, as of now, Congress has no specific guidelines as to granting citizenship.

Yes, I agree with the Hon. Edcel Lagman that granting Filipino citizenship to foreigners should be considered sacred. So, I agree that if ever there will be a move by Representative Lagman to give minimum requirements in the grant of citizenship by Congress to non-Filipinos, then I will be active in the deliberations to make sure that those who want to be Filipino citizens are really qualified to be Filipino citizens, Your Honor, Mr. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. Thank you for that assurance, distinguished Sponsor. In these guidelines, there will be minimum requirements consistent with Commonwealth Act No. 473 on the judicial process of naturalization, and Republic Act No. 9139 on administrative naturalization wherein there are requirements, there are qualifications, and there are disqualifications. Would the distinguished Sponsor agree to such proposition?

REP. TIANGCO. Yes, Your Honor, Mr. Speaker, I would definitely agree because these are existing laws and I think that we should harmonize our Commonwealth Act No. 473 and Republic Act No. 9139 with the guidelines that Congress will formulate.

For the information of the Honorable Lagman, Father Mazana complies with Commonwealth Act No. 473, except for number 6, that the minor children must be enrolled in the Philippine Schools because he is a priest. So, he does not have any children. So, the first five including the citizenship requirement of not less than 10 years, he has complied with because Father Mazana has been here since 1990.

With regard to R.A. No. 9139, he is not covered by this because he was not born here. But I totally agree that if ever we will make a set of rules, then it would have to be harmonized and it cannot be contradictory to Commonwealth Act No. 473 and Republic Act No. 9139, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

REP. LAGMAN. Thank you for those assurances, Mr. Speaker, distinguished Sponsor.

I would now terminate my interpellation with respect to House Bill No. 7180, granting citizenship to Father Julian Mazana. And I am informed that there are other bills of this nature which are in the Order of Business. And I am afraid that because of this number of bills wherein Congress grants citizenship to foreigners, this might be monickered as a citizenship bill if we do not have those policy standards and guidelines.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. TIANGCO. Mr. Speaker, if I may respond.

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

REP. TIANGCO. Yes, definitely I agree. And I hope that within this Congress, we would be able to pass the guidelines that would harmonize the Commonwealth Act and the pertinent Republic Act.

Thank you, Honorable Lagman.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). I would like to advise Congressman Lagman that the Chair was even the one who debated with the Chairman

of the Committee on Justice when this petition or application for citizenship was being deliberated, simply because the Chair believes that we cannot just give away on the basis of application in the House of Representatives this citizenship just like that, in the same way that other countries treat their citizenship very valuable. The distinguished Sponsor can attest to that.

REP. TIANGCO. Yes, Mr. Speaker, I was there during the hearings and I heard your arguments. And I confirm the statement of the honorable Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Presiding Officer, for joining the chorus of the call to have policy directions and standards.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). It is always the pleasure of the Chair to join legitimate issues brought forth in this Chamber, Congressman Lagman.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate the Sponsor or to speak against the measure, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we open the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Committee amendment, I move that we proceed to consider the individual amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to introduce individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we

approve House Bill No. 711 on Second Reading. I am sorry, that is House Bill No. 7310.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). There is a motion for the approval of House Bill No. 7310 on Second Reading.

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

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F. H.). As many as are against, please say *no*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 7310 is approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7180 ON SECOND READING

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, allow me to amend that motion. I now move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 7180.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7387 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 7387, contained in Committee Report No. 665, as reported out by the Committee on Justice.

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

I so move.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read 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. 7387, entitled: AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO KWOK HING CARLOS YEUNG.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Hon. Gwendolyn F. Garcia be recognized to sponsor the said measure.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Sponsor Rep. Gwendolyn Garcia is recognized.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REP. GARCIA (G.)

REP. GARCIA (G.). Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

It is my honor to sponsor House Bill No. 7387 which is to grant Filipino citizenship to Mr. Kwok Hing Carlos Yeung. Though a national of Hong Kong, first as a territory of the United Kingdom, then as a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, Mr. Carlos Kwok Hing Yeung has, for over 40 years, worked and lived as if he were a Filipino.

In 1978, he first came to the Philippines, fell in love with and wed a Cebuana, Mariquita Salimbangon, and made Cebu not just his second home but the home of his growing family and the focus of his ventures as an entrepreneur.

A partner of the highly successful diamond dealer, Simplex Diam HK Limited in Hong Kong, Mr. Yeung soon expanded his investments to the Philippines through the MSY Holdings Incorporated in which he is Vice Chairman and whose affiliates are engaged in diverse businesses such as real estate development, hospitality business, and health and fitness, among others.

The MSY Holdings is responsible for building two distinct landmarks in Cebu: the Kandaya Resort, a five-star luxury beach resort in Daan Bantayan in Northern Cebu, and the MSY Power, the premier business address at the Cebu Business Park, Cebu City. While his business ventures have created employment opportunities for thousands of Filipinos, it is in the area of philanthropy that Mr. Yeung excels and has touched tens of thousands of lives in Cebu and in nearby provinces since 1991. Through the MSY Foundation, Mr. Yeung, together with his wife Dame Mariquita Salimbangon-Yeung has funded the construction of health centers and the conduct of medical-surgical-dental missions in depressed areas in Cebu province; a medical assistance program for indigent patients; assistance

for the repairs and reconstruction of public schools; financial assistance to poor and deserving students in the primary, secondary and tertiary levels; relief operations in times of natural calamity; and support to worthy religious, social, civil and cultural projects.

Its flagship project, Operation Smile, which helps children with cleft lip and cleft palate, is now on its 19th year and has given over 5,000 children new smiles and a new shot at life. In recognition of the MSY Foundations Philanthropy, its founding Chairperson, Dame Mariquita Salimbangon-Yeung, was recognized as a Papal Awardee of the Order of St. Sylvester. Mr. Yeung and his wife share a home in Cebu City with their three children who are all responsible and productive citizens of this country.

Citizenship is a high privilege as well as an awesome responsibility. It requires physical presence, integration into the community, investment in a nation's future, and a demonstrable compassion for your fellowmen, particularly your future fellow citizens. If these be the standard, Carlos Kwok Hing Yeung has shown that he is and should be a citizen of the Philippines. Hence, this Bill to grant him this citizenship.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Edcel C. Lagman for his interpellation.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Congressman Lagman is recognized.

REP. LAGMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I would like to reiterate my previous manifestation that I have no intention to derail the eventual approval of this Bill. I have nothing personal against the prospective grantee, Mr. Carlos Yeung. As a matter of fact, I am informed that he has outstanding credentials, but I would like to be consistent that there is a need for the Committee on Justice and the House of Representatives to adopt policy guidelines and standards under which a prospective grantee should undergo scrutiny by the House of Representatives through the Committee on Justice.

May I just proceed to a few interpellations, if the distinguished Sponsor would agree?

REP. GARCIA (G.). It would be my honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). What does the distinguished Sponsor say?

REP. GARCIA (G.). Mr. Speaker, it will be my honor to answer the questions of the distinguished Gentleman from Albay.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Congressman Lagman, you may proceed with your interpellation.

REP. LAGMAN. When the House of Representatives organizes and grants corporate status to local government units like barangays, municipalities, cities and provinces, there are policy standards which should be complied with by the prospective grantee. Is that correct?

REP. GARCIA (G.). That is correct, Mr. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. And these policy standards would include income, population, and territorial area. Is that correct?

REP. GARCIA (G.). That is correct, Mr. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. When Congress grants legislative franchises, again, there are standards. Is that correct?

REP. GARCIA (G.). I fully agree, Mr. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. Like for example, financial capacity, technical capacity, as well as the requisite citizenship requirement. Is that correct?

REP. GARCIA (G.). That is correct, Mr. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. Now, I think that when we grant this sacred and sacrosanct citizenship, Filipino citizenship, to foreigners, we should also follow certain standards. Is that correct?

REP. GARCIA (G.). That is correct, Mr. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. And when I interpellated the distinguished Chairman of the Committee on Justice on February 21, 2018, with respect to the proposed grant of Philippine citizenship to Mr. Phillip Leach, this is what he said, in response to my suggestions on the adoption of policy standards. He said, and I quote:

Just to respond to it, we take note with gratitude the suggestion of my distinguished colleague. This is a matter that we will take up in the Subcommittee on Naturalization, headed by Rep. Arnulfo P. Fuentesbello, and we will consider the suggestion and deliberate upon it as part of an output that we will do in the 17th Congress.

Would the distinguished Sponsor know whether this adoption of policy standards has already been initiated by the Committee on Justice?

REP. GARCIA (G.). Mr. Speaker, I believe it has indeed been initiated. In fact, there are minimum standards that are required of those seeking Filipino citizenship under the Subcommittee on Immigration, Deportation and Naturalization. We do have and I have a copy with me the Internal Rules of Procedure of the Committee on Justice. And Section 29, of Rule X, entitled: Legislative Grant of Philippine Citizenship reads:

The Committee or the Subcommittee on Immigration, Deportation and Naturalization, as the case may be, shall calendar for deliberation a bill granting Philippine citizenship only after the submission of all the documents that may be required by the Committee or the Subcommittee which shall include: police clearance, NBI clearance, and barangay clearance. It may also require the applicant, beneficiary or party in interest to file a letter of intent stating therein his or her desire and his or her reasons for applying for Philippine citizenship. The Committee shall exercise diligence in determining the validity and genuineness of the documents submitted and shall conduct a formal examination on the applicant, beneficiary, and party in interest, when necessary.

REP. LAGMAN. Well, this procedure, Mr. Speaker, distinguished Sponsor, would not be consistent with the existing laws on naturalization by judicial decree and naturalization by administrative process. The requirements of police clearance, etcetera, would not be as important as enumerating the minimum requirements or qualifications to be granted Philippine citizenship as well as the disqualifications. So, we still need to have these policy standards in order that we can be consistent with our espousal that the grant of Philippine citizenship is a very important act of Congress, and the grantee must qualify under minimum standards and should not be disqualified under existing laws.

Would the distinguished Sponsor join this Representation and others in urging the Committee on Justice as well as the House leadership to adopt such important policy considerations?

REP. GARCIA (G.). I join the distinguished Gentleman of Albay in his passion in insisting that, in fact, we should have more stringent standards for accepting foreigners to become Filipino citizens. I do assure the distinguished Gentleman from Albay that Mr. Carlos Yeung possesses all of the six qualifications under

Commonwealth Act 473, none of the disqualifications under Section 4 of Commonwealth Act 473 as well as all of the qualifications under Section 3 of Republic Act 9139 and none of the disqualifications under Section 4 of Republic Act 9139.

In other words, even without having established the standards that should be in consonance with both laws, whether citizenship be granted administratively or judicially, Mr. Carlos Kwok Hing Yeung, in fact, fulfills all of the qualifications, none of the disqualifications under both laws, Mr. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. Mr. Speaker, distinguished Sponsor, I am not disputing the qualifications of Mr. Carlos Yeung nor that he does not have any disqualification to become a citizen of the Philippines. All that I am concerned about is the adoption of policy standards to be complied with by all prospective grantees, and I am thankful that the distinguished Sponsor will join this Representation in the adoption by the Committee on Justice and the House of Representatives of such important and overriding policy standards. With this, Mr. Speaker, distinguished Sponsor, I terminate my short interpellation.

REP. GARCIA (G.). Mr. Speaker, if I may, I would wish to manifest to the distinguished Gentleman from Albay that should he wish to craft a bill or submit to the Committee on Justice a resolution requiring the Committee to adopt the standards or policies that should henceforth be required of foreign nationals seeking Filipino citizenship, I shall join and co-author the legislative measure. Being an ex-officio member of the Committee on Justice, I shall see to it, Mr. Speaker, that such legislative measure shall be taken up by the Committee on Justice, particularly the Subcommittee on Immigration, Deportation and Naturalization.

REP. LAGMAN. Thank you, again, Mr. Speaker, distinguished Sponsor, for those assurances.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The manifestation of the distinguished Sponsor is noted. Although the Chair wishes to say that a legislation or a bill or resolution may not be needed in order to create or formulate an internal rule for the Subcommittee of the House Committee on Justice in order to provide for requirements to be submitted by any applicant for Philippine citizenship. This Representation or the Chair believes that a mere internal rule as discussed with the Chairman of the Subcommittee may do in the meantime.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DEL MAR. Mr. Speaker.

REP. DE VENECIA. I now move that we recognize the Hon. Raul V. Del Mar from Cebu for his interpellation.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The Honorable Raul Del Mar is recognized.

