



# Congressional Record

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

## House of Representatives

Vol. 1

Tuesday, August 28, 2018

No. 12

### CALL TO ORDER

*At 3:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Sharon S. Garin called the session to order.*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The session is called to order.

### NATIONAL ANTHEM

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

*Everybody rose to sing the Philippine National Anthem.*

### PRAYER

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Everybody will please remain standing for a minute of silent prayer and meditation.

*Everybody remained standing for the silent prayer.*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Thank you.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

### ROLL CALL

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). 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. 12, dated August 28, 2018.\**

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. Mme. Speaker, the roll call shows that 195 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). With 195 Members responding to the call, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ATIENZA. Mme. Speaker.

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The Hon. Joselito “Lito” L. Atienza Jr. is recognized.

REP. ATIENZA. Just to set the record clear, we are not questioning the quorum. There are enough Members on the floor, but not 195 by any stretch of imagination. There are only 177 and so, I want it to be put on record that we are questioning the Secretariat’s headcount. The roll call is not accurately reported. As far as our count is concerned, we have 177 Members who answered the roll call, not 195.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). That is duly noted, the Honorable Atienza, and your manifestation is put on record. However, some Members are regarded present considering that they are currently holding Committee meetings as of right now.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

### APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve Journal No. 11, dated August 15, 2018.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

\* See ANNEX (printed separately)

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved. The Secretary General will please read the Reference of Business.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

*The Secretary General read the following House Bills and Resolutions on First Reading, Messages from the Senate and Committee Reports, and the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding references:*

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 8104, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO RADIO AUDIENCE DEVELOPERS INTEGRATED ORGANIZATIONS, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8083 ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING THE RADIO AUDIENCE DEVELOPERS INTEGRATED ORGANIZATIONS, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN COMMERCIAL RADIO STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES’ ”

By Representative Enverga  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 8105, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO BEACON COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8063 ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING THE BEACON COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN COMMERCIAL RADIO STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES’ ”

By Representative Enverga  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 8106, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO MR. JUSTIN DONTA BROWNLEE”

By Representatives Romero, Pineda and Aumentado  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 8107, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE SATELLITE OFFICE OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) IN THE SECOND DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF BOHOL INTO A REGULAR LTO DISTRICT OFFICE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Aumentado  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 8108, entitled:

“AN ACT PRIORITIZING THE CONSTRUCTION OF SPECIAL CONCRETE LOCAL ROAD NETWORK IN AREAS WHERE THE NATIONAL ROAD NETWORK IS ALMOST ONE HUNDRED PERCENT (100%) COMPLETED AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Aumentado  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 8109, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF CHLORINE IN ALL FISHING ACTIVITIES AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 92 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10654 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Aumentado  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 8111, entitled:

“AN ACT REORGANIZING THE COMELEC OFFICES”

By Representatives Datol, Suarez and Belmonte (F)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

House Bill No. 8113, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO CRUZ TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7961”

By Representative Singson  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 8114, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE LAND

TRANSPORTATION EXTENSION OFFICE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ROSALES, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN INTO A REGULAR LAND TRANSPORTATION DISTRICT OFFICE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Estrella  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 8115, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE MUNICIPALITY OF MANOLO FORTICH IN THE PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON INTO A COMPONENT CITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE CITY OF MANOLO FORTICH”

By Representatives Acosta-Alba, Flores, Zubiri, Uy (J.), Rodriguez (M.), Romualdo, Siao and Uy (R.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 8116, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE TUGBO WATERSHED FOREST RESERVE (TWFR) SITUATED IN THE CITY OF MASBATE AND IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MOBO, PROVINCE OF MASBATE, ISLAND OF LUZON AS PROTECTED AREA PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT 7586, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM (NIPAS) ACT OF 1992 AND SHALL BE KNOWN AS TUGBO NATURAL BIOTIC AREA (TNBA), APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Kho  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 8117, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION, INCREASING THE MONTHLY COMPENSATION OF DAY CARE WORKERS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Nieto, Maceda, Martinez, Malapitan and Olivarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 8118, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SCHOOL HEALTH AND SAFETY OFFICE IN EVERY PUBLIC SCHOOL IN THE COUNTRY, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Nieto, Maceda, Martinez, Malapitan and Olivarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 8119, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO MARECO BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8108, ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING THE MARECO BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE RADIO BROADCASTING AND TELEVISION STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES’ ”

By Representatives Belmonte (F.) and Datol  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 8120, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE MANUFACTURE, SALE, DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF RINSE-OFF COSMETICS AND CLOTHING CONTAINING MICROPLASTICS”

By Representatives Batocabe, Garbin and Co  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 8122, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY (NFA) AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Savellano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 8123, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO IMPLEMENT HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENTS AND TAKE OTHER ACTIONS TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT QUALITY OF COMMUNITIES”

By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 8124, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AS THE INDEPENDENT ECONOMIC AND PLANNING AGENCY OF THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT, DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS AND AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 230 SERIES OF

1987, AS AMENDED, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Yap (A.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 8125, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE AGE FOR DETERMINING STATUTORY RAPE AND OTHER ACTS OF SEXUAL ABUSE AND EXPLOITATION TO BELOW EIGHTEEN YEARS OLD AND PROVIDE STRONGER PROTECTION FOR CHILDREN AND AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, ALSO KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE”

By Representative Cuaresma  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF LAWS

House Bill No. 8126, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A MUNICIPALITY TO BE KNOWN AS MUNICIPALITY OF MANGUDADATU IN THE PROVINCE OF MAGUINDANAO”

By Representative Mangudadatu (Z.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 8127, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A MUNICIPALITY TO BE KNOWN AS MUNICIPALITY OF PANDAG IN THE PROVINCE OF MAGUINDANAO”

By Representative Mangudadatu (Z.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 8128, entitled:

“AN ACT DEFINING THE RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS OF HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS, DECLARING STATE RESPONSIBILITIES AND INSTITUTING EFFECTIVE MECHANISMS FOR THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF THESE RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS”

By Representative Lagman  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

#### RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 2076, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF

LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS AND/OR IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10912 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT LAW”

By Representative Bataoil  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2077, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE VIOLENT DISPERSAL OF THE PICKETLINE OF WORKERS BY THE HIRED GOONS OF NUTRIASIA WITH PERSONNEL OF PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE OF MEYCAUAYAN CITY”

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

House Resolution No. 2078, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE EFFICACY OF THE CONTINUOUS APPLICATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7686 OR THE DUAL TRAINING SYSTEM ACT OF 1994 AND THE ALLEGED ABUSE OF ITS IMPLEMENTATION BY COMPANIES LIKE CEBU MITSUMI, INC. AND MINEBEAMITSUMI, INC.”

By Representative Batocabe  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2079, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING THE METROBANK FOUNDATION OUTSTANDING FILIPINOS OF 2018”

By Representative Hofer  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2080, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO INCLUDE IN THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS BILL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019 P2.91 BILLION FOR THE PROMOTION OF FACULTY OF STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES”

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

House Resolution No. 2081, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE STATUS OF ALL IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS (IRRS) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10963 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE TAX REFORM FOR ACCELERATION AND INCLUSION (TRAIN) LAW WITH THE END VIEW OF ASSESSING/REVIEWING THE EFFICIENCY OF THE COLLECTION AND ALLOTMENT OF REVENUES”

By Representatives Garin (S.), Batocabe and Bolilia  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2082, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEES ON GOOD GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY AND PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE FAILURE OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP) TO OBTAIN THE DELIVERY OF THE MOBILITY AND COMBAT ASSETS IT CAUSED TO BE PURCHASED IN THE AMOUNT OF P1.347 BILLION”

By Representative Savellano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2083, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEES ON OVERSIGHT, ECOLOGY, NATURAL RESOURCES AND GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE PROCEDURAL IMPLEMENTATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND RELATED LAWS BY THE LAGUNA LAKE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND UNDERTAKE A REVIEW OF THE LAW CREATING THE AGENCY”

By Representative Savellano  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2084, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE AND NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER ROILO S. GOLEZ”

By Representatives Macapagal-Arroyo, Andaya and Suarez  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2085, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF MANUEL SWEGEN AGYAO, FORMER REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LONE DISTRICT OF KALINGA DURING THE FOURTEENTH, FIFTEENTH AND SIXTEENTH CONGRESSES”

By Representatives Macapagal-Arroyo, Andaya and Suarez  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Message dated August 14, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed with amendments House Bill No. 990, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE CITY OF CALAMBA FROM THE SECOND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF LAGUNA TO CONSTITUTE THE LONE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF CALAMBA”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Message dated August 14, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed with amendments House Bill No. 6741, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE ZAMBOANGA CITY STATE POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Message dated August 14, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed with amendment House Bill No. 6065, entitled:

“AN ACT RENAMING THE NAVAL STATE UNIVERSITY (NSU) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NAVAL, PROVINCE OF BILIRAN, AS THE BILIRAN PROVINCE STATE UNIVERSITY (BILSU) AND REMOVING THE PROHIBITION ON THE APPOINTMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC

ACT NO. 9718, ENTITLED: ‘AN ACT CONVERTING THE NAVAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NAVAL, PROVINCE OF BILIRAN INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE NAVAL STATE UNIVERSITY, INTEGRATING THEREWITH THE BILIRAN NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BILIRAN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR’ ”  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Message dated August 14, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed the following House Bills without amendment:

House Bill No. 6995, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE CAMARINES SUR INSTITUTE OF FISHERIES AND MARINE SCIENCES (CASIFMAS) – RAGAY CAMPUS LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF RAGAY, CAMARINES SUR INTO A TESDA-SUPERVISED SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS RAGAY POLYTECHNIC SKILLS INSTITUTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

