



# Congressional Record

PLENARY PROCEEDINGS OF THE 17<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, THIRD REGULAR SESSION  
*House of Representatives*

Vol. 1

Tuesday, August 7, 2018

No. 8

## CALL TO ORDER

*At 3:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Fredenil "Fred" H. Castro called the session to order.*

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

## NATIONAL ANTHEM

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

*Everybody rose to sing the Philippine National Anthem.*

## PRAYER

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

*Everybody remained standing for the silent prayer.*

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

## SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

*It was 3:03 p.m.*

## RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 3:03 p.m., the session was resumed.*

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

## ROLL CALL

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mr. Speaker, I move that we call the roll of Members.

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

The Secretary General will please call the roll.

*The Secretary General called the roll, and the result is reflected in Journal No. 8, dated August 7, 2018.\**

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. The Speaker is present.

Mr. Speaker, the roll call shows that 214 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). With 214 Members responding to the call, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

## APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve the Journal of the previous session.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

## SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ANDAYA. May I request for a one-minute suspension of the session to allow the Secretary General to distribute copies of the minutes of the previous session.  
I so move.

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

\* See ANNEX (printed separately)

*It was 3:19 p.m.*

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 3:19 p.m., the session was resumed.*

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

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker.

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

RECONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we forego the approval of the Journal of the previous session as we wait for the final copy.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The 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, Communications, and Committee Reports, and the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding references:*

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 7980, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS AND EXPANDING THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO RT BROADCAST SPECIALIST PHIL. INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8126”

By Representatives Nograles (K.A.) and Nograles (J.J.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 7981, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING ALL BROADCAST MEDIA NETWORKS TO DEVOTE A TOTAL OF TWENTY (20) MINUTES OF REGULAR AIRTIME A DAY FOR PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS, FREE OF CHARGE, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF”

By Representative Barbers  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

House Bill No. 7982, entitled:

“AN ACT REFORMING THE CORPORATE INCOME TAX AND INCENTIVES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 5, 6, 20, 22, 25, 27, 28, 34, 40, 50, 73, 112, 119, 204, 220, 222, 237, 237-A, 250, 255, 256, 257, 258, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, AND 275 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, CREATING THEREIN NEW TITLES XII AND XIII, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Salceda  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 7983, entitled:

“AN ACT LOWERING THE OPTIONAL RETIREMENT AGE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS FROM SIXTY (60) YEARS OLD TO FIFTY-FIVE (55) YEARS OLD, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 13-A OF REPUBLIC ACT 8291, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘GOVERNMENT INSURANCE SYSTEM ACT OF 1997’ ”

By Representative Silverio  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 7984, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MAGNA CARTA FOR ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES PERSONNEL”

By Representative Romero  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 7985, entitled:

“AN ACT TO PROMOTE RURAL HEALTH BY PROVIDING FOR AN ACCELERATED PROGRAM FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A POTABLE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM IN EVERY BARANGAY IN THE COUNTRY WITHIN THREE YEARS”

By Representative Sy-Alvarado  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 7986, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EDUCATION COMMITTEE IN EVERY BARANGAY IN THE COUNTRY TO ENSURE THAT ALL SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN ENTER THE SCHOOL SYSTEM AT KINDERGARTEN AGE AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL UPON COMPLETION OF GRADE 10 AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

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

House Bill No. 7988, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A BRANCH OF THE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CABIAO, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA TO BE KNOWN AS THE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES (PUP)-CABIAO BRANCH, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Antonino  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 7989, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE NABITASAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN BARANGAY NABITASAN, DISTRICT OF LAPAZ, ILOILO CITY INTO AN INTEGRATED SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS THE NABITASAN INTEGRATED SCHOOL”

By Representative Treñas  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

#### RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 2038, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG) IN COORDINATION WITH THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), TO ALLOCATE FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF INDEPENDENT OFFICE/S FOR THE PNP-INTERNAL AFFAIRS SERVICE (IAS) IN EACH REGION THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Ortega (V.N.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

House Resolution No. 2039, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEES ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY AND GOOD GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO IMMEDIATELY CONDUCT A JOINT INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE SURREPTITIOUS APPOINTMENT OF THE NEW PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR OF ZAMBALES POLICE PROVINCIAL OFFICE WITHOUT THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE STRICTLY OBSERVING THE PROCEDURE ON SUCH APPOINTMENT AS PROVIDED UNDER SECTION 51 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6975 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE UNDER A REORGANIZED DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES’ ”

By Representative Deloso-Montalla  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2040, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE PROPER IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9335, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LATERAL ATTRITION ACT OF 2005, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF STRICTLY IMPLEMENTING THE SAID ACT IN ORDER TO OPTIMIZE THE REVENUE GENERATION CAPABILITY AND THE COLLECTION OF THE BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE (BIR) AND THE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS (BOC) BY PROVIDING A SYSTEM OF REWARDS AND INCENTIVES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENCOURAGING THEIR OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES TO EXCEED THEIR REVENUE TARGETS”

By Representatives Suansing (H.) and Suansing (E.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2041, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS, TO CONDUCT A JOINT INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE JUNE 14, 2018-VIOLENT DISPERSAL AND ILLEGAL ARREST OF WORKERS UNDER THE NAGKAKAISANG MANGGAGAWA NG NUTRIASIA INC. (NMAI) BY

ELEMENTS OF MARILAO PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE, BULACAN UNDER THE COMMAND OF CHIEF OF POLICE SUPERINTENDENT RICARDO PANGAN”