REP. DEL MAR. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Majority Leader.

I join the Hon. Edcel Lagman, the Gentleman from Albay, in the adoption of policy standards for the grant of Philippine citizenship to foreigners by this House, and I would like to co-author that resolution or bill for the adoption of such policy standards. This Representation likewise would like to make of record that Mr. Kwok Hing Carlos Yeung is a constituent of my district. His residence is located in my district as well as his building where his principal office is located. I know him to be worthy of the grant of Philippine citizenship.

So, may I ask the Sponsor to include this Representation as coauthor of the measure.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. GARCIA (G.). Mr. Speaker, I would gladly accept Congressman Del Mar's request to be a coauthor of the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any reaction to the motion of Cong. Raul Del Mar that he be included as coauthor of the proposed subject bill?

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we join the Honorable Garcia in accepting the coauthorship of the Honorable Del Mar, and we accept and second the motion.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no other Member who wishes to interpellate the Sponsor or to speak against the measure, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Committee amendment, I move that we proceed to consider the individual amendments, if any.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to introduce individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 7387, entitled: AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO KWOK HING CARLOS YEUNG.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7387, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7387 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it; House Bill No. 7387 is approved on Second Reading.

REP. GARCIA (G.). Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 3988 *Continuation*

PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we continue the consideration of House Bill No. 3988,

contained in Committee Report No. 4, as reported out by the Committee on Revision of Laws.

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

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

The Secretary General is hereby directed to read only the title of House Bill No. 3988.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 3988, entitled: AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONJUGAL PARTNERSHIP OF GAINS AS THE GOVERNING REGIME IN THE ABSENCE OF A MARRIAGE SETTLEMENT OR WHEN THE REGIME AGREED UPON IS VOID, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE 75 OF TITLE IV OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 209, AS AMENDED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 227, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, the parliamentary status of the Bill is that we are in the period of amendments.

I move that we recognize the Hon. Gwendolyn Garcia, author of House Bill No. 3988.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Congresswoman Gwen Garcia is hereby recognized

REP. GARCIA (G.). Mr. Speaker, I move that my Explanatory Note be considered as my sponsorship speech.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no other Committee amendment, I move that we proceed to consider the individual amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, earlier, we have distributed to all Members copies of the substitute bill to House Bill No. 3988. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Section 104 of our Rules, I move to amend by substitution the entire bill as contained in Committee Report No. 4, with the contents of the substitute bill earlier distributed to all Members.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider the individual amendments, if any.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to propose individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we approve House Bill No. 3988, as amended, on Second Reading.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 3988, as amended, on Second Reading, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are against, please say *no*. (*Silence*)

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 3988, AS AMENDED, ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it; House Bill No. 3988, as amended, is hereby approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7033

Continuation

PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we continue the consideration of House Bill No. 7033, contained in Committee Report No. 582, as reported out by the Committees on Social Services, Appropriations and Ways and Means.

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

I so move.

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

The Secretary General is hereby directed to read only the title of House Bill No. 7033.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7033, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE SYSTEM FOR REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES AND ACCREDITATION OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, the parliamentary status of the Bill is that we are in the period of amendments. I move that we recognize the Hon. Sandra Y. Eriguel, Chairperson of the Committee on Social Services, to sponsor the said measure.

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

REP. ERIGUEL. Mr. Speaker, considering all the inputs and comments submitted, the Committee came up with an amended House Bill No. 7033, a copy of which is attached. Consequently, the Committee is requesting that the amended House Bill No. 7033 be considered as an amendment by substitution in plenary.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no other Committee amendment, I move that we proceed to consider the individual amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, earlier, we have distributed to all Members copies of the substitute bill to House Bill No. 7033. Pursuant to Section No. 104 of our Rules, I move to amend, by substitution, the entire bill as contained in Committee Report No. 582, with the contents of the substitute bill earlier distributed to all the Members.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider the individual amendments, if any.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no other Member who wishes to introduce individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve House Bill No. 7033, as amended, on Second Reading.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Those who are in favor of House Bill No. 7033, as amended, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7033, AS AMENDED, ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it; House Bill No. 7033, as amended, is hereby approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ERIGUEL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we include some additional coauthors to House Bills No. 7163, 7385, and 7386, contained in the lists to be submitted by the Committee on Rules.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, considering that copies of the Journal of the previous session have been distributed to the Members, I move that we approve Journal No. 77, dated March 20, 2018.

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

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7436 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 7436, contained in Committee Report No. 679, as reported out by the Committees on Government Reorganization, on Public Works and Highways, and on Appropriations.

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

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

The Secretary General is directed to read 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. 7436, entitled: AN ACT ABOLISHING THE ROAD BOARD AND PROVIDING FOR THE DISTRIBUTION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE USER'S CHARGE COLLECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8794.

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

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move for a one-minute suspension of the session.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The session is suspended.

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

It was 6:16 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:17 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The session is resumed.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7436

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the consideration of House Bill No. 7436, contained in Committee Report No. 679, on Second Reading.

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

CONSIDERATION OF COMM. RPT. NO. 673 ON H.RES. NO. 1087 AND 1277

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider the findings and recommendations contained in Committee Report No. 673 on House Resolutions No. 1087 and 1277.

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

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

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

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Resolution No. 1087, entitled: A RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE ROADMAP, PROGRAMS, PROJECTS AND ACTION PLANS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM THAT AIM TO REGULATE TOURIST SPOTS IN ORDER TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABILITY, and

House Resolution No. 1277, entitled: RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED IRRESPONSIBLE DUMPING

OF WASTEWATER BY SOME ESTABLISHMENTS IN BORACAY ISLAND, MALAY, AKLAN TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE CLEAN AND CLEAR WATERS OF THE WORLD CLASS TOURISM DESTINATION WITH THE END IN VIEW OF ENACTING REGULATIONS THAT WILL ENSURE THE SUSTAINABILITY OF TOURISM ACTIVITIES IN THE ISLAND AND THE PRESERVATION OF ITS CHARM AND BEAUTY.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adopt the findings and recommendations contained in Committee Report No. 673 on House Resolutions No. 1087 and 1277.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of adopting the findings and recommendations contained in Committee Report No. 673 on House Resolutions No. 1087 and 1277, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

ADOPTION OF FINDINGS AND RECOM. IN CTTEE. RPT. NO. 673 ON H. RES. NO. 1087 AND 1277

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

The findings and recommendations contained in Committee Report No. 673 on House Resolutions No. 1087 and 1277 are adopted.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7436 *Continuation*

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we resume the consideration of House Bill No. 7436, contained in Committee Report No. 679, as reported out by the Committees on Government Reorganization, on Public Works and Highways, and on Appropriations.

I move that we recognize the Honorable Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo to sponsor the said measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Congressman Romualdo is hereby recognized.

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

REP. ROMUALDO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
Mr. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note of House Bill No. 7436 be considered as my sponsorship remarks on the measure.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, we ask for a few minutes suspension of the session.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The session is suspended.

It was 6:20 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:24 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The session is resumed.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7436

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the consideration of House Bill No. 7436, contained in Committee Report No. 679.

I so move.

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

The consideration of House Bill No. 7436 is hereby suspended.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7163 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 7163, contained in Committee Report No. 670, as reported out by the Committee on Justice.

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

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

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

The Secretary General is directed to read 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. 7163, entitled: AN ACT PENALIZING THE ACT OF THROWING HARD OBJECTS AT MOTOR VEHICLES.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Eugene Michael B. De Vera to sponsor the said measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Cong. Eugene De Vera is hereby recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Honorable De Vera, I move that his Explanatory Note be considered as his sponsorship speech.

I so move.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate the Sponsor or to speak against the measure, I move that we close or terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Committee amendment, I move that we proceed to consider the individual amendments.

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). What is the pleasure of the distinguished Rep. Edcel C. Lagman?

INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENT

REP. LAGMAN. Mr. Speaker, this Bill concerns throwing stones or hard objects against motor vehicles. Can we consider including locomotives or trains because this also happened in the south portion of the Philippine National Railways?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Sponsor will respond.

REP. DE VERA. Mr. Speaker, we accept.

REP. LAGMAN. Yes. Subject to style, I would like to make an amendment that locomotives and trains be included as among the vehicles which will be subject ...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). What does the Sponsor say?

REP. DE VERA. We accept, Mr. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The amendment is noted.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no other Member who wishes to introduce additional individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 7163.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7163, as amended, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7163, AS AMENDED, ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 7163, as amended, is approved on Second Reading.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I would also like to move that the Hon. Edcel Lagman be made a coauthor of the aforementioned measure.

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

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7436

Continuation

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we resume the consideration of House Bill No. 7436, contained in Committee Report No. 679, and I move that we recognize the Hon. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo to sponsor the said measure.

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

The distinguished Sponsor is recognized.

REP. ROMUALDO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Sponsor, I move that his Explanatory Note be considered his sponsorship speech.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Edcel C. Lagman for his interpellation on the said measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Gentleman from Albay is hereby recognized.

REP. LAGMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I join the authors of this measure on the abolition of the Road Board, as it, I think, is long overdue. But let me just ask some questions if the distinguished Sponsor would accommodate me.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). What does the distinguished Sponsor say?

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, we are honored to be asked by the Honorable Lagman and will be very willing to answer his questions.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Gentleman from Albay may proceed with his interpellation.

REP. LAGMAN. On page 3, lines 13 following, it reads:

THE SPECIAL LOCAL ROAD SUPPORT FUND SHALL BE USED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, UPGRADING, REPAIR, AND REHABILITATION OF LOCAL ROADS: *PROVIDED*, THAT SEVENTY-FIVE PERCENT (75%) OF THE SPECIAL LOCAL ROAD FUND SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED AMONG THE DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICES (DEOs) OF THE DPWH, AS FOLLOWS:

(A) FIFTY PERCENT (50%) SHALL BE APPORTIONED EQUALLY AMONG THE DEOs;

(B) TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT (25%) SHALL BE APPORTIONED BASED ON THE POPULATION UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE RESPECTIVE DEOs; AND

(C) TWENTY-FIVE (25%) SHALL BE APPORTIONED BASED ON THE LAND AREA UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE RESPECTIVE DEOs.

The percentage distribution amounts to a total of 100 percent. Is that correct?

REP. ROMUALDO. Yes, Mr. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. Well, why is it that in line 15, it says that:

TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT (25%) OF THE SPECIAL LOCAL ROAD FUND SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED AMONG THE DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICES (DEOs) OF THE DPWH, AS FOLLOWS:

So, what is being distributed under line 15 is only 75 percent.

REP. ROMUALDO. Yes.

REP. LAGMAN. Why is it that in the percentage

distribution, Mr. Speaker, distinguished Sponsor, the total percentage is 100 percent—50, plus 25, plus 25 percent? There must be something amiss in this provision.

REP. ROMUALDO. Yes. Mr. Speaker, the distribution in lines 18 to 23 refers to the distribution of the 75 percent. So, this is 100 percent of the 75 percent that will be distributed to the District Engineering Offices.

REP. LAGMAN. Okay, that is good. Well, I accept that explanation. But where will the 25 percent go?

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, the 25 percent will be managed and distributed by the Central Office of the Department of Public Works and Highways, so that is what we provided for. So, 75 percent will be distributed among the District Engineering Offices and, in effect, the remaining 25 percent will be with the Central Office of the Department of Public Works and Highways.

REP. LAGMAN. Is there a specific provision that the remaining 25 percent will be under the disposition of DPWH?

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, there is no specific provision with regard to the 25 percent, the remaining 25 percent, but that would be how the Bill, if approved into law, will operate. So, we will distribute 75 percent to the District Engineering Offices and the remaining 25 percent will remain with the Central Office of the DPWH.

REP. LAGMAN. Well, that is making an assumption which is not in the Bill. I think if we want to have the remaining 25 percent to be allocated by the Department of Public Works and Highways, then there should be a specific provision covering that intention.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. So, I think there should be the necessary amendments to be introduced with respect to this measure.

REP. ROMUALDO. Yes. Mr. Speaker, we are very glad and we are grateful for the suggestion of the Honorable Lagman, and we would be willing to accept an amendment that he would propose on the matter when we go to the period of amendments.

REP. LAGMAN. Mr. Speaker, distinguished Sponsor, can we increase the 75 percent for distribution to 85 percent so that only 15 percent will remain in the Public Works?

REP. ROMUALDO. Well, Mr. Speaker, we have no problem with increasing the same to 85 percent.