House Bill No. 7175, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE IGBARAS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – ALAMEDA EXTENSION IN BARANGAY ALAMEDA, MUNICIPALITY OF IGBARAS, PROVINCE OF ILOILO FROM THE IGBARAS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS ALAMEDA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

House Bill No. 7176, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE SAN EMMANUEL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – ANNEX IN BARANGAY SAN PABLO, TACURONG CITY, PROVINCE OF SULTAN KUDARAT FROM THE SAN EMMANUEL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS SAN PABLO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

House Bill No. 7177, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE POLO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – MALANDAY ANNEX IN BARANGAY MALANDAY, VALENZUELA CITY FROM THE POLO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS MALANDAY NATIONAL

HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

House Bill No. 7178, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY TAMBO, PARAÑAQUE CITY, TO BE KNOWN AS TAMBO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

House Bill No. 7240, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY VEINTE REALES, VALENZUELA CITY, TO BE KNOWN AS VEINTE REALES NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

House Bill No. 7241, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN BARANGAY SAN ANTONIO, PARAÑAQUE CITY, TO BE KNOWN AS SILVERIO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

House Bill No. 7242, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE DON FELIX SERRA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – LOMBOYAN EXTENSION IN BARANGAY LOMBOYAN, MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JOAQUIN, PROVINCE OF ILOILO FROM THE DON FELIX SERRA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS STA. ANA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”; and

House Bill No. 7243, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE TACURONG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – UPPER KATUNGAL ANNEX IN BARANGAY UPPER KATUNGAL, TACURONG CITY, PROVINCE OF SULTAN KUDARAT FROM THE TACURONG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS UPPER KATUNGAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated August 14, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on even date, the Senate designated Senators Grace Poe, Ralph G. Recto, Francis “Chiz” G. Escudero, Joel Villanueva and Paolo Benigno “Bam” Aquino IV as conferees to the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes on House Bill No. 4136, entitled: “AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE

GRANTED TO MANILA BROADCASTING COMPANY UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7816, ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING THE MANILA BROADCASTING COMPANY A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS WITHIN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES’ ”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated August 14, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on even date, the Senate designated Senators Grace Poe, Ralph G. Recto, Francis “Chiz” G. Escudero, Joel Villanueva and Paolo Benigno “Bam” Aquino IV as conferees to the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes on House Bill No. 5349, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO NOTRE DAME BROADCASTING CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8109, ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING THE NOTRE DAME BROADCASTING CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES FOR RELIGIOUS, EDUCATIONAL, AND CULTURAL AS WELL AS FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES’ ”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated August 14, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on even date, the Senate designated Senators Grace Poe, Francis “Chiz” G. Escudero, Ralph G. Recto, Joel Villanueva and Paolo Benigno “Bam” Aquino IV as conferees to the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes on House Bill No. 5635, entitled:

“AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO BRIGHT STAR BROADCASTING NETWORK CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7295, ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING THE BRIGHT STAR BROADCASTING NETWORK CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES’ ”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated August 14, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on even date, the Senate designated Senators Grace Poe, Francis “Chiz” G. Escudero, Ralph G. Recto, Joel Villanueva and Paolo Benigno “Bam” Aquino IV as conferees to the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes on House Bill No. 5716, entitled:

“AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO VANGUARD RADIONETWORK COMPANY, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7529, ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING VANGUARD RADIO NETWORK COMPANY, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE ISLAND OF LUZON AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES’, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8069”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated August 14, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on even date, the Senate designated Senators Grace Poe, Francis “Chiz” G. Escudero, Ralph G. Recto, Joel Villanueva and Paolo Benigno “Bam” Aquino IV as conferees to the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes on House Bill No. 6314, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING STREAMTECH SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGIES INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated August 14, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed with amendments House Bill No. 6715, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES AGRICULTURE, BUSINESS, MARINE AND AQUATIC SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY (SPAMAST)-DIGOS CITY CAMPUS IN THE CITY OF DIGOS, DAVAO DEL SUR, FROM THE SPAMAST IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MALITA, DAVAO OCCIDENTAL AND CONVERTING IT INTO A STATE COLLEGE TO BE KNOWN AS THE DAVAO DEL SUR STATE COLLEGE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Message dated August 15, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on even date, the Senate approved the Conference Committee Report of the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes on House Bill No. 4136, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO MANILA BROADCASTING COMPANY UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7816, ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING THE MANILA BROADCASTING COMPANY A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS WITHIN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES’ ”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated August 15, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on even date, the Senate approved the Conference Committee Report of the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes on House Bill No. 5349, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO NOTRE DAME BROADCASTING CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8109, ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING THE NOTRE DAME BROADCASTING CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES FOR RELIGIOUS, EDUCATIONAL, AND CULTURAL AS WELL AS FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES’ ”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated August 15, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on even date, the Senate approved the Conference Committee Report of the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes on House Bill No. 5635, entitled:

“AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO BRIGHT STAR BROADCASTING NETWORK CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7295, ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING THE BRIGHT STAR BROADCASTING NETWORK CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE

AND MAINTAIN FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES’ ”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated August 15, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on even date, the Senate approved the Conference Committee Report of the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes on House Bill No. 5716, entitled:

“AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO VANGUARD RADIO NETWORK COMPANY, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7529, ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING VANGUARD RADIO NETWORK COMPANY, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE ISLAND OF LUZON AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES’, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8069”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated August 15, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on even date, the Senate approved the Conference Committee Report of the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes on House Bill No. 6314, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING STREAMTECH SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGIES INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated August 16, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on August 15, 2018, the Senate designated Senators Grace Poe, Ralph G. Recto, Francis “Chiz” G. Escudero, Joel Villanueva and Paolo Benigno “Bam” Aquino IV as conferees to the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes on House Bill No. 5556, entitled:

“AN ACT [EXTENDING] RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO ISLA COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY, INC., PRESENTLY KNOWN AS INNOVE COMMUNICATIONS, INC., AMENDING



FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7372, ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING THE ISLA COMMUNICATIONS CO. A FRANCHISE TO INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES WITHIN THE TERRITORY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND INTERNATIONAL POINTS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES’ ”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report by the Committee on Transportation and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 823), re H.B. No. 6326, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE MIDSAYAP EXTENSION OFFICE OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) LOCATED IN MIDSAYAP, NORTH COTABATO INTO A REGULAR LTO DISTRICT OFFICE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval without amendment

Sponsors: Representatives Sarmiento (C.), Nograles (K.A.) and Sacdalan

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Overseas Workers Affairs (Committee Report No. 824), re H.B. No. 8110, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE PHILIPPINE OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT ADMINISTRATION (POEA) TO DEVELOP, PUBLISH, DISSEMINATE AND UPDATE A HANDBOOK ON THE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF MIGRANT WORKERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8042, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘MIGRANT WORKERS AND OVERSEAS FILIPINOS ACT OF 1995,’ AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10022”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 7124

Sponsors: Representatives Manalo and Pacquiao  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Revision of Laws (Committee Report No. 825), re H.B. No. 8112, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING FEBRUARY 13 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF PARAÑAQUE, METRO MANILA, IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 5238

Sponsors: Representatives Primicias-Agabas and Olivarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Justice and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 826), re H.B. No. 8121, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR THE SURVIVING SPOUSE AND CHILDREN OF SLAIN JUSTICES AND JUDGES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 910, AS AMENDED, ENTITLED ‘AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE RETIREMENT OF JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT AND OF THE COURT OF APPEALS, FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE PROVISIONS HEREOF BY THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM, AND TO REPEAL COMMONWEALTH ACT NUMBERED FIVE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SIX’, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 2683

Sponsors: Representatives Umali, Nograles (K.A.), Veloso and Abu

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Higher and Technical Education and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 827), re H.B. No. 8133, entitled:

“AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CENTRAL MINDANAO UNIVERSITY TO CONSTRUCT ADDITIONAL CLASSROOMS, LABORATORIES, AND DORMITORIES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 4961

Sponsors: Representatives Hofer, Nograles (K.A.) and Rodriguez (M.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ALONTE. Mme. Speaker, as requested by Women’s Party-List GABRIELA Rep. Emmi A. De Jesus and Rep. Arlene D. Brosas, together with the Chair of Committee on Women and Gender Equality, Rep. Bernadette “BH” Herrera-Dy, we would like to acknowledge the presence of the following advocates of Maternity Leave Bill from different organizations as our plenary guests.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Please rise as your organizations or names are announced.

REP. ALONTE. To start with: Kilusan ng Manggagawang Kababaihan, Alliance of Workers in the Informal Economy Sector, PSBank Employees Union–National Union of Bank Employees, All Workers Alliance Trade Union, Metal Workers Alliance of the Philippines, Confederation of Filipino Workers, TF2 Kilos Damit–FFW, Pinagkaisang Tinig at Lakas ng Anakpawis–PIGLAS, Associated Labor Unions, Philippine Metal Workers Alliance, National Anti-Poverty Commission Secretariat, Philippine Legislators Committee on Population and Development, Philippine Commission on Women, Alyansa ng Manggagawa Laban sa Kontraktwalisasyon, Defend Job Philippines, Workers of Regent Foods Corporation, Liga ng Manggagawa–Valenzuela City, PLDT Organization of Workers and Employees for Rights, Kilusang Mayo-Uno Women’s Desk, Kilos na Manggagawa, Center for Women’s Resources, Breast Feeding Pinay and IndustriALL.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Please rise. (*Applause*) Welcome to the House of Representatives.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we now proceed to the consideration of measures under the Calendar of Business.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 4113

##### *Continuation*

#### PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker, under the Calendar of Unfinished Business, I move that we resume the consideration of House Bill No. 4113, contained in Committee Report No. 13, as reported out by the Committee on Women and Gender Equality. For this purpose, may I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). 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. 4113, entitled: AN ACT INCREASING THE MATERNITY LEAVE PERIOD TO ONE HUNDRED (100) DAYS FOR FEMALE WORKERS IN THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE AND IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, AND GRANTING AN OPTION TO EXTEND FOR AN ADDITIONAL THIRTY (30) DAYS WITHOUT PAY.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker, the parliamentary status of the Bill is that it is in the period of sponsorship and debate. I move that the Chairperson of the Committee, Rep. Bernadette Herrera-Dy, be recognized.