REP. LAGMAN. All right. And the increase would redound, no, the decrease in the amount to be allocated to the Department of Public Works and Highways on a nationwide basis would redound to the benefit of the districts, so much so that the percentage allocation to the district should accordingly be increased.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, may we ask for the suspension of the session to confer with the other members of the Committee on the matter.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F. H.). The session is suspended.

It was 6:36 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:42 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The session is resumed.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the honorable—Tito Celso, ikaw na ba?

REP. LOBREGAT. Okay.

REP. DE VENECIA. All right, Mr. Chair, I move that we recognize the honorable Chairperson of the Committee on Public Works and Highways, the Hon. Celso L. Lobregat to sponsor the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Gentleman from Zamboanga is recognized.

REP. LOBREGAT. Mr. Speaker, we have conferred—both committees, the Committee on Government Reorganization and the Committee on Public Works and Highways—with our distinguished Gentleman from Bicol, Hon. Edcel Lagman, and he will manifest that he will be terminating his interpellation. We will then be perfecting some Committee amendments during the period of amendments.

REP. LAGMAN. I confirm, Mr. Speaker, that we have already agreed to some percentage distribution,

as 80 percent will go to the districts and 20 percent will be retained by the Department of Public Works and Highways. With respect to the distribution of the 100 percent, 60 percent will go to the districts on an equal basis, 20 percent shall be apportioned based on the population, and 20 percent shall be based on the land area.

In addition to that, there should be a provision specifically providing that the 20 percent shall be under the management of the Department of Public Works and Highways on a nationwide basis.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). What does the Chairman of the House Committee on Public Works and Highways say?

REP. LOBREGAT. Yes, Mr. Speaker, we confirm that and during the period of amendments, we will perfect the Committee amendments as stated by the Gentleman from Bicol.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, we accept the amendments introduced by the Honorable Lagman.

REP. LOBREGAT. Hindi pa, wala pa, wala pa.

REP. DE VENECIA. All right. Sorry.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Let me amend that motion Mr. Speaker.

There being no other Member who wishes to interpellate the Sponsor or to speak against the measure, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we now open the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move to recognize the honorable Sponsor of the measure, the Chairperson of the Committee on Public Works and Highways, to introduce the Committee amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Chairman of the House Committee on Public Works and Highways is hereby recognized.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

REP. LOBREGAT. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

The Committee proposes amendments on page 3, line 13, so it shall read as follows: THE SPECIAL LOCAL ROAD BOARD SUPPORT FUND SHALL BE USED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, UPGRADING, REPAIR, AND REHABILITATION OF THE LOCAL ROADS; *PROVIDED*, THAT TWENTY PERCENT (20%) SHALL REMAIN WITH THE CENTRAL OFFICE OF THE DPWH AND EIGHTY PERCENT OF THE SPECIAL LOCAL ROAD BOARD FUND SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED AMONG THE DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICES (DEOs) OF THE DPWH, AS FOLLOWS:

(A) SIXTY PERCENT (60%) SHALL BE APPORTIONED EQUALLY AMONG THE DEOs;

(B) TWENTY PERCENT (20%) SHALL BE APPORTIONED BASED ON THE POPULATION UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE RESPECTIVE DEOs; AND

Also, instead of twenty-five, it should read: “(C) TWENTY PERCENT (20%) SHALL BE APPORTIONED BASED ON THE LAND AREA UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE RESPECTIVE DEOs.”

Those are the Committee amendments, subject to style.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, we concur with the proposed amendments and move for the approval of those amendments.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any objection? But before the Chair rules on the motion, does the distinguished Gentleman from Albay confirm the amendments introduced by the Committee?

REP. LAGMAN. Yes, Your Honor, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, could we have the ruling of the Chair on the amendment.

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

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we recognize the Honorable Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo to propose further amendments to the said measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Congressman Romualdo is recognized.

REP. ROMUALDO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Our first proposed amendment is on page 5, line 22, to insert a comma (,) and the phrase AS NEEDED and another comma (,) between the words “shall” and “absorb” and the provision would read as follows: “The Department of Public Works and Highways shall, AS NEEDED, absorb the employees of the secretariat of the abolished Road Board, without diminution of their salaries and other benefits. Employees who are separated from the service as a result of the abolition of the Road Board and its secretariat shall receive separation benefits under the provisions of Republic Act No. 6656: *Provided*, That those who are qualified to retire under existing laws shall be allowed to retire and receive retirement benefits to which they may be entitled to under applicable laws, rules, and regulations.”

That is our amendment, Mr. Speaker, and I move that we approve this.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, we concur and accept the proposed amendments of the Honorable Romualdo to the said measure.

I so move.

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

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, our second amendment is on page 5, line 30, to insert the phrase THE OBLIGATIONS AND between the words “all” and “liabilities,” so that the provision will read as follows: “The DPWH shall, by virtue of this Act, be subrogated to all the rights and assume all THE OBLIGATIONS AND liabilities of the Road Board, and all records, property, assets, equipment, and funds of the Road Board, including unexpended appropriations or allocations, shall be transferred to the DPWH.”

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, we concur and we accept the proposed amendment.

I so move.

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

REP. ROMUALDO. Finally, Mr. Speaker, we propose to amend the title of the Bill to read as follows: AN ACT ABOLISHING THE ROAD BOARD AND PROVIDING FOR THE DISTRIBUTION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE MOTOR VEHICLE USER'S CHARGE COLLECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8794, ENTITLED "AN ACT IMPOSING A MOTOR VEHICLE USER'S CHARGE ON OWNERS OF ALL TYPES OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, we concur and we accept the proposed amendment.

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

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, the Committee has no other amendments to propose.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no other Committee amendment, I move that we now proceed to consider the individual amendments, if any.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to introduce individual amendments, I move that we terminate the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 7436.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7436, as amended, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7436, AS AMENDED, ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it; House Bill No. 7436, as amended, is hereby approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7260 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 7260, contained in Committee Report No. 627, as reported out by the Committee on Basic Education and Culture and the Committee on Appropriations.

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

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

The Secretary General is directed to read 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. 7260, entitled: AN ACT DECLARING FEBRUARY FOUR OF EVERY YEAR AS THE "PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN WAR MEMORIAL DAY."

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we recognize the honorable Chairperson of the Committee

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

on Basic Education and Culture, the Hon. Ramon “Red” H. Durano VI, to sponsor the said measure.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Congressman Durano is hereby recognized.

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

Mr. Speaker, I would like to move that the Explanatory Note of the said bill be considered as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate the Sponsor or to speak against the measure, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we open the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Committee amendment, I move that we now proceed to consider the individual amendments, if any.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to introduce individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 7260. I so move.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved. As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7260, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7260 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it; House Bill No. 7260 is hereby approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7309 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 7309, contained in Committee Report No. 641, as reported out by the Committee on Justice and the Committee on Appropriations.

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

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

The Secretary General is directed to read 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. 7309, entitled: AN ACT CREATING THE POSITIONS FOR JUDGES-AT-LARGE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS “THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980”, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we recognize the Honorable XJ Romualdo to sponsor the said measure.

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

REP. ROMUALDO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, we move that the Explanatory Note on the measure be adopted as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any objection?

REP. ROMUALDO. I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The Chair hears none; the motion is approved. The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate the Sponsor or to speak against the measure, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we open the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Committee amendment, I now move that we now proceed to consider the individual amendments, if any.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to introduce any individual amendment, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 7309. I so move.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7309, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7309 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it. House Bill No. 7309 is hereby approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7365 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 7365, contained in Committee Report No. 653, as reported out by the Committee on Justice and the Committee on Appropriations.

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

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

The Secretary General is directed to read 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. 7365, entitled: AN ACT CREATING FOUR (4) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN SAN PABLO CITY, PROVINCE OF LAGUNA, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14(E) OF BATAS PAMBANSA

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

BILANG 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS “THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980”, AS AMENDED.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we recognize the Hon. XJ Romualdo to sponsor the said measure.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ROMUALDO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note be considered as sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate the Sponsor or to speak against the measure, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we open the period of amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*)

The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Committee amendment, I now move that we proceed to consider the individual amendments, if any.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to introduce any individual amendment, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 7365.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7365 on Second Reading, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7365 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 7365 is hereby approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7366 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 7366, contained in Committee Report No. 654, as reported out by the Committee on Justice and the Committee on Appropriations.

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

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

The Secretary General is directed to read 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. 7366, entitled: AN ACT CREATING FOUR (4)

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY OF CALOOCAN, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14(D) OF BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980," AS AMENDED.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo to sponsor the said measure.

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

REP. ROMUALDO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, we move that the Explanatory Note of the Bill be adopted as our sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate or to speak against the measure, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Committee amendment, I move that we proceed to consider the individual amendments, if any.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to introduce any individual amendment, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 7366.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7366 on Second Reading, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7366 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 7366 is hereby approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7367 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 7367, contained in Committee Report No. 655, as reported out by the Committee on Justice and the Committee on Appropriations.

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

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

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

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the measure have been previously distributed, the

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

Secretary General read only the title thereof without prejudice to inserting its text in the Congressional Record.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7367, entitled: AN ACT CREATING TWO (2) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE REGIONAL TRIAL COURT AND ONE (1) ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF THE MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN CITIES IN THE FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION, TO BE STATIONED IN THE CITY OF SANTA ROSA, LAGUNA, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14 (E) AND SECTION 29 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980," AS AMENDED.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. XJ Romualdo to sponsor the said measure.

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

REP. ROMUALDO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note of the Bill be adopted as our sponsorship speech thereon.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate the Sponsor or to speak against the measure, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Committee amendment, I move that we proceed to consider the individual amendments, if any.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to introduce any individual amendment, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 7367.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7367 on Second Reading, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7367 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 7367 is hereby approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7405 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 7405, contained in Committee Report No. 669, as reported out by the Committee on Justice and the Committee on Appropriations.

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

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

The Secretary General is directed to read 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. 7405, entitled: AN ACT CREATING TWO (2) ADDITIONAL BRANCHES OF THE MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT IN CITIES FOR BIÑAN CITY IN THE FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 29 OF BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980," AS AMENDED.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. XJ Romualdo to sponsor the said measure.

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

REP. ROMUALDO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note of the Bill be adopted as our sponsorship speech thereon.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate the Sponsor or to speak against the measure, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Committee amendment, I move that we proceed to consider the individual amendments, if any.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to introduce any individual amendment, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 7405.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7405 on Second Reading, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7405 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 7405 is hereby approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 5236 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 5236, contained in Committee

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

Report No. 659, as reported out by the Committee on Public Order and Safety.

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

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

The Secretary General is directed to read 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. 5236, entitled: AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE RANK CLASSIFICATION IN THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 28 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6975, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT OF 1990,” AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Romeo “Romy” M. Acop, Chairperson of the Committee on Public Order and Safety, to sponsor the said measure.

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

The distinguished Sponsor is hereby recognized.

REP. ACOP. Mr. Speaker, may I move that the Explanatory Note, as far as the Bill is concerned, be adopted as the sponsorship speech of this Representation on the measure.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate the Sponsor or to speak against the measure, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we now open the period of amendments and approved the Committee amendments, if any, contained in Committee Report No. 659.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no other Committee amendment, I move that we proceed to consider the individual amendments, if any.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to introduce any individual amendment, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 5236.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 5236 on Second Reading, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 5236 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

House Bill No. 5236 is hereby approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7392
ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 7392, contained in Committee Report No. 667, as reported out by the Committee on Basic Education and Culture, the Committee on Higher and Technical Education and the Committee on Appropriations.

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

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

The Secretary General is directed to read 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. 7392, entitled: AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE ALTERNATIVE LEARNING SYSTEM IN THE BASIC EDUCATION FOR OUT-OF-SCHOOL CHILDREN, YOUTH AND ADULTS, PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, INDIGENOUS PEOPLES, AND OTHER MARGINALIZED SECTORS OF SOCIETY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Ramon “Red” H. Durano VI to sponsor the said measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Sponsor is hereby recognized.

REP. DURANO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note of the Bill be used as my sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate the Sponsor or to speak against the measure, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Committee amendment, I move that we proceed to consider the individual amendments, if any.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to introduce any individual amendment, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 7392.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7392 on Second Reading, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are against, please say *no*. (*Silence*)

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7392
ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The ayes have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 7392 is hereby approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7422
ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 7422, contained in Committee Report No. 671, as reported out by the Committee on Higher and Technical Education.

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

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

The Secretary General is directed to read 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. 7422, entitled: AN ACT MANDATING THE INTEGRATION OF THE NATIONAL BUILDING CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES AS ONE OF THE MAJOR SUBJECTS IN THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE COURSES IN CIVIL ENGINEERING, MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, SANITARY ENGINEERING AND ARCHITECTURE AND ITS INCLUSION AS A TOPIC IN THE LICENSURE EXAMINATIONS FOR THESE COURSES.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I move that we now recognize the Hon. Aurelio “Dong” D. Gonzales Jr. to sponsor the said measure.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Sponsor is hereby recognized.

REP. GONZALES (A.D.). Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note of the Bill be considered as my sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate the Sponsor or to speak against the measure, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we open the period of amendments.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Committee amendment, I move that we now proceed to consider the individual amendments, if any.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to introduce any individual amendment, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 7422.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7422 on Second Reading, please say *aye*.

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7422
ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 7422 is hereby approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7321
Continuation

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we take up some Unfinished Business and that we consider House Bill No. 7321, contained in Committee Report No. 644 and, thereby, direct the Secretary General to read the title of the said measure.

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

The Secretary General is hereby directed to read the title of House Bill No. 7321.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7321, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE “NO CALL AND NO TEXT REGISTRATION” SYSTEM, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Victor A. Yap to sponsor the said measure.

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

The distinguished Sponsor is hereby recognized.

REP. YAP (V.). Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The No Call and No Text Registration Act is principally sponsored by Rep. Francis Gerald A. Abaya. I am ready for interpellation, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate the Sponsor or to speak against the measure, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Committee amendment, I move that we proceed to consider the individual amendments, if any.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to introduce any individual amendment, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 7321.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7321 on Second Reading, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7321
ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it; the motion is approved.

House Bill No. 7321 is hereby approved on Second Reading.

REP. YAP (V.). Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

REFERRAL OF HOUSE RESOLUTIONS
ON INQUIRIES IN AID OF LEGISLATION

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, in accordance with our Rules Governing Inquiries in Aid of Legislation, I move that we refer the following House resolutions to the appropriate Committees:

1. House Resolution No. 1751 – re the cause of interruption in the water supply of Maynilad, to the Committee on Government Enterprises and Privatization;
2. House Resolution No. 1752 – re the death of Ifugao environmental activist Ricardo Pugong Mayumi and the worsening attacks against indigenous peoples around the country, to the Committee on Indigenous Cultural Communities and Indigenous Peoples;
3. House Resolution No. 1753 – re the current policies of the Department of Education in relation to the private loans of teachers and personnel, to the Committee on Basic Education and Culture;
4. House Resolution No. 1754 – re the lack of government intervention on the worsening crop infestation in several parts of Eastern Visayas, to the Committee on Agriculture and Food;
5. House Resolution No. 1756 – re the present state of Bangon Marawi Comprehensive Rehabilitation and Recovery Program as mandated by Administrative Order No. 03, to the Committee on Public Works and Highways;
6. House Resolution No. 1759 – re the non-implementation of the provisions of Republic Act 4670 or the Magna Carta for Public School Teachers on free compulsory medical examination and treatment and compensation for injuries, to the Committee on Basic Education and Culture and the Committee on Higher and Technical Education;
7. House Resolution No. 1760 – re the lack of intelligence by the Philippine National Police which led to the siege of Marawi City, to the Committee on Public Order and Safety; and
8. House Resolution No. 1761 – re the possible irregularities in the use of funds by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), to the Committee on Good Government and Public Accountability.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7233

Continuation

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 7233, contained in Committee Report No. 621, as reported out by the Committee on Information and Communications Technology.

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

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

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

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7233, entitled: AN ACT REQUIRING THE REGISTRATION OF ALL USERS OF SUBSCRIBER IDENTITY MODULE CARDS.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Victor “Vic” A. Yap to sponsor the said measure.

I so move.

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

REP. YAP (V.). Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Majority Leader.

The Sponsor is ready for the interpellation, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Sarah Jane I. Elago of KABATAAN Party-List for her interpellation.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Congresswoman Elago is hereby recognized.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, will the distinguished Sponsor be willing to yield to an interpellation, a few questions from this Representation.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Congresswoman Elago, you have already been recognized for your interpellation.

REP. ELAGO. Yes, Mr. Speaker. I was asking if the distinguished Sponsor would be willing to yield to an interpellation.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). What does the distinguished Sponsor say?

REP. YAP (V.). Yes, Mr. Speaker. I am obliged and honored to be interpellated.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Congresswoman Elago, you may now proceed with your interpellation.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, how does the distinguished Sponsor propose the actual registration of SIM cards? Where will our people line up to register their existing cards? How about for tourists and for OFWs?

REP. YAP (V.). Mr. Speaker, the registration will be done through the usual registration. For foreigners, when they get through the airports and they would buy a SIM, it is normal that they would give their passport and that would be enough for them to register. As for our people who are using prepaid SIM cards, they will be given 180 days from the time of the passage of the law and within these 180 days, they would just have to present themselves to their telco subscribers either Globe, Smart, or a third player to register their SIM card under their name, and a presentation of a government-issued ID is sufficient enough to be registered, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, mayroon po bang minimum o maximum number per person na puwede lang na bilang ng SIM card o kahit po ilan basta ito ay registered?

REP. YAP (V.). Wala naman pong limitasyon sa bawat tao na kumuha ng kahit gaano karaming SIM card na nais nila.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, how much will be the cost to put up these offices, iyon pong saan po magre-register ang ating mga kababayan, mga turista o mga OFWs? What technology is required? Magpapalista lang ba sila o mayroong partikular na mga teknolohiya tayong i-introduce para sa registration ng SIM card? What is the cost of additional equipment to implement this law and how many personnel will be hired for the upkeep of such offices, if there would be any?

REP. YAP (V.). Actually, Mr. Speaker, iyong registration ay mag-uumpisa doon sa mga telco natin na talagang ginagawa naman nila iyong pagrerehistro

especialy sa postpaid. I believe, Mr. Speaker, na iyong gastos is very minimal than they will impose a huge fee or sum by registering the prepaid.

As to the registry that will be maintained by the DICT, it will be a simple database, Mr. Speaker, na hindi naman malaking gastos iyong equipment nor the software na kokopyahin from the telco and transferred iyong database na iyon na information to the DICT.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, sang-ayon dito sa Section 5, ang coverage of registration, ang mga kinakailangang mga datos mula doon sa mga nagnanais magpa-register ng kanilang SIM card ay ang passport, ang digitized SSS ID, GSIS e-Card, driver's license, LTOP ID, PRC ID, IBP ID, OWWA ID, BIR ID, voter's ID, Senior Citizen's card, PWD card, at iba pang mga government-issued ID. Ang lahat po ng ito kahit isa lang ay maaari nang magamit sa pagpapa-register.

REP. YAP (V.). Tama po.

REP. ELAGO. Hindi naman po kailangan lahat.

REP. YAP (V.). Tama po. Isa lang po ang required nitong ipinapasá po nating Bill na ito.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, paano papasok dito itong ihinahain na pagkakaroon ng isang pambansang ID sa sistema ng pambansang ID sa registration ng SIM card?

REP. YAP (V.). Doon sa mga deliberasyon sa Committee, na-discuss ito hanggang sa technical working group, at sinigurado naman namin na hindi naman ito isang paraan para maging balangkas o estratehiya para magkaroon ng national ID. I believe, Mr. Speaker, that this Bill seeks to reinforce iyong identity noong mga taong gumagamit ng cellphone sa hindi kanais-nais na pamamaraan.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, ang sabi po ng ating distinguished Sponsor, ang pangunahin ngang layunin ng SIM card registration ay para tulungan ang ating mga law enforcement agencies na i-track down kung mga sino man ang maaaring gumamit ng SIM card na ito para sa mga hindi kaayaaya na mga gawain na mga krimen, iyong mga magtutulak ng mga aktibidad na katulad ng petty crimes, or even worse, kidnaping for ransom. Magkakaroon po ba ng real-time na collection ng data kung ito ang layon nating gawin na makatutulong sa pagkuha ng information mula sa paggamit ng mga registered SIM card na ito para sa pagsugpo ng krimen? Magkakaroon po ba ng real-time na collection ng data or necessary ba ito na magkaroon ng real-time collection ng data?

REP. YAP (V.). Sinisigurado ko sa ating interpellator na hindi naman iyon ang layunin nitong ipinapasang Bill na ito, kung hindi identification lamang noong registrant noong gumamit na iyon, subject to a different case iyong gustong kunin iyong content, iyong data kung kailan ginamit. That will be subject to a different law or process of law. Kung mayroong nangyaring krimen, hihingin muna iyong registration, at iyon lamang ang sangay o balangkas nitong Bill na ito.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, hihintayin pa ba nating mangyari iyong krimen? Kung ganoon po e di ano pa ang maitutulong, ano pa ang magiging pakinabang nitong nais nating maipasang panukala na may layon na makatulong sa ating law enforcement agency kung hindi naman pala ito makakatulong para ma-prevent nating mangyari iyong krimen na katulad ng kidnapping for ransom or theft.

REP. YAP (V.). Mr. Speaker, definitely, iyong taong bumili ng kanyang SIM at pag-aari niya ito ay magdadalawang-isip bago niya ipagamit o gamitin ito sapagkat mali-link siya o madaling makukuha ang kanyang identification. For example, iyong mga nangyaring paggamit nitong SIM card or telepono sa pagpapasabog ng mga devices. Ginagamit itong device na ito para magpasabog ng isang bomba. So, sa mga ganoong pagsusuri, nakita naman natin na malaking bagay iyong makikita natin kung sino ang may-ari doon sa paggamit noong kanyang numero na ginamit sa krimeng iyon.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, maaari bang mailatag ng ating distinguished Sponsor kung ilan sa ngayon ang bilang ng mga subscribers. Mayroon ba tayong pigura kung ilan ang mga SIM cards na nasa merkado, ilan ang nabili na, ilan ang nasa pagmamay-ari na ng mga partikular na tao?

REP. YAP (V.). Mr. Speaker, mayroong impormasyon na ang total na bilang ng lahat ng gumagamit ng SIM card ayon sa telco natin ay umaabot ng 128 million. Ang postpaid o iyong mayroon talagang identification o registration na nagawa dahil sa pagka-subscribe sa postpaid system ay 8 million at 120 million naman ang gumagamit ng prepaid.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, kung ganoong daan-daang milyong mga gumagamit ngayon, mayroong mga SIM card, paano natin nakikita iyong pacing ng pagpapatupad nitong SIM card registration? Gaano katagal? Magkakaroon din ba ng exemption sa registration or required ang lahat?

REP. YAP (V.). Ang mga prepaid and—siguro halos lahat naman ay gumagamit ng prepaid, and they will be given six months to register. By that time, the telco is

mandated na i-deactivate iyong number kung walang registration, so we are given six months. Hindi naman ho siguro mahabang proseso iyong pagpaparehistro ng ating dadalhing ID sa Globe or Smart as of now.

REP. ELAGO. Magkakaroon po ba ng exemption itong registration na ito?

REP. YAP (V.). Wala po.

REP. ELAGO. Kasi, Mr. Speaker, kung mayroong exemption itong registration na ito, talagang iyan ay napakamapanganib lalung-lalo na kung mayroon lang isang SIM card ang hindi naka-register diyan sa 120 million na mga SIM cards. This will render the whole system or the whole process useless. Hindi rin makakatulong doon sa ating layunin na masugpo ang kung anumang krimen na sa ngayon ay ginagamitan na ng mga SIM card, para maisagawa at kung hindi naman, maaari din namang iyan ay, ang ibig sabihin niyan ay dagdag na security concerns sa ating mga kababayan lalung-lalo na kung gumagamit din sila ng sensitive na data sa kanilang mga exchanges.

Isa rin po ito sa mga rason kung bakit tinututulan ng Representasyong ito ang pagtatakda ng isang National ID System na napakaganda naman ang layunin na maipaabot sa ating mamamayan ang mga social services. Ngunit nabahala tayo doon sa mga sakop ng mga sensitibong personal na information na makakalap tungkol sa iisang tao or sa grupo ng mga tao, para gamitin bilang pang-atake sa mga taong ito.

REP. YAP (V.). Mr. Speaker, tamang-tama ho na nabanggit ng ating kasamang Sarah Jane iyong agam-agam o iyong pagduda doon na magamit ito sa hindi kanais-nais lalo na sa paglabag ng privacy.