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

The Honorable Herrera-Dy is recognized. Please proceed.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Thank you, Mme. Chair. I am ready to continue with the interpellation.

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize Rep. Arnel U. Ty from the Party-List LPGMA for his interpellation.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The Hon. Arnel Ty of LPGMA Party-List is recognized. Please proceed.

REP. TY. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. The parliamentary status last session was that this Representation asked the Sponsor if she is willing to amend two provisions of the said Bill.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Yes, Mme. Speaker, and I already agreed to the first suggestion of Representative Ty on limiting it to four pregnancies. We accepted that. The other one is the deletion of Section 5 (c) and we will be accepting it also when we consider the Committee amendments.

REP. TY. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. Now, for consistency, in the period of amendments, I would like to go to Journal No. 11, page 12, because the answer of the Sponsor during the interpellations was that, “x-x-x the Sponsor said that the ECOP eventually interposed no objection x-x-x.” If it is possible for the Sponsor to read the whole paragraph on the whole ECOP comment for consistency in this amendment because this comment of ECOP will be the basis of deleting Section 5 (c), Mme. Speaker.

REP. HERRERA-DY. What do you want me to do, Mme. Chair?

REP. TY. Last time, when the Sponsor read the ECOP's comment, it only indicated that the ECOP has no objections but, in fact, there were one or two objections that indicated that Section 5 (c) was not part of their agreement when they will be supporting the Bill.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, because eventually, with their letter, they really interposed no objection but they had reservations when it came to that provision and it was you who brought it up—Representative Ty brought it up during the last deliberation and that is why after further deliberation, we already agreed to delete such provision, Mme. Speaker. I cannot say that they did not interpose because they submitted a letter interposing no objection and that is all that we have in the Committee; I think you said that they submitted a letter stating that they had reservations as to that exact provision.

REP. TY. Mme. Speaker, maybe, I have to read the whole paragraph on the ECOP comment as the basis during the period of amendments because this indicates their desire to object to the said paragraph or section that is now being agreed upon by the Sponsor to be deleted. We just want to formally read the comment of the ECOP, if it is possible, Mme. Speaker.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Yes, I have no objections to that, Mme. Chair.

REP. TY. Okay. Under number two of the ECOP's comment, "In this connection, considering that the Philippines,"—this is part of what the Sponsor has stated that ECOP has no objection to, this is the continuation of that paragraph—"In this connection, considering that the Philippines is a member of the International Labor Organization, we take notice of ILO Convention No. 183, The Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 x x x" which prescribed the following core provisions which are letters—I will just go to the following—

(c) Maternity leave benefit shall be provided through compulsory social insurance or public funds; and

(d) An employer shall not be individually liable for the direct cause of any such monetary benefit by him or her without the employer's specific agreement.

That is all, Mme. Speaker.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The Honorable Herrera-Dy is recognized.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Thank you for enlightening us, Mme. Speaker, that is why we are amenable to delete it during the period of amendments.

REP. TY. Mme. Speaker, this Representation has no more interpellation—is not anymore interested in interpellating on this Bill.

Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Thank you, Honorable Ty.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. 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. Garin, S.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The Honorable Herrera-Dy is recognized.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

REP. HERRERA-DY. Further committee amendments, and I would like to read them:

Number one—on page 2, line 22, to delete the phrase "in every instance of pregnancy, miscarriage or abortion, regardless of its frequency" and in lieu thereof, put the phrase "ONLY FOR THE FOUR (4) DELIVERIES, PROVIDED, THAT FOR CASES OF MISCARRIAGE, SIXTY (60) DAYS MATERNITY LEAVE WITH PAY SHALL BE GRANTED."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Is there any objection?

REP. TY. Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The Honorable Ty is recognized.

REP. TY. Mme. Speaker, instead of that amendment, can we adopt, in RA 8282, the provision that states “The maternity benefit provided under Section... shall be paid only for the first four deliveries x x x”?

Can we have a few minutes suspension of the session?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The session is suspended.

*It was 3:37 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 3:38 p.m., the session was resumed.*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The session is resumed.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. TY. Mme. Speaker, I withdraw my objection.

REP. HERRERA-DY. Mme. Speaker, may I proceed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Please proceed.

REP. HERRERA-DY. The second amendment of the Committee: on same page, line 34, insert a new paragraph which shall read as follows: MATERNITY LEAVE OF SIXTY (60) DAYS, WITH FULL PAY BASED ON HER AVERAGE WEEKLY OR REGULAR WAGES SHALL BE GRANTED FOR MISCARRIAGE.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. The third amendment, Mme. Speaker: on the same page, line 37, insert the following phrase after the word “delivery” which shall read as follows: WHILE THE MATERNITY LEAVE BENEFIT OF A FEMALE MEMBER WHO HAD A MISCARRIAGE SHALL BE COMPUTED BASED ON THE AVERAGE MONTHLY SALARY CREDIT FOR SIXTY (60) DAYS.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. On page three, delete lines 15 to 32.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. On page 3, line 38, to delete the comma (,) after the word “childbirth” and put the conjunction OR.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. On the same page, line 38, to delete the phrase “or abortion” before the word “After.”

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. On page 3, line 39, to delete the comma (,) after the word “childbirth” and put the conjunction OR.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. On the same page and line number, to delete the comma (,) after the word “miscarriage.”

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. On the same page, line 40, to delete the phrase “or abortion” before the word “occurs.”

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. On the same page, line 41, to put a comma (,) after the word “accrued” and to add the following phrase: PROVIDED, THAT SUCH PERIOD IS NOT APPLICABLE WHEN THE EMPLOYMENT OF THE PREGNANT WOMAN WORKER HAS BEEN

TERMINATED WITHOUT JUST CAUSE, IN WHICH CASE THE EMPLOYER WILL PAY HER THE FULL AMOUNT EQUIVALENT TO HER SALARY FOR ONE HUNDRED (100) DAYS BASED ON HER AVERAGE WEEKLY OR REGULAR WAGES, IN ADDITION TO THE OTHER APPLICABLE DAILY CASH MATERNITY BENEFITS THAT SHE SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED HAD HER EMPLOYMENT NOT BEEN ILLEGALLY TERMINATED.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. On page 4, line 33, after Section 14, insert a new section which shall read as follows: SEC. 15. APPROPRIATIONS. - THE AMOUNT NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT (GAA). THE GAD FUND OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUs) AND NATIONAL AGENCIES MAY BE A SOURCE OF FUNDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. The succeeding sections shall likewise be renumbered accordingly.

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. On page 4, lines 43 to 45, to delete the phrase "Section 11, Rule VI of the Omnibus Rules Implementing Book V of Executive Order No. 292 or the Revised Administrative Code of 1987."

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

REP. HERRERA-DY. Lastly, Mme. Chair, all amendments shall be subject to style.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker, there being no other Committee amendments, I move that we now proceed to consider individual amendments.

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

The Hon. Edcel C. Lagman is recognized.

#### INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENT

REP. LAGMAN. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. On page 4, line 25, we propose the inclusion of a new provision to read as follows: SECTION 14. NO EMPLOYER WHETHER IN THE PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SECTOR SHALL DISCRIMINATE AGAINST THE EMPLOYMENT OF WOMEN EMPLOYEES OR WORKERS IN ORDER TO AVOID THE BENEFITS PROVIDED FOR IN THIS ACT.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Mme. Sponsor, do you accept?

REP. HERRERA-DY. I accept.

REP. LAGMAN. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. Thank you, distinguished Sponsor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Thank you, Honorable Lagman.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. 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. Garin, S.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve House Bill No. 4113, as amended, on Second Reading.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

#### VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 4113, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). As many as are against, please say *no*. (*Silence*)

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 4113, AS AMENDED,  
ON SECOND READING

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

House Bill No. 4113, as amended, is hereby approved on Second Reading.

Congratulations! (*Applause*)

REP. TY. Mme. Speaker, may I know what was my vote.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The votation has been done through *ayes* and *nays*.

REP. TY. Yes, I just want to know what was my vote.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The proceeding was done through *ayes* and *nays*, and it is through the perception of the Chair whether the *ayes* or the *nays* had it. There was no individual recording of the vote.

REP. TY. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Thank you, Honorable Ty.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker, before we proceed to the next item in our agenda, may I acknowledge the presence of the guests of Rep. Lianda B. Bolilia, the members of the Empowerment and Reaffirmation of Paternal Abilities (ERPAT) of Padre Garcia, Batangas headed by Federation President Virgilio Dimaculangan and Municipal Social Welfare Development Officer Wilma Galela.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Please rise. (*Applause*) Welcome to the House of Representatives.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8083

*Continuation*

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we resume the consideration of House Bill No. 8083 and direct the Secretary General to read only the title of the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). 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 the measure.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8083, entitled: AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 4, 5, 20, 22, 27, 28, 34, 40, 50, 73, 112, 117, 119, 204, 222, 237, 237-A, 255, 256, 257, 258, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 275, 288, 290 AND ADDING SECTIONS 6-A, 282-A, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 301-A, 301-B, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, AND 314 UNDER THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The Majority Floor Leader is recognized.

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker, the parliamentary status of the Bill is that it is still in the period of sponsorship and debate. I move that the Chairperson of the Committee on Ways and Means, Rep. Dakila Carlo E. Cua, be recognized.

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

Representative Cua is recognized. Please proceed.

REP. CUA. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. We are now ready to answer questions.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker, I now move that we recognize Rep. Romero "Miro" S. Quimbo for his interpellation.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker, I move for a one-minute suspension of the session.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The session is suspended.

*It was 3:49 p.m.*

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 3:50 p.m., the session was resumed.*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The session is resumed.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize Rep. Arnel U. Ty.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Rep. Arnel Ty of LPGMA is recognized. Please proceed.

REP. TY. Thank you, Mme. Speaker. Will the Sponsor yield to some questions?

REP. CUA. Yes, Mme. Speaker.

REP. TY. Mr. Sponsor, Mme. Speaker, this proposal, House Bill No. 8083, is the TRAIN 2 and this is about the corporate tax, so, my question is, what percentage is the target of this Bill for the corporate tax?

REP. CUA. Currently, Your Honor, Mme. Speaker, ang target po natin is to lower the current 30 percent corporate income tax to a level of 20 percent within 10 years.

REP. TY. Will this Bill, if it will become a law, make us more competitive?

REP. CUA. Iyan ang paniniwala natin and that is the objective of the Bill—to make the Philippines more competitive in terms of attracting investments and creating jobs.

REP. TY. Maliban doon sa pagiging competitive ng ating bansa sa paghihikayat ho ng mga investors, ano pa ba ang nakapaloob po dito sa nasasabing proposal na House Bill No. 8083?

REP. CUA. Ang iba pang features ng TRABAHO Bill ay una, ang pagbaba po ng corporate income tax na nabanggit na po natin at ang kasama nito ay ang pag-modernize, pag-rationalize ng ating mga iba't ibang tax incentives system para maging mas transparent, mas maging targeted at maging time-bound, magkaroon ng set period para ma-avail ang mga incentives na ito.

REP. TY. Halimbawa po, nakasaad po dito sa batas na itong 30 percent po natin for corporate tax ay mareduce to 28 percent in 2021; 26 percent in 2023; 24 percent in year 2025; 22 percent in year 2027; and it will become 20 percent in year 2029.

REP. CUA. Opo.

REP. TY. Ano po ba ang intensiyon po ng batas na ito? Ito po ba ay para mas mapabilis ang paniningil ng gobyerno, o ito ay para mapasimple o to simplify iyong collection ng gobyerno or to simplify the way our investors or businesses pay their taxes?

REP. CUA. Pareho po naman silang kasama sa ating objective. Sa buong Southeast Asia po kasi, ang Pilipinas ang may pinakamataas na corporate tax rate at 30 percent at gusto natin, in a manageable way, to lower this down to 20 percent para sa ganoon ay maging competitive ang ating bansa. Itong corporate income tax rate po ang pinapasan na buwis ng ating mga kumpanya at 95 percent po dito ay ang ating mga small, medium and micro enterprises na nagbabayad ng 30 percent sa ngayon.

REP. TY. Ano po ang dahilan bakit ho ginawa po natin staggered ang pagbababa po ng corporate income tax? Bakit ho ginawa pa nating 10 taon? Bakit hindi na lang ho gawin nating isang beses na 20 porsiyento sa susunod na taon ang ating corporate income tax?

REP. CUA. Kung titingnan po ninyo, marami pong iba't ibang panukala dito at doon sa different versions, nakakabit iyong pagbaba ng corporate income tax rate sa level of improvement in collections ng ating revenue collectors ng BIR at ng Customs. Mayroon din namang version na isang taon, every year, ibababa natin ng one percent. So, sa mga pag-uusap at talakayan with the Department of Finance, so far, ito ang pinaka-workable solution dahil mas predictable po at iyong mga kumpanya, mapaplano nila ang kanilang fiscal year at maaari nilang ma-forecast ang kanilang mga tax implications o iyong mga babayaran nilang buwis sa gobyerno kaya po naging ganito ang current version ng ating panukala.

REP. TY. Sa pananaw po ninyo, G. Isponsor, ang atin pong pagbawas ng ating corporate income tax sa loob ng 10 taon ay mas magbebenepisyo po ba, as a whole, ang ating ekonomiya base sa pagpasok ng mas maraming investors, o dahil sa pangangailangan ng gobyerno na makasingil pa rin ng sapat na pangangailangan na gastusin ng ating bansa?

REP. CUA. Ito po o ang original design ng ating TRABAHO Bill ay revenue neutral at kung titingnan natin ang draft nito, wala po tayong ini-introduce na buwis sa anumang bilihin, at wala po siyang inihahandang pag-angat ng buwis sa mga consumer goods na binibili ng ating mga mamamayan. So, kung sakali man mababawi ng gobyerno ang ating forgone revenues as a product of lowering our corporate income tax, it will be by rationalizing the fiscal incentives. Iyong mga tax expenditures na binibigay ng gobyerno taun-taon sa mga industriyang hindi na nangangailangan ng incentives ang siyang pamamaraan ng gobyerno na mabawi kung anuman ang mawawalang income sa pagbaba ng corporate income tax.

REP. TY. Sa pananaw po ba ninyo, G. Isponsor,

itong ating ginagawang pagbaba ng corporate income tax sa loob ng 10 taon at wala nga tayong i-introduce na bagong panukalang buwis, mayroon ho tayong pagkukunan noong mga ibababa natin na corporate income tax? Saan ho natin kukunin ito, G. Isponsor?

REP. CUA. Saan ho kukunin ...

REP. TY. Habang binababa natin ang corporate income tax taun-taon o every two years, at sabi nga ninyo ay wala tayong i-introduce na bagong buwis, saan ho natin kukunin ngayon itong kakulangan o iyong mababawas sa ating sisingilin? Dahil bumababa ho iyong corporate income tax, saan ho natin kukunin ngayon itong mga kakulangan na iyan?

REP. CUA. Iyong pambawi ng gobyerno ay sa pagbabawas sa ating tax expenditure, sa mga insentibo na binibigay ng gobyerno sa mga malalaking kumpanya na maaaring hindi na kailangan bigyan ng incentives ang mga industriya na iilan at dahil babawasan natin ang tax expenditure, iyon po ang kapalit o magbabalanse doon sa foregone revenues sa pagbaba ng ating corporate income tax.

REP. TY. Halimbawa po, gusto ko hong maliwanagan kung anu-ano po ba ang mga malalaking sektor or industriya na tatanggalan ho natin ng incentives o insentibo para ho tayo ay makabawi o makadagdag doon sa tatanggalin nating pagbubuwis sa mga corporate income tax. Puwede ho bang makapagbigay ng mga halimbawa.

REP. CUA. Hindi po kasi natin intensiyon na alisin lahat ng incentives by industry. Ang intensiyon po natin ay magkaroon ng isang framework o platform kung saan ang lahat ng ating mga investors ay magkakaroon ng isang menu of incentives, para sa ganoon ay mas madaling maging transparent ang sistema, mamonitor ng gobyerno kung ang bawat kumpanya ba ay nangangailangan pa ng incentives o hindi na po. It will not target any industry, it has never targeted any particular industry. In fact, sa bawat industriya sa bagong sistema, maaaring in one industry, if one company is deserving of incentives dahil siya ay lumalago at nag-i-invest nang patuloy ng kanyang kapital at patuloy na lumilikha ng trabaho, maaari siyang magpatuloy at mag-renew sa kanyang scheme of incentives. While another company in the same industry na hindi nag-e-expand, na hindi na lumilikha ng panibagong trabaho, na nabawi na niya ang kanyang investment na original, na nag-expire na ang kanyang incentives, ay maaaring matigil na ang kanyang incentives.

REP. TY. Puwede ho ba nating bigyan ng halimbawa? Halimbawa, ang Board of Investments,

ano po ba ang mawawala o mababago sa insentibo na nakukuha ng isang kumpanya na nag-apply sa Board of Investments? Halimbawa, ang income tax holiday, ano ho ang magiging pagbabago dito ho sa panukalang batas na ito?

REP. CUA. Ang pagbabago ay magkakaroon na po tayo, moving forward, ng bagong menu. So, magkakaroon na po ng three-year income tax holiday and two years of other tax incentives para sa isang kumpanya na nag-i-intend o nagbabalak na mamuhunan at magnegosyo dito sa Pilipinas. So, iyong mga nakaraan naman po sa kasalukuyang scheme of incentives ay maaari nilang ma-enjoy ang kanilang incentives for another period of two to five years as ito po iyong transition period ng mga current incentives. Pagkatapos naman po nitong two to five-year period o bago ito matapos, ang kumpanya naman ay maaaring mag-apply muli ng new set of incentives, given po na dapat siya ay nag-i-introduce ito ng bagong investment at lumilikha ng karagdagang trabaho.

REP. TY. Gusto ko lang ho sanang linawin, G. Isponsor, regarding po dito sa nababanggit po ninyo, ang dati pong polisiya sa Board of Investments sa income tax holiday ay limang taon. Ngayon po, ito ay babaguhin sa tatlong taon at ang natitirang dalawang taon ay puwedeng i-avail sa pamamagitan ng iba pa hong mga insentibo. Hindi ho ba ito magiging mas magulo para ho sa gobyerno at para ho sa investor na gustong mag-invest sa ating bansa dahil dati-rati, limang taon na straight ay may income tax holiday siya? Ngayon po ay magiging tatlong taon, tapos, iyong natitirang dalawang taon ay mamimili siya sa other incentives na kailangan niyang ma-avail. Ito po ba ay makakabuti in terms of doon sa sinasabi ho natin na magpapagaan sa ating gobyerno, sa BIR, sa paniningil dahil it will simplify everything, at ganoon din doon sa negosyo o negosyante or isang company na nag-a-avail nitong mga insentibo na binibigay sa isang kumpanya na mag-i-invest sa ating bansa.