We are giving the assurance, Mr. Speaker, that the crafting of the Bill has taken into account that the registration alone, ang ibinibigay natin ng power dito at no contents whatsoever, doon sa gumamit na iyon ay kasama na awtomatiko. That will be subject to a different case and process.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, the Philippines is still struggling with its data technology. Even the National Privacy Commission is just a new agency established six years ago in 2012 and besides, this is a de facto violation of the privacy rights, kung mayroon man pong makakalusot dito sa ating mga probisyon hinggil sa proteksyon ng privacy ng mga indibidwal.

Mr. Speaker, how can the authors convince the public versus the fraudulent and unregistered SIM cards? Paano ba nila malalaman kung ang bibilhin nila ay registered o hindi o sa pagkakataon na sila ay bibili, kailangan agad na mag-register ang mga nag-a-acquire ng bagong SIM card?

REP. YAP (V.). Well, sa experience ko sa pagbili ng SIM card like sa mga bansa na nagre-require ng SIM registration tulad ng Singapore, iyong mga outlets ang may responsibilidad ipasa iyong information doon sa kanilang telco. In this case, sa design nitong Bill na ito, iyong telco na iyan, from time to time, will update their database with that of DICT registry.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, anong gagawin natin doon sa mga binebenta? Sa ngayon po kasi makikita mo, kahit sa mga daan lang, sa lansangan, sa ating mga mobile vendors, mayroon nang mga nagtitinda ng SIM cards. Paano po natin mae-ensure na ito ay hindi na magagamit o lahat ho ba iyan ay kukunin natin sa merkado, iyong mga previously sold or collected?

REP. YAP (V.). Normally, iyong telco would have a distributor na binibigyan ng mga SIM cards na ito and then ipinapasa sa mga dealers hanggang umabot doon sa mga bangketa at mga maliliit na tindahan. Ang sinigurado ng ating telco, unang-una, ay walang karagdagang gastos doon sa mga bumibili. Pangalawa, iyong sistema na iyon ay panigurado na sila ang mayroon talagang responsibilidad na kung sakaling mayroong pagkakagamit na mangyari na hindi rehistrado ay kanilang pananagutan ito sa ating batas.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, nito lang mga nakaraang taon, tayo ay nakaranas ng mga data breach maski mismo sa ating mga government agencies. Iyong most recent, iyong COMELeak na kung saan milyun-milyong personal information ng ating mga botante ang nakuha sa cyberspace at ngayon, maski po hanggang ngayon, ay hindi pa natin natitiyak kung secure na ba ang information na nanakaw mula sa mga botante natin.

Paano po natin mae-ensure na kung anumang magagather na mga data mula sa SIM card registration ay mapoprotektahan?

REP. YAP (V.). So far, Mr. Speaker, sa aking nalalaman, mula noong 1990s, there was never any breach of information for those subscribed sa postpaid. Iyong mga security protocols, iyong pag-protect nito ay pananagutan talaga, kaya takot sila na hindi maging mahigpit ang security information. And that will be duplicated with the same system under our DICT registry. So far, wala namang breach na nangyari at mas maliit iyong contained information, unlike iyong doon sa COMELEC, medyo marami-raming impormasyon na nakalagay doon, parang buong pamilya at lahat. Dito, ibibigay mo lang ang iyong ID, okay na.

REP. ELAGO. Magdadagdag po ba ng mga security measures para protektahan itong mga personal information na ito, Mr. Speaker?

REP. YAP (V.). Yes. Maninigurado ang DICT, nandito po sila ngayon, at talagang isa iyon sa mga concerns na dapat talaga nilang i-design na mabuti na maproteksiyunan iyang registry na iyan from hackers or unwanted persons who would like to get these numbers.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, sa anu-anong mga pagkakataon magbibigay ng information hinggil doon sa mga gumagamit ng SIM card ang ating DICT or ang NTC? Sino po ang may kapangyarihan lang na magbigay ng information at saang pagkakataon lang ito puwedeng ibigay doon sa nagre-request ng information?

REP. YAP (V.). For one, ang paggamit nito o ang pagkuha ng impormasyon ay kapag nagamit at may reklamo ang isang citizen. There is a case, sabihin na nating harassment or in a case of a crime committed na medyo mabigat-bigat, then, the police under the current powers niya, the police force or the investigating policeman can request in writing to the DICT or through a court order bago makuha iyong identification noong numerong iyon na ginamit.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, ano iyong role natin pagkatapos na mangyari iyong isang masamang aktibidad o iyong krimen bago pa natin magamit itong dagdag na proteksyon na maaaring maibigay ng SIM card registration at hindi naman magagamit to deter a crime?

REP. YAP (V.). Tulad ng nakararami, para sa akin, mas gusto ko na iyong mundo o sistema ng ating laws na mahahabol ko iyong identification ng isang tao na gumamit ng SIM card or ng telepono sa paggawa ng isang karahasan, rather than a community na bulag sa paghahabol sa mga nangyaring mga ganyang bagay.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, matapos iyong ibibigay na anim na buwan doon sa mga subscribers natin ngayon para mag-register ng kanilang mga SIM cards, ano pong mangyayari doon sa mga hindi makakapagpa-register ng kanilang mga SIM card?

REP. YAP (V.). Again, made-deactivate iyong SIM card dahil hindi na sila rehistrado, pero palagay ko puwede pa rin silang humabol at i-activate, ipakiusap iyong number na iyan na ma-activate, as it is happening right now, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, paano natin ngayon malalaman kung ano iyong pekeng SIM card, iyong pekeng registered sa registered SIM card lalung-lalo na po ngayon na nauuso iyong mga peke na napakahirap ma-determine kung ano iyong authentic? Paano po ang relationship ng iba't iba nating agencies doon sa ating mga telco services providers?

REP. YAP (V.). I believe, Mr. Speaker, na walang commercial operation na mangyayari sa isang individual kung hindi kikita itong telco natin. So iyong pagrerehistro ngayon, under this law, kung sakaling ma-consider, ay hindi na pupuwedeng madaya.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, maaari bang maipahayag ng ating distinguished Sponsor iyong mga penalties na kakaharapin ng ating mga kababayan na hindi susunod, o hindi po makakapag-comply sa mga probisyon na sinasaad ng panukalang batas na ito?

REP. YAP (V.). Ang ating penalty, Mr. Speaker, ay nakatuon lamang sa ating public telecommunication enterprises o ang telco, iyong presidente niya at iyong kaniyang executive officers who shall be held liable for the following penalties: first offense, malaki-laki, kaya masaya iyong mga tao nito – P300,000; second offense – P500,000; and third and subsequent offenses – P1,000,000.00. For the direct seller, iyong ginamit lang na conduit sa pagbebenta ay P5,000.00 lamang, ngunit may kasamang suspensyon ng kanyang pagbebenta.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, maganda nga na makita na ngayon ay mayroong ipinapahayag na proseso o sistema iyong kung paano natin mapapanagot kung sinuman iyong mga gagamit ng kanilang mga SIM cards para gumawa ng krimen o iba pang mga masasamang gawain. Ngunit ang ikinababahala ng Representasyong ito, lalung-lalo na ngayon kung saan iyong mga aktibo na nagbibigay ng boses sa kanilang mga posisyon, sa kanilang mga panawagan, ay nakararanas ng harassment sa pamamagitan ng surveillance. Sila po ay sinusundan sa kanilang mga eskwelahan, maging hanggang sa kanilang mga bahay. Paano po natin matitiyak na ang mainam at mabuti nating layunin sa pagpapanukala ng batas na ito ay hindi magagamit para lalo pang tiktikan o maging subject ng surveillance, lalung-lalo na po iyong mga matatayang na nagsasaboses noong kanilang mga panawagan?

REP. YAP (V.). Again, Mr. Speaker, nasabi ko kanina na itong ipinapanukalang batas na ito ay hindi naman kasama iyong other acts except registration. Doon sa surveillance, wala hong kasamang diskusyon or subject noong bagay na iyon. Naka-enshrine sa ating Konstitusyon na may right to privacy ang ating mga kababayan, kaya that will be covered under the Privacy Act. At doon naman kung sakaling magamit ng ating mga kapulisan na hindi dapat at hindi tama ay may pananagutan sila under the existing laws of the date, of the privacy of the peoples.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, paano naman iyong—naalala ko po sa isa sa mga pagdinig hinggil dito sa panukalang batas na ito, mayroon ding mga nag-propose

hinggil sa registration naman ng kanilang mga telepono. Kasi, iyong multiple ownership o iyong marami rin silang mga telepono, tapos iba't ibang mga SIM cards, paano po natin naman babantayan ito na mas liliit po iyong pagkakataon para magamit iyong ganitong asiste para gumawa ng hindi kaaya-ayang mga gawain o mga krimen?

REP. YAP (V.). Hindi naman na kasama iyong cellphone dito sa registration at palagay ko iyan ang isang tinutukoy ninyong direksyon na kung saan, talagang nata-trap iyong mga gumagamit. Ang ano lang ho dito ay iyong SIM lamang ang kaniyang inirerehistro. There was a proposal in the consolidated—in the different bills during the Committee hearings na pati cellphone ay isama doon sa registration, pero ginawa na ho naming simplified sapagkat doon pa lamang sa SIM registration ay sapat na upang ma-trace at iyon lamang ang layunin nitong batas na ipinapanukala natin.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, gaano kadalas puwedeng magpalit ang ating mga kababayan ng SIM card? Kapag sila ba ay nag-register, bawal ba silang magpalit for a particular period of time or iyong numero na registered sa kanila, iyon na dapat? Kasi kung makakapagpalit-palit din naman sila ng numero o ng SIM card eh matatalo iyong layunin natin na magamit itong batas na ito para makapag-deter ng crime o magamit para ma-trace kung sinuman iyong gumagamit. Paano po kung nanakaw iyong SIM card sa kanila o nanakawan po siya ng cellphone? Paano natin matitiyak nga na magagamit ito para doon sa layunin natin doon sa ating primary objective na maiwasan at mabawasan ang mga krimen?

REP. YAP (V.). Magandang tanong po iyan. Katulad lamang ng mga behikulo o isang gamit tulad ng baril na nanakaw at nagamit sa krimen, talagang may layabilidad iyong may-ari. Kaya't dapat ipagbigay-alam niya kung sakaling nawala iyan. Normally naman sa mga ganiyang personal na bagay, ito ay ipinagbibigay-alam. Responsibilidad na ang pagkakaroon ng SIM dito sa batas na ito. Ang mahalaga ay mayroon tayong pamamaraan upang makita kung sino ang tunay na gumagamit noong cellphone, at doon sa nakarehistro ay siya ang pangunahing tukoy dito. Kung mayroon siyang nalalaman, that will be subject to investigation na sadyang nawala, palagay ko ini-report naman niya, and so on and so forth.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, ang nabanggit ng ating distinguished Sponsor, para malaman kung sino iyong tunay na gumagamit ng cellphone o hindi po ba malalaman kung sino iyong tunay na gumagamit noong SIM card?

REP. YAP (V.). Hindi ho, iyong tunay na gumagamit kung hindi iyong may rehistro o may-ari—iyong tunay na may-ari, sorry for that.

REP. ELAGO. Ng SIM card?

REP. YAP (V.). Yes.

REP. ELAGO. Opo.

REP. YAP (V.). Tama.

REP. ELAGO. So, wala po tayong proseso kung paano natin titiyakin na hindi makakapagpalit-palit o hindi ipagpasa-pasa?

REP. YAP (V.). Wala naman tayong minamasama kung sakaling ito ay ipinapagamit kunyari mo sa anak o doon sa isang family member. Ang importante ay kung may nangyaring krimen, mate-trace ho natin nang madali kung sino ang nakarehistro at may ownership noong SIM card na iyon. Hindi naman ho natin nililimita, base sa mga diskusyon, iyong kagustuhan ng isang taong magkaroon ng maraming SIM cards. Iyong kaniyang liberty, hindi na natin inaalís. Para itong isang pagmamay-ari tulad ng mga sasakyan o bahay. Hindi natin nililimita ang pagkakaroon nito.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, para po sa Representasyong ito, ang nakalagay po kasi dito na primaryang layunin ng panukalang batas na ito ay may kinalaman doon sa tracking down ng mga lawless criminals na gumagamit nga ng mobile phones na may postpaid o prepaid na SIM card para gumawa ng mga nefarious activities, ngunit nanggaling naman doon sa mga kasagutan ng ating distinguished Sponsor na tila hindi naman talaga ito malaking makakatulong. Isang pamamaraan ay para makapag-identify ng lead o tayo ay makapagtukoy ng mga tao na maaaring involved sa ginawang mga nefarious activities, ngunit hindi ito talaga isang solusyon o isang primaryang makakatulong, makakapagpagaan doon sa layunin natin na maiwasan ang mga krimen o mga masasamang gawain.