REP. CUA. Naniniwala tayo na ang ating panukala ay makabubuti sa gobyerno dahil ito po ay magbibigay linaw sa dinami-daming mga industriya na ngayon po ay nag-e-enjoy ng incentives. Hindi naman po lahat. Nakikita naman po natin na maraming industries na deserving at iyong iba nga ay kailangan pang bigyan ng additional incentives, pero mayroon din mga ibang kumpanya, mga iilan na hindi na nangangailangan ng incentives. Kaya nga po with the new scheme, with the new framework of giving incentives, magiging mas maliwanag at magiging transparent sa gobyerno at makikita ng gobyerno kung anong incentives ang tama, anong kumpanya ang nagpe-perform, anong kumpanya ang hindi nangangailangan ng incentives. Kung hindi



na siya nangangailangan ng incentives, naturally po, may sunset ang ating mga incentives pero kung siya naman po ay patuloy sa paglago at patuloy sa pag-i-invest, then, maaari naman po niyang i-renew muli ang kanyang incentives for another five years—five to seven years po pala.

REP. TY. Tama po. Ang concern lamang ho ng Representanteng ito, of this Representation, is that iyon pong pagiging competitive po natin laban sa ating mga kapit-bahay na bansa. Marami ho nahikayat na pumasok upang mag-invest ng kanilang mga factories that incur a lot of investment and a lot of manpower that can help our economy. Alam po naman natin na ang mga bagong negosyong pumapasok sa kahit na anong bansa ay may panahon na kailangang gugulin para ho ito ay mag-umpisang magkaroon ng magandang hanapbuhay or magkaroon ng profit o maging profitable.

Ang tanong ko ngayon is, with this Bill na tatanggalin po natin at babawasan natin ang limang taon at magiging tatlong taon and at the same time, hindi naman ho nila ma-fully utilize or use iyong ating bagong corporate income tax dahil ito po ay after 10 years pa po bago nila ma-fully avail iyong 20 percent, samantalang kapagka titingnan po natin ang ating mga katabing bansa, sila po ngayon ay nasa 20 percent na po ang kanilang corporate income tax. Ang akin pong ibig patungkulin or sabihin ay, bakit ho kailangan nating gawing 10 taon kung kaya naman nating iklian? Nakikita ko po na ang pagiging competitive po natin ay magkakaroon ng effect sa mga investors na nagnanais pumasok sa ating bansa, kapag nakita po nila na nabawasan iyong dating kanilang ini-expect na makukuhang insentibo dahil base ho sa maraming datos, bago ho kumita ang isang negosyo ay kailangang gumugol ng at least three to five years. Iyon pong mga insentibong ibinibigay po ng ating bansa ay isang malaking tulong para sa kanilang pagpasok. Masasabi ko po na tama ho, maganda ang ating panukala na gagawin nating 20 percent ang ating corporate income tax pero ang akin lang hong pangamba ay masyado hong mahaba ito hong pagbibigay natin upang tayo po ay maging competitive with our neighboring countries. Hindi ho natin alam na baka ho sa susunod na mga dalawa, tatlong taon, magbago na naman po iyong kanilang mga insentibo or taxes, kaya paano ho tayo makakahabol? Iyon lamang po naman ang aking pangunahing concern dito ho sa ating panukalang batas.

REP. CUA. Tama po iyon. Hindi tayo nagkakaiba ng pananaw na mas maagang ibaba ay mas maganda. Dito po sa ating current version, mayroon tayong inilagay na acceleration process. So, ang ibig sabihin lang po nito, kapag ang gobyerno ay, kumbaga, nag-excel ang gobyerno sa pagkolekta ng buwis, maaaring bumilis din ang pagbaba ng corporate income tax ahead

of schedule. So, mayroon po tayong provision dito na maaaring i-accelerate ang pagbaba nito. It may be shorter than 10 years if our government is able to realize more collections and realize more savings.

REP. TY. So, mayroon hong mga panukalang mag-a-accelerate po niyan pero ano po ba ang mga kondisyon? Kagaya po ng sinasabi natin that we have to accelerate if we have a good collection or enough savings pero alam po naman natin that, sa laki po ng pangangailangan ng ating bansa para sa imprastruktura, kadalasan po ay hindi sumasapat iyong ating koleksiyon. Naisin man ng ating mga departamento ng gobyerno na kumolekta, ayusin ang koleksiyon, ang taun-taon na nakakamit nating collections ay hindi pa rin sasapat doon sa ating pangangailangan. Ang aking pangamba, baka ito pa ho ang makapagdagdag ng problema sa atin, na kung nabawasan ang ating mga mag-i-invest o magnanais na mamuhunan sa ating bansa ay lalo po tayong magkaroon ng problema sa koleksiyon.

REP. CUA. Sa pag-aaral po natin at kung maaari kong ibahagi sa inyo, sa isang private conversation ng isang opisyal ng ating Board of Investments, nabanggit nga po niya sa akin na mayroon daw po silang mga potential investors na pumipreno muna sa kanilang investment dahil hinihintay nila iyong panibagong set of incentives dahil naniniwala sila na mas targeted at mas akma sa kanilang investment iyong bagong set of incentives. Kaya nga po sa ating pananaw, dahil sa pagda-dialogue din natin with the stakeholders, kailangan lang po natin sigurong liwanagin na ang bagong set of incentives ay talagang mas maganda kaysa sa current set of incentives.

Sa bago pong set of incentives, mayroon tayong tinatawag na double deduction. Ibig sabihin, kapag ang kumpanya ay namuhunan sa larangan ng science and technology or in innovating their products, ito hong investment o gastusin ng kumpanya in that field ay maaari niyang ibawas sa kanyang taxable income ng doble. Mayroon din po tayong additional 50 percent deduction on labor. Ibig sabihin po, kung ang isang kumpanya ay nagpapasuweldo ng isang milyong piso sa kanyang mga manggagawa, ang puwede niyang ibawas sa kanyang taxable income is P1.5 million. So, ini-incentivize po natin iyong mga activities na, sa tingin natin, ay makakabuti sa ating mga kababayan. Ang layunin natin diyan para ang kumpanya ay taasan ang kanyang mga pasuweldo dahil doble ang kanyang deduction dito. Kaysa titipirin niya ang manggagawa ay gaganahan siya na iangat ang mga suweldo ng kanyang mga manggagawa.

REP. TY. Tama po kayo diyan, G. Isponsor, pero tandaan po natin na ang minimum wage po ng ating

bansa ngayon ay hindi na ho nagkakalayo doon sa minimum wage ng katabi nating mga bansa. Kung atin hong titingnan, ang minimum wage natin dito ngayon ay nagkakahalaga P514 sa NCR. Ang Vietnam is almost lower by a hundred pesos if you will compare our minimum wage. The same thing with Thailand, which has almost the same as our minimum wage.

So, maliban po doon, much as I want to give an increase in the salaries and wages of our employees, the problem is, tayo po ay napapalibutan ng mga katabi nating bansa na aktibo po sa paghihikayat ng maraming mga company at sila ho mismo ay nagtayo ng maraming economic zones at napakaraming mga pribilehiyo na ibinibigay. Halimbawa na lang po ng isang bansa na katabi natin na, sa pananaw ko, ay mas malayo na iyong ating narating, ang Vietnam. Sa Vietnam ngayon, kapag ikaw ay pumunta roon, ikaw ay sasalubungin, dadalhin sa isang one-stop shop; ikaw ay patitirahin sa isang magandang matitirahan habang inaayos ang mga dokumento ng iyong investment.

Iyong pong mga ganoong mga galaw upang sa paghihikayat po ng kanilang mga investor ay hindi ho dapat natin itong isawalang-bahala dahil darating ho ang isang araw at tayo ay magigising na lang na mas marami na hong lumipat na mga investors sa mga bansang dahil kung sila ay makapag-imbata ay napakaganda ng mga insentibong ibinibigay.

REP. CUA. Nauunawaan natin po kayo at napakaganda ng inyong punto na dito sa mundo ngayon, hindi tayo nag-iisa o nagsosolo at kailangan tayong makipagsabayan sa ating mga kapitbahay, which is also isa sa mga pangunahing dahilan na nakikita natin na panahon nang ibaba ang ating corporate income tax. Aminin natin na medyo may katagalan ito ngunit to be prudent o para maging maingat sa pagbaba nito, minabuti ng ating panukala na dahan-dahan ito para maiging maip plano rin ng gobyerno ang pagbawi nito o pag-survive ng ating fiscal health.

So, iyon po ang dahilan kung bakit natin ginagawa ito. Sang-ayon naman tayo at kinikilala natin ang importansiya na tayo ay dapat tumingin sa ating mga kapit-bahay in order to be able to deliver on the objective na gusto nga nating maging mas competitive bilang destination ng investments ang ating bansa.

REP. TY. Pareho po tayo ng pananaw sa pagsisiguro na ang ating bansa ay kailangan maging competitive at tama po kayo, maliit na ho ang mundo ngayon para ho sa paghihikayat ng mga bagong investors—investors na makakapag-create ng mas maraming trabaho, investors na makakapagtayo ng permanent structures at factories na pakikinabangan po natin sa mahabang panahon.

Ngayon po, ang isa pa ho, maliban sa Board of Investments incentives, tutungo po ako doon sa IPAs,

kasama dito po iyong PEZA zones. Ano po ba iyong mga tinanggal po natin dito po sa mga IPAs ho natin pagdating po sa panukalang batas na ito?

REP. CUA. Hindi naman po natin inalis ang mandato ng ating mga investment promotion agencies dahil patuloy silang magpa-function, patuloy po silang maghihikayat ng investors sa kanilang mga lugar at sa kanilang mga industriyang sinusupportahan. Ang nilagay lang po natin dito ay ang pagiging timebound. Nilagyan lang po natin ng klarong linya kung hanggang saan ang duration ng kanilang incentives.

Ganoon pa man, kahit po sila ay may deadline, maaari nga po nilang i-renew ang incentives nila. Kailangan lang po nilang patunayan na sila ay patuloy sa kanilang investment, patuloy sa kanilang paglago at paglikha ng trabaho.

REP. TY. Subalit ang problema ho natin dito, G. Isponsor, ay iyong pagbabago po ng ating mga fiscal incentives. Halimbawa, doon muna ho tayo sa mga nandito na nakapagtayo na ng kanilang mga companies, nakapagtayo na ng kanilang mga factories, mayroon na ho silang mga libu-libong empleyado at mayroon na rin po silang negosyong tumatakbo rito. For example—doon po tayo sa PEZA zones, ano po ba ang mangyayari ngayon doon sa 70-30 percent, 70 percent exports and the 30 percent can be sold domestically. Ano po ba ang gagawin nating pagbabago doon?

REP. CUA. Ganoon pa rin naman po except that, ngayon po kasi, patungkol sa VAT or value-added tax, ili-limit natin sa 90 percent exports ang siyang mag-e-enjoy ng zero rating for their suppliers. So, ang ibig sabihin lang po noong iba, kung siya po ay 70-30 percent, siya po ay magkakaroon ng VAT refund system para iyong kanyang input VAT ay maaari niyang singilin pabalik mula sa ating gobyerno.

REP. TY. Ang tanong po pagdating sa tax credit ay, gaano ho ba katagal bago po makuha o ma-collect ito ng isang company o isang nagnenegosyo after niya mapatunayang lahat ng kanyang mga produkto ay naibenta niya sa export? Sa kasalukuyan, ang nararamdaman ng mga negosyante na outside of the PEZA, kung sila man ay nagnanais na ipasok ang kanilang pagnenegosyo sa export, napakatagal po bago nila makuha iyong tax credit o iyong pagbalik ng value-added tax.

Sa panukalang ito, ang akin hong interpretasyon dito ay binabawasan na po natin ang mga insentibo sa PEZA zones at gusto ho nating maging competitive ang buong bansa, ang mga kumpanyang nagnenegosyo sa ating buong bansa by reducing their corporate income tax and also, encouraging them to do export and

supporting them. The problem is, iyon pong value-added tax ang isang dahilan po kung bakit hindi po tayo nagiging competitive sa ating mga export businesses, dahil sa bawat produktong ibebenta po nila ay may 12 percent na nakapataw at hindi ho nila alam kung kailan nila ito masisingil sa gobyerno. Kaya po marami ang pumupunta ho sa PEZA zones. Ngayon, ang katanungan ho diyan ay—in many of the IPAs areas, ang primary reason bakit sila pumapasok sa mga economic zones o PEZA zones is that 70-30 percent. So, ano po ba ang maidudulot na maganda if we increase it to 90 percent threshold?

REP. CUA. Una po, gusto ko lang liwanagin na kung ang isang kumpanya ay 70-30 percent, tuloy naman po na lahat ng produktong ini-export ay VAT free or walang VAT, at lahat ng produktong ibinebenta sa domestic market ay papatawan ng VAT which is, ganoon naman po ang practice sa buong mundo. Nais ko rin naman pong i-concede na napansin natin na sa mga nakaraang taon, sa mga experiences ng mga negosyante, hindi po talaga efficient at effective ang ating refund system at nagkakaroon pa ng mga panahon na inaabuso ito ng ilan.

Ganoon pa man, sa ating panukala ay i-implement lamang ito kapag nagkaroon na tayo ng 90-day effective refund system. Ang layunin natin ay maging transparent ang sistema para nang sa ganoon ang ating tax system ay mas maging fair. Ang hirap lang po kasi, Mme. Speaker, Congressman Ty, ay hindi natin maiwasan na punahin na maraming mga leakages na nangyayari sa ating mga teritoryo na kung saan nangyayari itong mga tax-free incentives. Kaya nga po tayo ay lumilikha na ng mga sistema para masugpo ang mga leakages na ito at talagang iyong mga ini-export lang po ang ating isasalba mula sa VAT, at iyong mga talagang nagbebenta naman sa domestic market ay dapat magbayad talaga ng VAT.

REP. TY. Sumasang-ayon po ako doon, G. Sponsor, sa inyong posisyon subalit ang tanong lamang ay, ano po ba ang timeline natin for us to realize, from the department concerned, iyong sinasabi nating 90-day refund? Mayroon na ho ba tayong timeline regarding diyan dahil napakaraming mga companies na nagnanais na—outside of the PEZA zones and they are more than what are inside the PEZA zones—those who want to do business outside of our country dahil masyadong malaki naman ho ang merkado para ho tayo ay pumunta at mag-bakasakali at makipag-compete internationally, subalit ang nagiging problema po natin ay tayo po ay palaging tali sa pamamagitan ho ng VAT. Ito ho iyong isang pinakamalaking problema po natin.

Sa ngayon, kung nakikita ko po itong batas natin na mayroon ho tayong mga insentibo na gusto hong bawasan under the PEZA zones, ang tanong ay, saan

ho pupunta ngayon itong mga parating at existing companies that are just enjoying the incentives of the PEZA zones, kung wala hong kasiguraduhan kung ano ho iyong ating timeline to guarantee that the VAT refund on those export products ay makukuha po nila within 90 days? Ang 90 days po ay risonable pero sa kasalukuyan ay inaabot ho ito ng tatlo hanggang limang taon bago ho nila makuha iyong refund, at kung minsan ay hindi pa ho nila nakukuha or hindi nila nakukuha ito ng buo. Ito po iyong problema natin.

Maganda po ang panukalang batas pero handa po ba tayo na maging competitive sa pamamagitan na gandahan ng ating mga departamento ang kanilang serbisyo upang mabigyan sila ng proteksiyon through the delivery of their services as incentives to our investors?

REP. CUA. Una po, as mentioned earlier, alam po natin at tinatanggap natin ang criticism na noong nakaraan, talagang hindi po at sa kasalukuyan magpahanggang ngayon, hindi pa po na-establish ang isang efficient at credible tax refund system. Kung atin pong maaalala, iyong nakaraang Tax Reform Law na ating tinalakay at ipinasa dito sa Kongreso, ang nakalagay po doon ay hindi ma-i-implement iyong pagkaalis ng zero rating ng mga indirect exporters kung hindi pa kayang tuparin ng gobyerno ang kanyang pangako na ang lahat ng tax refunds ay babayaran niya sa loob ng 90 days. Sa huling report po ng ating BIR, sila daw po ay naghahanda at nagsisikap na by January 1 sa susunod na taon ay ipatutupad nila ang pag-refund ng lahat ng VAT within 90 days. Iyan po ang kanilang target at timeline sa pag-implement ng provision na ito.

REP. TY. Iyan po ba ay maaaring maisama dito sa batas na gusto nating ipasa sa ngayon?

REP. CUA. Nakalagay na po iyan doon sa nakaraang piece of legislation na ating ipinasa, ngunit I believe na consistent naman po siya doon at wala naman po sigurong problemang i-consider ng Committee o ng Plenary ang inyong panukala.

REP. TY. Maraming salamat po, G. Sponsor. Dito naman po tayo sa another incentive ng IPAs, ito po iyong five percent on gross income earned in lieu of all taxes. Paano ho ba ang gagawin natin dito?

REP. CUA. Sa panukala natin, itong five percent na siyang ibinibigay ng ating mga investment promotion agencies ay ililipat natin. Imbes na gross income ay ilalagay natin siya sa sistema ng tax on net income. Ganoon pa man, hindi siya papasok sa regular income tax rate at mag-e-enjoy pa rin siya ng preferential rate na kalahati ng tax rate. Ang ibig ko pong sabihin diyan, para maipaliwanag ng mahusay, kung sa mga taon na

ang income tax rate ay 30 percent, which are 2020 and 2019, ito po ay magiging 15 percent. Pagdating naman sa taon na siya na ay 28 percent, ito po ay magiging 14 percent. Kapag 26 percent na po, magiging 13 percent, hanggang umabot sa 20 percent iyong income tax rate, ay magiging 10 percent po ito.

REP. TY. Ang isang concern ko lang po dito ay ang ating corporate income tax ay aabot ng 10 taon bago natin ma-realize iyong 20 percent. Iyon mga nandito na po na nahikayat na po natin na at nagsitayo ng kanilang mga negosyo, ilang taon na lang po ba ang kanilang maaaring magamit to avail of these incentives?

REP. CUA. Okay po. Iyon pong mga kumpanya na nag-e-enjoy ng mga incentives sa mahigit ng 10 taon, mayroon po silang transition period of another two years. Iyong mga kumpanyang nag-e-enjoy na ng incentives currently, between five to 10 years na nilang na-e-enjoy ang incentives na ito, sila po ay bibigyan ng tatlong taon na *status quo* bilang kanilang transition period. Iyon naman pong below five years, ang kanilang incentives na na-avail mula sa ating mga agencies ay maaari pang mabigyan ng additional five years bilang sunset provision ng kanilang incentives. So, wala pong galawan iyan for the next five years.

REP. TY. Yes, pero nabawasan po iyong kanilang mga insentibo. Ang katanungan ay, kumusta naman po ang mga commitments ng mga nagnanais pumasok sa ating bansa upang mag-invest, sa pag-introduce po natin nitong panukalang batas, House Bill No. 8083?