Kaya nababahala lamang tayo na ang sistema ng pagpapa-register ng SIM card ay dagdag lamang na pamamaraan iyan para lalo pang manmanan o lalo pang sundan, bantayan, at lalo pang ma-police kung sino man po iyong identified na mga aktibo na nagsasalita hinggil sa iba't ibang isyu, armado man o hindi armado, may balakin man o walang balak na gumawa ng krimen.

REP. YAP (V.). I believe, kung naka-rehistro iyong SIM ay maiwasan natin iyong mga agam-agam o iyong mga nakakabagabag sa mga iyong binabanggit.

Mas nangyayari siguro, palagay ko, sa aking opinyon, na mas nata-track o nagagawa iyong mga pangyayari na iyan, whether may SIM registration o wala, it does not matter.

Iyong SIM registration ngayon, makakatulong kung sakali, sa ating Estado, sa ating State, upang humanap noong mga taong, perhaps, with complicity, involved in such crimes.

REP. ELAGO. Mr. Speaker, familiar ba ang ating distinguished Sponsor doon sa cloning ng SIM card at ng mga cellphone? Ito po iyong sistema na ginagawa para gumawa ng halos kaparehong modelo ng SIM card na iyon, at para matanggap din niya—kunwari po, ako ay magpapadala ng mensahe kay person A, na si person B na gumawa po ng cloned na SIM card o ng cloned na cellphone ay matatanggap din po iyong mensahe na naipadala kay person A.

Paano po natin matitiyak na hindi po gagayahin o hindi gagawa ng clone na SIM card itong target po na atakihin ang tao, na hindi po gagamitin ang SIM card registration para siya ay magawan naman ng masama o mapahamak?

REP. YAP (V.). As we speak, Mr. Speaker, these things perhaps do happen. And in fact, kung nangyayari ito, all the more ang aking paniwala ay makakatulong ito upang ma-track down sila, dahil mapipilitan iyong telco na tingnan iyong mga ganoon na may gumagamit ng pagko-clone at silipin kung bakit isang numero, nate-trace ay nasa Taguig, at iyong isa naman ay nagse-send sa isang lugar na iba. Mas lalabas ngayon nga lalo ito upang ma-force ang ating mga telcos. Kung sakaling na-involve sa crime, upang tingnan at masuring mabuti ang mga pangyayaring ito, rather than i-allow natin right now iyong ating current state na nangyayari lamang iyan nang walang kalaban-laban ang Estado.

REP. ELAGO. All right, Mr. Speaker, sa bahagi po ng Representasyong ito, nais lang natin na matiyak na unang-una, hindi nga magagamit ang SIM card registration para sa mas pinaigting na surveillance sa mga iilang mga tao, at magamit ito, kung makakatulong man iyan.

Sa bagal pa rin po ng pagkamit ng hustisya, maski po iyong mga nawawalan ng cellphones sa ngayon, ni wala po tayong pamamaraan kung paano ba makikita o mahahanap ito. Maski po ang Representasyong ito ay may karanasan sa mismong airport, tayo po ay nawalan ng cellphone na may SIM card. Tapos iyong parte na iyon na kung saan nawala ang cellphone na iyon ay ni walang CCTV at napakahirap pong maituro o ma-trace kung nasaan na ba iyong nawalang cellphone na iyon. Napakabagal din ng proseso kung paano mo mare-retrieve ulit iyong number na iyon.

Kaya nababahala po tayo na baka ito ay magdagdag lamang ng isa pang lebel ng hirap kung paano magregister ang ating mga kababayan at hindi naman talaga magamit iyan, para mabawasan o makatulong sa pagsugpo ng krimen, at kundi magamit lamang para lalo lang manmanan ang mga iilang tao.

REP. YAP (V.). Muli, Mr. Speaker, nais ko lamang klaruhin na hindi intensyon ng Bill ang gamitin ito sa pagkuha ng tracking, contents at data ng isang kapulisan, at ang pagbigay ng impormasyon na ito ay labag sa privacy ng isang tao. Hindi binibigyan ng lakas ang isang nag-iimbestiga na makuha iyong laman kung hindi lamang ang impormasyon kung sino ang nakarehistro sa paggamit noong numerong iyon.

REP. ELAGO. Maraming salamat, Mr. Speaker, distinguished Sponsor, at nawa ay samahan po tayo ng mga proponent, ng Sponsor kung papaano matitindigan ang karapatan sa privacy ng ating mamamayan, at mayroon silang tatakbuhan sa panahon na gagamitin ang kanilang mga personal na impormasyon para lalo silang ma-atake at maging subject ng harassment, intimidation, maski pa maging target ng mga krimen.

Maraming salamat, Mr. Speaker. Maraming salamat, distinguished Sponsor.

REP. YAP (V.). Thank you, Mme. Speaker, Your Honor.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we recognize the Hon. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate from BAYAN MUNA for his interpellation.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Congressman Zarate is hereby recognized.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Puwede po ba tumanggap ng dagdag na katanungan ang ating kagalang-galang na Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. YAP (V.). Maaari po, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor.

Nasagot na rin ninyo ang ilan ko pang mga katanungan sa ating kasamahan na unang nag-interpellate. Mayroon na lang iilan na aking idadagdag. Malinaw po dito sa tinuran ng ating batas, panukalang batas, na ang principal objective talaga ay sa usapin ng law enforcement. Tama po ba ito, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. YAP (V.). Tama po. Actually, mayroon pong predicate, bago magamit natin ang law enforcement, is that may subject of complaint din kung sakasakali iyong mga tao na naha-harass, tinatakot, o sinisiraan sa paggamit ng SIM cards. Hindi lamang ito pamamaraan na ang inisyatibo ay nanggagaling talaga unang-una sa kapulisan, kundi sa ating mga taumbayan, sa ating citizens, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ZARATE. Maraming salamat, G. Isponsor.

Gusto ko lang magpalawig muli doon sa usapin na dahil magiging mandatory na ang registration ng SIM cards, lalo na iyong prepaid SIM cards, ang isang pangamba talaga at kahit pa man noong Sixteenth Congress na isinusulong na itong panukalang batas na ito ay ito na rin ang naging tindig ng Kinatawang ito, iyong pagkabahala na ang mga impormasyong ibibigay natin sa mga public telecommunications entity or maging sa DICT ay posibleng magamit sa ibang kapamaraan.

Sa Section 5, malinaw naman dito kung ano iyong mga impormasyon na ibibigay. Pero maliban pa diyan, kailangang magbigay rin—ng isang ID ang ating subscriber. Alam naman po natin na may ipinapanukalang national ID na rin ngayon. Doon sa national ID na iyon, napakalawak ng impormasyon na nakalagak din doon.

Muli, gusto nating tanungin, Mr. Speaker, G. Isponsor, ano ba ang katiyakan na ang mga impormasyong ito ay hindi lalagpak o mapupunta sa kamay noong mga taong may masamang balak? Dahil ang pangamba natin dito ay makakatulong sa law enforcement, but in the end, ay puwede ring gamitin ito sa mga masasamang hangarin, G. Isponsor, Mr. Speaker.

REP. YAP (V.). Gaya po ng nasabi ko kanina doon sa unang nagtanong, Mr. Speaker, sa pag-apply ng kuryente, sa dating pag-apply ng telepono, nangangailangan ng dalawang ID. Ginawa nating mas madali at among the different government-issued IDs na napakarami, isa lamang ang gagamitin.

Doon sa mga pagsusuri at mga talakayan na ginawa mula sa paghahain nito sa Komite hanggang sa mga usapin sa technical working groups, masisiguro ko, Mr. Speaker, sa atin pong nagtatanong na kasama, na hindi layunin nitong Bill na gamitin ito, itala o idikit sa mga pinaplanong pagsulong ng national ID, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ZARATE. Salamat, G. Isponsor.

Bagama't sinasabi ninyo na wala nga hong planong ganoon, nabanggit na rin kanina na iyong possibility, na itong mga information na ito ay malalagay nga, mapupunta sa kamay ng ilang katao. Pero ang dugtong na tanong ko diyan, dahil dito sa panukalang batas, ang registration form ay hindi lang naman isang ahensiya ang may hawak, hindi lang DICT. In fact, in triplicate

ito: ang una ay hawak ng PTE; pangalawa ang DICT; at pangatlo ang direct seller. My question now, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, iyong impormasyon na hawak ng direct seller, halimbawa, siyempre maiiwan sa kaniya iyon, ano po ang assurance natin na iyong information na ibinigay natin sa direct seller will not be given to, or will not be used for other purposes other than the purpose of this Bill? Dahil tatlong forms ito: one from the direct seller, to the PTE and to the DICT, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

REP. YAP (V.). Iyong direct seller, again, is the responsibility noong public telephone entity. Sa paggamit niya, kung mayroon siyang lalabaging batas ay mananagot siya dito, sa pagbigay noong impormasyon under the right to privacy. Sa bagay na iyon ay hindi naman masasabing kontrolado natin lahat ang sitwasyon in terms of ano iyong hawak nila, pero may pananagutan na hiwalay sa proseso ng ating batas.

Mabalik akong muli, ang layunin po nitong batas na ito is to make sure, to give the State the arm to protect its citizens who are claiming harassment, pananakot, perhaps, in certain circumstances na nangyari, terrorism, nagpasabog, hindi ba? Ito po iyong mga bagay na minsan nahihirapan ang ating public enforcers to trace kung sino ang gumamit noon. In reality, it happened, like the bombs in Quiapo, for example, ang ginamit na pang-trigger doon ay cellphone with a SIM.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor.

Dudugtungan ko po iyang statement na iyan mamaya. Pero lumalabas po dito na talagang wala tayong 100-percent assurance na iyong mga information na ito ay hindi nga gagamitin ng iba.

REP. YAP (V.). Hindi, not in the same token that, for example, if you use the analogy, iyong mga impormasyon, say ng Manila Water, iyong mga kumukuha ng kuryente, Meralco, how assured are we that these information, under a commercial operation, ay hindi nakukuha ng ibang tao?

REP. ZARATE. That is precisely the point, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, na nire-raise natin ang usapin na sa napakaraming instances sa ngayon, na ang privacy ng ating mga mamamayan ay talagang nava-violate.

Sa katotohanan, G. Isponsor, Mr. Speaker, experience natin iyan, hindi lamang sa krimen, kahit sa commercial purposes, ang ating mga prepaid, and even postpaid SIM card numbers, bigla na lang nakakatanggap tayo ng mga kung anu-anong mga mensahe, mga promotions, mga advertisements dahil nagagamit talaga ang mga impormasyong ito. Sabi nga nila, information is power. It can be used for crimes, it can be used for commercial

purposes, dahil mahalaga ito. Kaya nga nangangalap ng impormasyon ang napakaraming mga ahensiya or mga opisina.

Gusto nating mabantayan ang seguridad ng ating mga kababayan. Dahil sa halip na we can prevent crime, I think we are even encouraging it. For example, the commission of other crimes. Kaya valid point talaga, as always, na kailangang mapangalagaan natin ang privacy of information ng ating mamamayan kaya nire-raise natin ito. Kaya I pointed out sa Section 6, it is in triplicate: sa direct seller, sa PTE, at sa DICT. If the DICT can protect, let us assume that the DICT can protect the information provided to them, what assurance can we get now, under this Bill, na iyong information na nasa kamay ng PTE or direct seller? Kasi ang direct seller can just be anybody and this direct seller can even give this information to anybody who is interested. It can be for, again, crime, commercial purposes or even political purposes, dahil may alam akong ganitong numbers, ganitong mga et cetera. Iyon po ang gusto nating ipunto rito. This is not just dahil ayaw nating mabigyan ng arm ang Estado to run after criminals, but more importantly, we also have to consider iyong privacy ng ating mga kababayan, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

REP. YAP (V.). Again, Mr. Speaker, mayroon talagang sapat na privacy doon sa panukala to take care of the data. Kagaya ng nasabi ng ating kasama, sa DICT at sa telco ay ano sila, sila ang talagang mayroong registry noong kabuuan. Sa direct seller ng isang tindahan, siguro may nakarehistrong 10, 20, 30, ngunit mayroon ding sapat na penalty kung sakaling malaman na ito ay ipinamimigay nila sa ibang hindi kanais-nais na mga tao o grupo.

REP. ZARATE. Salamat po, G. Isponsor, Mr. Speaker.

You mentioned earlier, Mr. Speaker, na sa kasalukuyan, there are 120 million postpaid SIM cards in circulation, pero ang prepaid ay mas mababa, nasa 8 million lang.

REP. YAP (V.). Correction, baligtad po, 120 ang prepaid at 8 million ang postpaid.

REP. ZARATE. So 120 million ang prepaid, 8 million ang postpaid. For the purpose of registration, although may mga transition period dito, with the 120 million, paano natin makikita na maisasakatuparan ito within the period as provided under the Bill, na lahat ng 120 million ay ma-register as required by this Bill?

REP. YAP (V.). This was discussed with the telcos that handled the sold prepaid SIM cards and kasama sila doon sa pagbuo noong usapin kung gaano kabilis,

paano kakayanin at ang importante sa lahat, dapat hindi makadagdag sa gastos sa ating mga kababayan. Na-address po ito na kakayanin.

Kagaya din ng natanong kanina, papaano kung hindi ako umabot sa 180 days? Made-deactivate po iyong SIM card ng telepono. Ngunit kung hindi pa naman nabebenta or hindi nabenta sa iba at siguro nandoon pa lang sa 180th day, 181st day, 190th day, maaari namang ihabol ito. Kasi ngayon, nangyayari naman talaga na ang isang prepaid number, Mr. Speaker, ay ibinibigay naman talaga kung nasasabing ako talaga ang gumagamit nito at nawala iyong telepono, para mabigyan ulit ng SIM card. Nangyayari po ito, Mr. Speaker, na inirerehistro ulit sa taong iyon. Ngunit, sa ating panukala ay may records na kung kanino talaga nakapangalan iyong telepono. Again, hindi naman talagang fixed iyong sistema natin katulad ng pagrerehistro ng cellphone o SIM card. It can be ipinabili ko sa kapatid ko or ipinagamit ko sa anak ko.

Iyong mga sitwasyon na iyon, hindi naman talaga ang layunin natin dito ay tukuyin at saklawin, ngunit binibigyan ang ating Estado in cases na nagkakaroon ng kaso, which may lead our State police na mahanap naman, papaano nangyari at nagamit itong teleponong ito sa mga bagay, kasing-liit noong usapin na ako ay hina-harass at kung ano pa. Pero hindi automatic, sinasabi ko na liable ang taong iyon.

Again, there are instances that, perhaps, katulad ng nabanggit ng ating kasamang Sarah Jane, may mga cloning na nangyayari. These are all part of the world na hindi naman natin talagang pinapasok o nilalahat iyong mga sitwasyon na itong batas na ito ay involved doon. Talagang registration at paghahabol ng tukoy leads to our police.

REP. ZARATE. Salamat po. Tama po iyan. Kaya binabanggit natin iyan dahil malinaw naman po kasi ang nakalagay dito sa ating panukalang batas na ang main objective talaga, uulitin ko lang, para tulungan ang ating law enforcement agencies to track down lawless criminals. Iyon ang pangunahing nakalagay.

Kaya naitanong po natin iyan, I do not know if the Sponsor will agree, kung ang usapin po kasi ng kriminalidad at terorismo, ang taong gustong gumawa ng kriminalidad o isang terror act ay talagang mag-iisip ng kapamaraan kung paano niya malulusutan at maiikutan ang batas. Halimbawa, dahil ang atin lang namang requirement dito ay magpresinta ng ID, alam naman po natin na pumunta ka lang sa Recto ay puwede ka nang kumuha ng driver's license at puwede mong i-present sa dealer or sa isang telco para makabili ka ng SIM card.

Kung ang usapin po ay malaman natin, mahabol natin ang mga kriminal, sa tingin po ng Kinatawang ito ay mukhang hindi siya absolute na nakakatulong, at mas mabigat nga sa tingin ng Kinatawang ito iyong

pagsu-surrender ng ating mamamayan ng kanilang mga private information. Dahil nga po sa ibang bansa, totoo naman na nire-require na rin, pero hindi rin po na-prevent iyong commission of crimes despite the fact na mayroon silang batas na ganito.

Ang kadugtong ko lang na tanong, ang nire-require natin dito ay iyong prepaid SIM cards na binili dito sa Pilipinas. Ang tanong ko po, ano ang gagawin natin doon sa mga pumapasok sa ating bansa na may dala ng cellphone at may SIM card na? Are they also required to be registered, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. YAP (V.). Hindi na natin saklaw iyon. Mayroon nang commercial arrangements iyong ibang mga telco na nag-issue noon sa ibang bansa at sa atin nagro-roaming lamang sila. Sa mga bagay na ganoon, hindi ito saklaw ng ating batas.

REP. ZARATE. Kaya po naitanong ko iyan dahil mayroon din naman palang exception itong ating batas. Kasi kung isang terorista iyan, dahil criminality ang habol natin dito, there is a possibility na bibili ako ng SIM card doon sa mga bansang hindi nagre-require ng registration, and I will just use the roaming feature ng aking cellphone para magamit ko pa rin iyong SIM card kahit na nandito na ako sa Pilipinas. So it will not prevent anybody. But, again, ang mga SIM card na binibili dito sa ating bansa ay iyon na nga, mayroong mga information na ating isinu-surrender by the mere fact of registration, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

REP. YAP (V.). Mr. Speaker, sa ating eksplanasyon sa batas na ito, wala naman tayong kine-claim na absolute ang magiging resulta sa pagkawala o pag-track ng mga kriminal. Ngunit naniniwala ang Representasyong ito na mare-reduce nang malaki, unang-una doon sa mga gumagamit ng international SIM cards or SIM phones kung gagamitin sa terorismo. Hindi naman natin nilalahat, na ang hinahabol ng prevention na ito ay terrorism lamang, ngunit hindi naman natin masasabi na porke gumamit sila ng international SIM ay hindi sila mahuhuli.

Sa aspeto dito sa atin sa pagrerehistro, malaki ang paniwala namin sa lahat ng mga nag-discuss sa ibang ahensiya ng gobyerno at ganoon na rin sa mga telco na magkakaroon ng isang batas upang matulungan ang ating Estado upang ma-trace ang isang numero na nagamit sa isang krimen. Again, ang krimen dito ay hindi lamang sa mga malalaking bagay na katulad ng terorismo. Maaaring magamit lamang even sa mga harassment, sexual harassment, or mga bagay na hindi dapat nangyayari sa ating mga kababayan.

REP. ZARATE. Maraming salamat, G. Isponsor, Mr. Speaker.

Ito pong mga apprehension natin ay may batayan dahil sa katotohanan, nitong mga nakaraan, hindi talaga

natin maaasahan, lalung-lalo na ang ating mga ahensiya ng gobyerno, sa usapin ng “keeping the information” na nakalagak sa kanila.

Nabanggit na rin kanina kung ano ang nangyari sa Commission on Elections. There was a breach doon sa system nila at ngayon nga iyong mga impormasyon na ito ay nasa dark web na and we do not know yet what is the extent of that information breach. At ito rin ang gusto nating puntuhin dito, ano na ang posibilidad na sa halip na mapigilan ang isang krimen ay there will be a new wave of crimes that can be created because of this proposed law? Dahil ang mga kriminal talaga o ang lahat na nag-iisip ng masama ay gagawa at gagawa sila ng kapamaraan para maikutan ang ating batas, at iyon ang gusto nating mabantayan dahil importante ho talaga ang karapatan natin, iyong privacy natin na in this era of technology, information technology, iyong sinasabi ho nilang “Big Brother” is everywhere. Kahit na nasa loob ka ng iyong silid tulugan, sa loob ng iyong bahay ay puwedeng ma-monitor ang iyong ginagawa dahil sa advent of technology and information and it behooves, I think, the policymakers and legislators like us, na sana sa maraming pamaraan ngayon na naba-violate ang ating right to privacy ay kailangang gumawa tayo ng mga batas na maproteksyunan ito sa halip na mas bumubukas para i-violate ang karapatan ng ating mamamayan.

Salamat, G. Isponsor, sa pagsagot ng ating ilang mga katanungan patungkol dito sa ating panukalang batas.

Magandang gabi po.

REP. YAP (V.). Mr. Speaker, maraming salamat din sa ating kasamahan sa kanilang mga tanong at sisiguraduhin namin at patitibayin pa namin lalo ang seguridad doon sa pagbalangkas ng IRR kung saka-sakaling ito ay pumasá dito at saka sa Senado.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we recognize the Hon. Ariel “Ka Ayik” B. Casilao of ANAKPAWIS Party-List for his interpellation.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Congressman Casilao is recognized.

REP. CASILAO. Salamat, Mr. Speaker, at maaari po bang matanong ang ating kagalang-galang na Sponsor ng ilang mga katanungan na hindi nasaklaw ng aking mga kasamahan sa Makabayan?

REP. YAP (V.). Maaari po, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CASILAO. Well, I would like to begin my question, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, what is the rationale behind the mandatory character of this Bill requiring all postpaid and prepaid SIM card holders to register and provide basic and necessary information to their telecommunication companies?

REP. YAP (V.). As discussed by the previous interpellators, the main purpose is actually to provide identity in cases of situations na nagkakamali iyong numerong iyan na nagagamit sa masama o sa di kanais-nais, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CASILAO. I asked that question, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor, because using your logic and your analogy, when a consumer wants to avail of a service of a particular entity, for example, WiFi, telephone, Internet, cable— that is a voluntary act of a consumer that shows that he is willing to surrender basic information required by the private or business entity for it to provide the service that he requires. While under this Bill, the moment you purchase the SIM card, the distributor, the telecommunication company will require the client to fill-up an information sheet and provide this information. For postpaid plan holders, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor, they are required to submit the necessary information and fill up application forms with the intent that they want to avail of their postpaid services. However, for prepaid plan or in the prepaid service, you will just buy a SIM card and use that SIM for your purpose of communication to your family, friends and all. Kaya nga po naitanong ko iyan dahil hindi ko po makuha ang lohika at ninanamnam ko pa at pinoproseso ko pa iyong lohika na a client can buy not just one, ten, a hundred SIM cards, prepaid SIM cards if he wants or if he or she wants to, kung gugustuhin niya. And with this Bill, wala pong garantiya na kahit bumili siya ng sampung SIM cards, prepaid SIM card, mag-provide lang siya ng mga iba’t ibang mga pangalan, kaya niyang gamitin iyon, kaya niyang gawin iyon. So, I cannot understand the logic behind requiring it to be mandatory—lalo pa sa SIM card na prepaid. Dahil nga, gaya ng nabanggit din kanina, pupuwede namang bumili ng multiple SIM cards, prepaid SIM cards, na mag-provide ka ng multiple names also and multiple identities.

So, Mr. Speaker, I am just in a quandary that the mandatory character of this SIM card registration forfeits or defeats the purpose of requiring a person or a consumer to register his or her basic information na pupuwede naman palang maikutan o pupuwede naman palang ma-circumvent.

My next point, Mr. Speaker, doon sa pass-on cost nito. In the Bill, I have read that the technical or logistical requirements mandatory for the telecommunication company in requiring the registration of SIM card holders

will eventually add on to the expenditures. Meaning, can we expect additional cost of clients or consumers in availing of such because of this Bill? Madadagdagan ba ang gastos nito dahil nga may bagong requirement na nire-require sa mga konsumante. Then, therefore, whatever technological or logistical needs that they will comply with, anuman ang gastusin doon ay ipa-pass on niya sa kanyang mga konsumante. Am I correct on that understanding, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor? Will this result in additional expenses borne out by, or magdadagdag ito sa mga already burdened consumers?

REP. YAP (V.). Mr. Speaker, again, uulitin ko na doon sa mga usapin sa technical working group with the telcos at doon sa Komite ay nilinaw natin na hindi makadadagdag ito sa gastos o cost ng ating mga consumers sa pagpaparehistro pa lamang. Pangalawa, doon sa pagmementina ng mga numero na 100 milyon na iyan, hinahati ng dalawang malaking conglomerate—iyong sistema, mayroon na talaga siyang field, wala nga lang tao, walang pangalan. So, hindi ganoon kalaki ang gastos talaga nila in terms of adding the field kung sakali iyong reference ng pangalan at saan. Pero, nandoon na iyong numero, at iyon ang naka-set up na. Doon sa bagay na iyon, naniniwala akong may gastusin na, ngunit kasalukuyang naka-charge na sa ating mga kababayan. Pero sa pagdadagdag ng pangalan at lahat, nilinaw ng ating Komite na walang magiging additional burden sa ating mga kababayan, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CASILAO. Is that reflective of the provisions of this proposed Bill that the telcos will not pass on to the consumers the possible expenditures that will be shouldered by the telcos once they comply with this Bill?