REP. CUA. Sa ngayon, inaamin natin na dahil ang panukala ay hindi pa nailalagay sa batas o hindi pa talaga naisasabatas, ito po ay lumilikha ng pangamba o uncertainty sa ating mga investors. Kaya po sa ating pananaw, isang decisive stand at isang mabilis na proseso ang kinakailangan dito para maagapan natin itong uncertainty o iyong pangamba ng ating investors. Tayo ay naniniwala na kapag malinaw na ang bagong patakaran o bagong scheme of incentives, mauunawaan na nila ang panibagong sistema at sila ay gaganahan muling mag-invest sa ating bansa dahil maaari na nilang planuhin ang finances ng kanilang investment.

REP. TY. Hindi ho kaya maging huli na para sa atin ang makapaghikayat ng mga investors kung tayo ay maghihintay ng mga ilang taon bago maunawaan o makamit noong ating mga iniimbitahan o inaanyayahan na mga companies na gustong mag-invest or investors na gustong pumasok sa ating bansa? Tandaan po natin na bawat taon na sila ay tumitingin sa paglalagak ng kapital at puhunan sa isang bansa, ang tinitingnan po nila ay iyong short-term at long-term. Ang short-term, alam po

nila na hindi sila competitive. Pagdating naman ho sa long-term, iyong kasiguraduhan na hindi ho magbabago muli ang patakaran ng ating bansa.

Ito po iyong pangamba ko na baka dumating ang panahon na wala ho tayong maimbitahan dahil sa kanilang pangamba na wala na nga silang makukuha in terms of short-term goals, lalong hindi rin sila nakasisiguro sa long-term benefits noong kanilang investment sa ating bansa.

REP. CUA. Salamat po sa inyong tanong. Iyan naman po talaga ang puso ng ating discussion dahil mahirap na malaman ang magiging behavior ng ating investors ngunit sa ating pag-aaral, mas lalo po tayong mapag-iwanan ng buong mundo kapag hindi natin sinimulan ang pag-adjust ng ating corporate income tax rates. Kapag naman pinabayaan nating walang control ang ating gobyerno na ma-review at lagyan ng saysay o rhyme and reason iyong ating mga incentives na inaalok sa mga investors, para naman ho tayong naglalakad sa dilim na hindi natin alam kung ano na pala ang ipinamimigay natin at baka sobra-sobra na po pala ang incentives na ibinibigay.

Ang panukalang ito, ang hinahangad lang po naman ay maisaayos ang incentives at hindi hinahangad na pahirapan ang investors. Sa katotohanan, ang layunin natin ay pagandahin ang incentives, akitin ang investors at siguraduhing magtatagal sila dito, at bigyan sila ng pagkakataong pahabain ang kanilang incentives sa pamamagitan ng pagpapalago ng kanilang negosyo.

REP. TY. Tama po kayo na dalawa ho ang pangangailangan ng isang negosyante upang pumasok sa isang bansa. Ang una ay iyong ease of doing business, ang mabilis na pagkuha ng kaukulang permiso kung siya ay compliant with all the requirements ng isang lugar; at iyong pangalawa ay iyong insentibo. Ngayon, sa PEZA zones, ito po iyong dalawang bagay na sinasagot po nito. Ito po iyong mabilis na pagkuha ng approval dahil there is a one-stop shop at pangalawa, ito iyong mga insentibo.

Ngayon, pagka naman ito ay gagawin nating pa sa buong bansa, dalawa ho ang challenges na aking nakikitang problema. Ito po iyong ease of doing business, dahil alam po naman natin na maraming mga lugar ay nahihirapan ho na makapag-hanapbuhay ang isang investor o makapag-put up ng isang negosyo dahil sa hirap na pagdadaan nila sa pagkuha po ng lahat ng permits mula sa gobyerno. Hindi ho bababa sa 10 permits, national at local, bago ho makapagtayo ng isang factory at ito po ang isa sa pinakamahirap na dahilan kung bakit makikita natin hindi ho ganoon karami iyong nagtatayo ng maayos na kumpanya sa ating bansa. Pangalawa, ito po iyong insentibong ninanais nilang makuha kapareho noong nakukuha nila

mula sa mga ibang bansa na kanilang pinanggalingan o mga bansang naghihikayat sa kanila na doon na mamuhunan. Halimbawa lang, Singapore is only 17 percent, Macau is only 12 percent, Hong Kong is only 16.5 percent ang kanilang corporate income tax. Tayo, nangangarap ho tayo na maging 20 percent pero that will be 10 years from now. Ang katanungan ko, tayo po ba ay still competitive by then? Tatanggalan natin ng ibang insentibo doon sa kasalukuyan nilang nakukuha pero ang kanilang end goal ay makukuha pa nila after 10 years. So, ako ay nangangamba, G. I sponsor, na tayo ay mas mahihirapang makapag-imbiba ng mga investors dahil sa ganitong polisiya ng ating batas.

Halimbawa lang, lagyan natin ito ng comparison. Ang isang papasok sa—to avail of a BOI or a PEZA na sa loob ng limang taon ay mababawas iyong kanilang mga insentibong nakukuha samantalang iyong ninanais nilang at least 20 percent na kanilang corporate income tax na kapalit ay makukuha pa nila after 10 years, sa tingin po ba natin ito ay magiging maganda na offer para sa mga gustong pumasok sa ating bansa? Kaya nga po kanina ay tinatanong ko kung maaari po ba na maiklian itong ating pag-i-implement ng pagbawas ng ating corporate income tax sapagkat halos lahat ho ng ating katabing bansa, from Vietnam to Thailand, to Hong Kong, to Singapore, ay naibaba na po nila ang kanilang corporate income tax to 20 or less percent. Tayo, sa kasalukuyan, gusto nating gawing staggered—iyong 30 natin gawing 28, 26, 24, 22 up to 20 percent pero iyan ho ay sa loob ng 10 taon.

So, iyon po iyong aking pangamba, G. I sponsor, Mme. Speaker, na it will not make us competitive with our neighboring countries, kaya ho kailangan pag-isipan ho natin kung maaari natin mabago itong ating panukala na iklian ho natin ang 10 taon para ho maging competitive po tayo sa ating mga katabing bansa.

REP. CUA. Sang-ayon tayo, Mme. Speaker at Ginoong Kasama, na mas maganda nga po talaga kung mas mabilis ang pagbaba ng corporate income tax. Ang dahilan kung bakit may katagalan ito ay nais nating balansehin ito sa opinyon ng ating mga economic managers na kung masyadong mabilis, maaaring hindi makahabol ang gobyerno sa paglago ng pagkolekta nila ng ating mga revenues. Kung naunahan po natin kasi ng pagbaba ng ating koleksyon ang ating pagbaba ng tax rates, ay baka ang fiscal health ng ating bansa ay malalagay sa alanganin, at iyan po ang iniingat-ingatan natin dahil sa nakaraang mga buwan at taon, patuloy po ang pag-asenso ng ating credit rating na kinikilala ng iba't-ibang credit rating agencies sa buong mundo. Nakikita nila ang ating sound fiscal policy kaya pag tayo ay naa-upgrade, tayo po ay nagkakaroon ng access to better financing at mas murang pag-utang. Kapag mas mura ang utang natin o mas mahaba ang panahon

na puwede nating bayaran ito, lalong magiging mas masigla ang ating ekonomiya, magiging mas mura ang ating mga investment sa mga imprastruktura. So, iyon lang po. Bilang paliwanag, nais ko po talagang sabihin na sang-ayon ako na paiksiin ang panahon ngunit kailangan po nating hanapin iyong tamang balanse to maintain our fiscal health and good credit rating.

REP. TY. Naiintindihan ko po at ako naman ay sumasang-ayon dito sa batas na ito, subalit ang posisyon ho ng Representanteng ito ay nababagalan po siya doon sa pag-i-implement natin. Kaya po naman ako ay tumayo sa ngayon dahil nakikita ko iyong negatibong magiging epekto nito sa ating bansa, lalo na sa paghihikayat natin ng mga investors na gustong mag-invest sa ating bansa, iyong pagiging hindi natin competitive.

Tama po kayo na nangangamba tayo na baka hindi ho natin mahabol iyong pangangailangan ng ating pananalapi sa koleksiyon pero alam po naman natin mahabang panahon na ho natin itong pinag-uusapan at pinagdedebatehan na ito po ay responsibilidad po ng departments concerned, which are the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Bureau of Customs. Maraming pagkakataon na nakikita ho natin na hindi po sila nakaka-hit noong kanilang target at hindi ho sumasapat doon sa ating taun-taong pangangailangan sa ating budget. Kaya nga po, iyan pong pananaw ng G. I sponsor na nahahirapan ho na baka mahirapan tayong masingil o makuha iyong ating target collection ay problema ho iyan ng departamentong dapat nilang pagtrabahuan.

Ang sa akin lang, ang pangamba ko ay baka lalo ho tayong hindi makakuha ng sapat na koleksiyon dahil sa kakulangan ng mga namumuhunan sa ating bansa kung hindi ho tayo competitive. Tandaan po natin, at palagi ko pong naririnig sa ating magiting na Sponsor, na ang kanyang drive ay ang trabaho at oportunidad, at iyan po ang nakikita kong plataporma na kanyang ipaglalaman. Sa aking pananaw, ang House Bill No. 8083 ay maganda pero kailangan ho, kung maaari, ay mas mapaaga po iyong pagbibigay po natin ng pagbaba ng corporate income tax.

Maraming salamat po, Mme. Speaker at G. I sponsor.

REP. CUA. Maraming salamat po.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Thank you, Congressman Ty.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker, before we proceed to recognize the next interpellator, may we acknowledge the presence of the visitors and guests of the Hon. Jeffrey D. Khonghun: the Barangay Council

members and officials of Barangay Pag-asa, Olongapo City, Zambales; and the Barangay Council members and other officials of Barangay New Kababae, Olongapo City, Zambales.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Please rise. Welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. PIMENTEL. We would also like to acknowledge, Mme. Speaker, the presence of the guests of the Hon. Divina Grace C. Yu of the First District, Zamboanga del Sur, the Barangay Chairmen from Pagadian City: Hon. Bonifacio Boron Jr., Hon. Joel Babayson, Hon. Sencino Ruiz Jr., Hon. Charito Señedo, Hon. Teofisto Tauto-an, Hon. Nestor Cael Jr., and Hon. Antonio Rendon.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Please rise. Welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

REP. PIMENTEL. Likewise, we would like to acknowledge the presence of the guests of Rep. Gwendolyn F. Garcia of the Third District of Cebu: Mayor Lito Creus, Councilor Daisy Creus, Councilor Nestor Pimentel, Councilor Concesa Kho, Councilor Romil V. Alliera, Councilor Elizabeth Almeida, Councilor Cyril Sabac, Councilor Manolito Quiñanola, Municipal Assessor Emerita Anero, Municipal Engineer Jeffrey Kho, MENRO Eric Ybas, DRRM Officer Bernardita Rubin, and former ABC President Amalia Ejurango. They are also the guests of Rep. Peter John D. Calderon, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Please rise. Welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The session is suspended.

*It was 4:50 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 4:51 p.m., the session was resumed.*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The session is resumed.

REP. ATIENZA. Mme. Speaker.

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Majority Leader, we are discussing a very important matter, taxation and reduction of income tax of the corporate bodies, and I do not see enough Members on the floor seemingly interested as, maybe, they are not in favor and that is the reason for their absence. At this point, I am constrained to move for adjournment so that we will have more Members tomorrow to participate in this all-important discussion.

We move to adjourn.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we suspend the session for a few minutes.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The session is suspended.

*It was 4:52 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 4:56 p.m., the session was resumed.*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The session is resumed.

#### SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8083

REP. PIMENTEL. Mme. Speaker, I move that we suspend the deliberations on House Bill No. 8083. I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. DEFENSOR. Mme. Speaker, I move that we take up the Additional Reference of Business and for this purpose, that we direct our Secretary General to read the same.

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

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

## ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

*The Secretary General read the following Verified Impeachment Complaints and Resolution on First Reading, and the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding reference:*

## VERIFIED IMPEACHMENT COMPLAINTS

Verified Complaint for Impeachment against Supreme Court Associate Justice Teresita J. Leonardo-De Castro filed by Representatives Edcel C. Lagman, Teddy Brawner Baguilat, Jr. and Gary C. Alejano.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

Verified Complaint for Impeachment against Supreme Court Associate Justice Diosdado M. Peralta filed by Representatives Edcel C. Lagman, Teddy Brawner Baguilat, Jr. and Gary C. Alejano.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

Verified Complaint for Impeachment against Supreme Court Associate Justice Lucas P. Bersamin filed by Representatives Edcel C. Lagman, Teddy Brawner Baguilat, Jr. and Gary C. Alejano.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

Verified Complaint for Impeachment against Supreme Court Associate Justice Francis H. Jardeleza filed by Representatives Edcel C. Lagman, Teddy Brawner Baguilat, Jr. and Gary C. Alejano.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

Verified Complaint for Impeachment against Supreme Court Associate Justice Noel G. Tijam filed by Representatives Edcel C. Lagman, Teddy Brawner Baguilat, Jr. and Gary C. Alejano.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

Verified Complaint for Impeachment against Supreme Court Associate Justice Andres B. Reyes, Jr. filed by Representatives Edcel C. Lagman, Teddy Brawner Baguilat, Jr. and Gary C. Alejano.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

Verified Complaint for Impeachment against Supreme Court Associate Justice Alexander G. Gesmundo filed by Representatives Edcel C. Lagman, Teddy Brawner Baguilat, Jr. and Gary C. Alejano.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

## RESOLUTION

House Resolution No. 2104, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE

APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE LEGAL BASIS AND POSSIBLE EFFECTS OF THE SHIFT FROM AN OBLIGATION-BASED TO A CASH-BASED BUDGETING SYSTEM AS PROPOSED IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2019 NATIONAL BUDGET”

By Representative Andaya

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The Majority Leader is recognized.

## SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The session is suspended.

*It was 4:58 p.m.*

## RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 5:10 p.m., the session was resumed.*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The session is resumed.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ANDAYA. Mme. Speaker, may we request that we suspend the consideration of House Bill—I withdraw that, Mme. Speaker.

## REFERRAL OF H. RES. NO. 2104 ON AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION

REP. ANDAYA. Mme. Speaker, in accordance with our Rules Governing Inquiries in Aid of Legislation, I move that we refer House Resolution No. 2104 to the Committee on Rules.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. ANDAYA. Likewise, Mme. Speaker, we are in receipt of a communication from the Department of Justice certifying the Oath of Office and Certificate of Assumption of Duty of the Hon. Emmeline Aglipay-Villar as Undersecretary of the Department of Justice. Mme. Speaker, in view of the foregoing, I move that

DIWA Party-List Rep. Emmeline Aglipay-Villar be dropped from the roll of Members effective July 24, 2018.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

#### ELECTION OF REPS. ARENAS AND ESCUDERO AS DEPUTY SPEAKERS

REP. ANDAYA. Mme. Speaker, on the part of the Majority, we move to elect the following Members:

Rep. Rose Marie “Baby” J. Arenas vice Rep. Eric D. Singson as Deputy Speaker.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

Congratulations! (*Applause*)

REP. ANDAYA. Likewise, Mme. Speaker, I move that we elect Cong. Evelina G. Escudero vice Rep. Rolando G. Andaya Jr. as Deputy Speaker.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

Congratulations! (*Applause*)

#### ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO VARIOUS COMMITTEES

REP. ANDAYA. May I move for the election of the following Members to various Committees:

*The Majority Leader read the names of the House Members elected to the various Committees, per Journal No. 12, dated August 28, 2018.*

#### COMMITTEE ON INTER-PARLIAMENTARY RELATIONS AND DIPLOMACY

As Chairperson: Rep. Eric D. Singson vice Rep. Rose Marie “Baby” J. Arenas

#### COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS

As members:

Rep. Harlin Neil J. Abayon III vice Rep. Francis Gerald A. Abaya

Rep. Munir M. Arbison vice Rep. Rodrigo A. Abellanos

Rep. Ricardo “RJ” T. Belmonte Jr. vice Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte

Rep. Mark O. Go vice Rep. Ana Cristina Siquian Go

Rep. Imelda R. Marcos vice Rep. Emmanuel F. Madrona

Rep. Raymond Democrito C. Mendoza vice Rep. Evelyn P. Mellana

Rep. Corazon T. Nuñez-Malanyaon vice Rep. Makmod D. Mending Jr.

#### COMMITTEE ON AGRARIAN REFORM

As member:

Rep. Orestes T. Salon vice Rep. Mauyag “Jun” B. Papandayan Jr.

#### COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

As members:

Rep. Lorna C. Silverio vice Rep. Mauyag “Jun” B. Papandayan Jr.

Rep. Tricia Nicole Q. Velasco-Catera vice Rep. Reynaldo V. Umali

#### COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

As Vice-Chairpersons:

Rep. Ma. Lourdes R. Aggabao vice Rep. Paolo Everardo S. Javier

Rep. Carmelo “Jon” B. Lazatin II vice Rep. Scott Davies S. Lanete, M.D.

Rep. Carlo V. Lopez vice Rep. Ana Cristina Siquian Go

Rep. Shernee Abubakar Tan vice Rep. Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo

Rep. “Kuya” Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado vice Rep. Corazon T. Nuñez-Malanyaon

#### COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES

As members:

Rep. Bellaflor J. Angara-Castillo vice Rep. Henedina R. Abad

Rep. Milagrosa “Mila” T. Tan vice Rep. Mauyag “Jun” B. Papandayan Jr.

Rep. Tobias “Toby” M. Tiangco vice Rep. Aileen C. Radaza

#### COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

As Chairperson: Rep. Henry C. Ong vice Rep. Ben P. Evardone

As Vice-Chairperson: Rep. Pablo C. Ortega vice Rep. Henry C. Ong



As members:  
Rep. Bellaflor J. Angara-Castillo vice Rep. Rodolfo T. Albano III  
Rep. Cristal L. Bagatsing

## COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

As Chairperson: Rep. Ben P. Evardone vice Rep. Scott Davies S. Lanete, M.D.

COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION  
AND CULTURE

As members:  
Rep. France L. Castro vice Rep. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo  
Rep. Antonio L. Tinio vice Rep. Rodante D. Marcoleta

COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND  
PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

As members:  
Rep. Rodel M. Batocabe vice Rep. Jum J. Akbar  
Rep. Francis Gerald A. Abaya vice Rep. Harlin Neil J. Abayon III

## COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

As members:  
Rep. Michelle M. Antonio vice Rep. Emmeline Aglipay-Villar  
Rep. Rodel M. Batocabe vice Rep. Rodolfo T. Albano III  
Rep. Jesulito A. Manalo vice Rep. Lucy T. Gomez  
Rep. Suharto T. Mangudadatu vice Rep. Ruwel Peter S. Gonzaga  
Rep. Zajid G. Mangudadatu vice Rep. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo  
I so move, Mme. Speaker.

REP. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

## SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ANDAYA. I move to suspend the session, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The session is suspended.

*It was 5:16 p.m.*

## RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 5:17 p.m., the session was resumed.*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Garin, S.). The session is resumed.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

RECONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF  
H.B. NO. 6769 ON SECOND READING

REP. ANDAYA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we reconsider the approval of House Bill No. 6769 on Second Reading.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

## ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. ANDAYA. Mme. Speaker, I move to adjourn the session until 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 29, 2018.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The session is adjourned until 3:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 29, 2018.

*It was 5:17 p.m.*