REP. YAP (V.). Oo, ito ay nandoon sa minutes ng ating mga usapin. Nandoon sa kanilang binanggit, mga itinanong ng ating mga kasamahan doon pa lamang sa hearing na kung madadagdagan ay nandoon ang kanilang mga sagot na sinasabing “wala”. At kung sakali na gawin ho nila ito, ay doon sa ating Komite, handa ho natin silang tawagin at tanungin bakit nagkaganoon. Pero sa ngayon, mahirap naman ho nating pangunahan ang isang bagay na nagsasabing hindi nila gagawin, ay...

REP. CASILAO. Again, in the interest of protecting the welfare of our consumers, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, is it not wise to include that assurance in a provision of this Bill because the minutes of Committee meeting cannot guarantee the passage of this Bill; without the clear letter and intent written in the particular provision of this Bill. Madaling sabihin ng telco na “wala namang nakasulat sa batas eh. Hindi naman nakasaad sa isang section ng batas,” eh nakakalusot pa rin sila.

Remember, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor, the possibility of reasoning out from the telcos that they will add up charges on the purchase of a SIM card because of this new feature or this new requirement in this Bill. Hindi na po nila iyan sasabihin later on. Sasabihin na lang nila na from P40 ngayon na SIM card, prepaid SIM card, madadagdagan na lang ito ng P45, wala nang idedeklara doon na ano ang dahilan bakit may additional na P5.

So, again, although there is a possibility of inserting in a provision—possibly after the amendment—but I urge the proponent that clearly to ensure the protection of the welfare of our consumers, it must be guaranteed through a provision and that requires us to state that “no add-on charges will be passed on to the consumers.”

REP. YAP (V.). Mr. Speaker, I somehow concur na dapat talagang siguraduhin natin na iyong telco natin, kapag sinabi nilang hindi madadagdagan and, ang cost ng SIM card sa registration ay manigurado tayo. Ngunit ang hindi maipapangako nitong Representasyong ito ay iyong cost ng SIM card kung tataas. So, doon sa bagay ho na iyon ay kinakailangang makapag-isip tayo doon sa IRR at doon sa panukala together with the DICT na pagka ginawa ito ay talagang hindi magagamit iyong registration as additional cost, Mr. Speaker. ...

REP. CASILAO. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor.

For the part of DICT in the implementation of this Bill, what logistical or technological requirements must the DICT comply with to ensure the data banking of the information given to the telcos or to the providers? Ano po iyong teknolohiyang kinakailangan na gamitin ng DICT para doon sa mga impormasyong ibibigay ng mga konsumer, ng mga prepaid and postpaid holders sa mga impormasyong kanilang ibibigay?

REP. YAP (V.). Doon sa aking Committee sa ICT, isa sa mga e-government initiatives ng ating DICT ay magkaroon talaga ng government data center at tamang-tama itong panukalang ito kung sakaling pumasá pati sa Senado ay magagamit iyong data center na iyon na nandoon na iyong fixed investment na nagawa ng ating DICT. So, it will add more usage and utilization to the cost of investment that has been given or is being done by our Department of ICT.

REP. CASILAO. Are you referring, Mr. Sponsor, to the Unisys provider, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor?

REP. YAP (V.). Hindi po, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CASILAO. So, ibang provider ito, ibang ...

REP. YAP (V.). Hindi ko po ...

REP. CASILAO. . . . technology?

REP. YAP (V.). Hindi ko po pakiwari iyon, pero hindi ho iyon ang hahawak doon sa registry nitong ating telepono.

REP. CASILAO. I am trying to formulate an idea. If this Bill is enacted, what technological and logistical requirement must the DICT comply with? And then, therefore, a technology or an instrument that must be reused, is it locally produced or kinakailangang mag-avail ng service provider ang ating DICT?

REP. YAP (V.). Part na talaga ng mandate, Mr. Speaker, na ang DICT ay magkaroon ng government data center at ito ay para makatulong in case na magkaroon ng breach, breakdown, o mawala iyong mga data in case of disaster, ito ay mayroon tayong back up na mga impormasyon para sa ating mga iba't ibang ahensya.

Again, muli, iyong karagdagang gastos is very minimal, Mr. Speaker, in the sense na iyong data na manggagaling sa telco ay ire-replicate ita-transfer sa ating mga data centers para sa ating safekeeping. So, kung ako ang magtatanong ay hindi malaking gastusin doon sa overall project ng ating government data center.

REP. CASILAO. Again, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor, this Representation will require an actual blueprint of the technology to be used, how this technology will operate. Because, again, the apprehension of our colleagues on the question of privacy and the leaks doon sa sinasabi natin, nandiyan eh, and it is a valid point that we should all be concerned of. That is why this Representation requires a clear blueprint of the details because I cannot accept a general answer that the mandate of the DICT is to this and that. But with this Bill—because, again, I am pointing out, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor, that in the experience of other countries implementing similar SIM card registration laws, it has been a logistical nightmare for them. Much so, in the Philippines that you provide a hundred or millions, if I am not mistaken, 120 million and 80 million postpaid subscribers, then therefore, in data banking, with the information from these millions of subscribers, you really need a technology, an apparatus, to speak of. Of course, if that apparatus—hindi pa po natin alam kung ano ang pangalan niyan at how it will operate, kaya nga po itinatanong ko dahil sa pagtalakay at deliberasyon ng panukalang batas na ito, I expected that the DICT can provide that information that this Representation required, dahil mahirap po na sasabihin na lang ng ating kagalang-galang na Sponsor na in the IRR, the DICT will provide the necessary technology or system to be put in place exclusively for this purpose. Kaya

nga po, itinatanong ko iyan, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, because I wanted to scrutinize further the capacity, the integrity and the historical record of the technology or the service provider that DICT will be planning to tap or to avail of.

REP. YAP (V.). Again, Mr. Speaker, thank you for those questions. Indeed, those are very important points that were raised by our fellow colleague. Existing na ho iyong data center—tatlo. Doon sa mga hearings namin sa Komite, sa technical working group, na kung saan ito ay dumaaan sa masuri at mahabang panahon, hindi naman ho ito minadali. Naitanong ho itong mga bagay na ito at ang akin lamang kasagutan, dapat talaga doon sa inisyatibo ng teknolohiya at komunikasyon, mahalaga na tayo sa gobyerno ay may kakayahan din at abilidad upang panatilihin, protektahan ang ating mga impormasyon sa mga iba't ibang masasamang grupo. At iyong tanong kung may kakayahan ba tayo, ang simpleng sagot lamang ng ating Data Privacy Commission or National Privacy Commission, ang ating DICT at ang NTC, tayo ay may sapat na kakayahan at dapat pa lalo natin, sa Bill na ito, pag-ibayuhin at patibayin ang kakayahan na iyan nang lalo pang tumibay at gumaling.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I beg to say, but technology, in a sense, cannot be legislated. Iyong ating panukala at istraktura na ginagawa dito ay para patibayin ang ating mga sangay sa gobyerno, mga sangay na kinakailangan upang bigyan ng hustisya at proteksyon iyong mga kababayan—again, not the police—but those people behind them na nagrereklamo at naging biktima ng mga bagay na nagamit ang simpleng SIM.

Maraming salamat po.

REP. CASILAO. I fully agree with the statement of our distinguished Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, that it is the core mandate of the State to protect its citizenry, of course, with the information dahil nga katungkulan ng ating gobyerno iyan.

May I know from the distinguished Sponsor what other countries with a similar law, a mandatory SIM card registration law, have statistically provided positive results about the crime-fighting feature of their governments that required mandatory SIM card registration of their citizenry.

REP. YAP (V.). As to the countries that have adopted, implemented the law, there is a few on the list that I have here, namely, in my own experience: Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Myanmar, Cambodia, Vietnam, Pakistan, Rwanda, the UAE, Mexico, Bangladesh, U.S., Canada, and a host of European countries.

So far, Mr. Speaker, there is no country that I know of that has adopted this SIM registration system and accepted it as a failure and, therefore, moved from a

regime that adopted it to saying, “Hoy, alisin na natin itong SIM card law; useless pala ito.” There is none that I know of, Mr. Speaker...

REP. CASILAO. Thank you...

REP. YAP (V.). ... in my own personal...

REP. CASILAO. ... for that information, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

With regard to the latter answer of our distinguished Sponsor, I think I have to apprise him of information that Mexico repealed, three years ago, their mandatory SIM card registration law after seeing no improvement in crime prevention, investigation, and/or prosecution. Second, in Canada five years ago, the same system crashed when, after consultations, it could not be proven that crime reduction would result after its adoption.

So, while you provided a list of countries adopting a similar law, there are also advanced, or should we say, more advanced countries that already put in place the same system or the same law but statistically, because there is no significant reduction of crime and that it is, again in their parlance, a crime-fighting myth, they have abandoned such a system. What I am trying to say, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor, with advanced technology, the use of mobile phones and SIM cards has become a process using obsolete technology. Why? Because in one of the researches that I have stumbled upon, it stated that, in the future of telecommunications, “SIM cards themselves will become obsolete. Telcos often point out that, given the way technology is developing right now, we may all be heading towards a future wherein phones and other related communication devices would no longer need a SIM card.” In fact, in the US, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, may ini-introduce na po ang mga telcos doon na iyong bagong mga handset or mobile phones that will be commercially available will not require a SIM card anymore but it is organic in itself or in the phone that the consumer or the subscriber will be availing of.

While here in our case, of course, sa atin nga ang isang tao pupuwedeng magkaroon ng dalawa, tatlo, apat na cellphone. Iyong isang cellphone na may dual SIM, eh kung sabihin natin iyong tatlong cellphone niya ay dual SIM iyong feature, so, may anim na kaagad na SIM iyon. While I understand the previous argument of our distinguished Sponsor, na hindi naman ito foolproof na anti-criminal, I understand that resolving the acts of criminality or intentions of criminal minds, of terrorists, is not only dependent on the technological use but also on human intelligence and the efficiency of law enforcement. However, again, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, I am just sharing this information, so we might possibly rethink this as this proposal might be obsolete soon in our case or it might be of consideration if the

primordial concern of this Bill is to help in curbing out criminality or acts of criminality and terrorism.

Lastly, Mr. Sponsor, distinguished Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, again, I go along with the argument and the hesitation of my colleagues in Makabayan that this can be another tool for surveillance and specter of surveillance.

I will not burden you with further deliberation, but it is inevitable once this information is available and government agencies—because ngayon, ang aktibismo ay tila bagang krimen. Ang mga aktibista ngayon ay binabansagang mga “terorista.” For example, the petition of the DOJ wanted the CPP and the NPA to be declared as terrorists. Also, in the declaration are 600 names of individuals, named individuals.

Kaya nga po hindi po masisisi ang Kinatawang ito na magpahayag ng agam-agam, takot, to say the least, na ang dagdag na impormasyong makukuha ng ating gobyerno ay maaaring gamiting instrumento at weapon to curtail our already curtailed and limited freedoms and rights.

Thank you for accommodating my several questions, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, good evening.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no other Member who wishes to interpellate or speak against the measure, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Committee amendments, I now move that we proceed to consider the individual amendments, if any.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to introduce an individual amendment, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 7233. I so move.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

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

As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7233, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7233
ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The *ayes* have it. House Bill No. 7233 is approved on Second Reading. (*Applause*)

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we proceed to the Additional Reference of Business.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Secretary General read the following Committee Report, and the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding reference:

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report by the Committee on Justice (Committee Report No. 686), re H.R. No. 1802, entitled:

“RESOLUTION SETTING FORTH THE ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT AGAINST SUPREME COURT CHIEF JUSTICE MA. LOURDES P.A. SERENO”

recommending its adoption, together with the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the Committee in the matter of the Impeachment Proceedings against Supreme Court Chief Justice Ma. Lourdes P.A. Sereno.

Sponsors: Representatives Umali, Fariñas, Garcia (G.), Veloso, Leachon, Oaminal, Fuentebella, Revilla, De Vera, Gonzaga, Marcoleta, Gonzales (A.D.), Bravo (A.) and Garbin

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

REP. DE VENECIA. 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 24 to May 13, 2018.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). 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 the session until Tuesday, May 15, 2018, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

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

It was 8:54 p.m.