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

House Resolution No. 2042, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ILLEGAL LABOR PRACTICES OF SLOD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, MAKERS OF UNIPAK SARDINES IN VIOLATION OF THE LABOR CODE, DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE) DEPARTMENT ORDER NO. 174 AND PRESIDENT RODRIGO DUTERTE’S EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 51”

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

House Resolution No. 2043, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEES ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE PRACTICE OF PEARL ISLAND COMMERCIAL CORP. OF CONTRACTING OUT PART OF ITS OPERATION RESULTING TO THE ILLEGAL DISMISSAL OF ITS REGULAR WORKERS IN VIOLATION OF DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE) DEPARTMENT ORDER NO. 174 AND PRESIDENT RODRIGO DUTERTE’S EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 51”

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

House Resolution No. 2044, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE APRIL 21, 2018 - KILLING OF FIFTEEN YEAR-OLD JHUN MARK ACTO, BY MEMBERS OF THE 39TH INFANTRY BATTALION OF THE PHILIPPINE ARMY (IBPA) AND 2ND SCOUT RANGER BATTALION IN BRGY. ASTORGA, STA. CRUZ TOWN, DAVAO DEL SUR”

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

House Resolution No. 2045, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE MAY 26, 2018 - EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLING OF BEVERLY GERONIMO, MEMBER OF TABING GUANGAN FARMERS ASSOCIATION (TAGUAFA) AND PARENT-TEACHERS’ COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (PTCA) OF THE MINDANAO INTERFAITH SERVICES FOUNDATION INC. (MISFI) ACADEMY, BY SUSPECTED AGENTS OF THE 25TH INFANTRY BATTALION OF THE PHILIPPINE ARMY (IBPA) IN BRGY. SALVACION, TRENTO, AGUSAN DEL SUR”

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

House Resolution No. 2046, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BASES CONVERSION TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE FREQUENT FLOODING IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF DINALUPIHAN, BATAAN POSSIBLY CAUSED BY THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SUBIC-CLARK-TARLAC EXPRESSWAY (SCTEx)”

By Representative Roman  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2047, entitled:

“RESOLUTION ENTERING INTO THE RECORDS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THE PROCEEDINGS OF JULY 24, 2018, ON THE DUE RATIFICATION OF THE BICAMERAL CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE DISAGREEING PROVISIONS OF HOUSE BILL NO. 6475 AND SENATE BILL NO. 1717”

By Representatives Fariñas, Papandayan, Sahali, Bondoc, De Vera, Acop, Defensor, Sangcopan, Pimentel, Mercado, Gomez, Ty, Radaza, Gonzaga, Del Rosario and Andaya  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2048, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO HOW THE OVERSEAS WORKERS

WELFARE ADMINISTRATION (OWWA) REINTEGRATION FUNDS ARE BEING SPENT, AND WHERE OR WHAT PROGRAMS SUCH FUNDS HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED TO - FROM THE TIME REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10801, OR THE OWWA ACT, HAS BEEN ENACTED INTO LAW”

By Representative Manalo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2049, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING IN THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE TERMS THE BOMB ATTACK AT A VAN AT AN ARMY CHECKPOINT IN LAMITAN CITY, BASILAN ON JULY 31, 2018 KILLING ELEVEN PEOPLE INCLUDING A ONE-YEAR OLD CHILD AND URGING THE GOVERNMENT TO BRING TO JUSTICE THE PERPETRATORS OF SUCH DASTARDLY ACT”

By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

House Resolution No. 2050, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT A REVIEW OF THE LIMITATIONS OF THE EXERCISE OF POLICE POWER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991, IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE PROLIFERATION OF LOCAL ORDINANCES CREATED UNDER THE GENERAL WELFARE CLAUSE THAT ARE INCONSISTENT WITH NATIONAL POLICY AND DULY ENACTED NATIONAL LAWS, WHICH ULTIMATELY CAUSES CONFUSION, DISCORD AND CONFLICT IN OUR GENERAL SYSTEM OF LAWS”

By Representative Rodriguez (M.)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2051, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING THE PEOPLE’S CHAMP AND FIGHTING SENATOR MANNY ‘PACMAN’ PACQUIAO FOR SNATCHING THE WORLD BOXING ASSOCIATION (WBA) WELTERWEIGHT TITLE FROM ARGENTINIAN BOXER LUCAS MATTHYSSE IN A CONVINCING 7TH ROUND KNOCKOUT AT THE AXIATA ARENA, KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA ON JULY 15, 2018”

By Representatives Pineda, Romero, Belmonte (R.), Salo, Villarín, Bertiz, Montoro, Belaro, Lacson, Uybarreta, Salon, Lopez (M.L.), Tambunting, Estrella and Lanete  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2052, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE REPORTED COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10912 OR THE CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2016 AND ITS IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS (IRR) AND OTHER OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES”

By Representative Belaro  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2053, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMISSION ON AUDIT TO CREATE A UTILITIES AUDIT OFFICE EMPOWERED TO AUDIT THE RATE-SETTING PROCESSES AND RATES CHARGED TO THE FILIPINO CONSUMER BY WATER, ELECTRICITY, AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS UTILITIES AND CONCESSIONAIRES”

By Representative Herrera-Dy  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Resolution No. 2054, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO STOP AND PROHIBIT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF INITIAL COIN OFFERINGS (ICO) AND OTHER SIMILAR UNREGULATED INVESTMENT SCHEMES, TO CREATE AND ESTABLISH THE PROPER REGULATORY PROCEDURES, TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF THE INVESTING PUBLIC”

By Representative Romero  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Resolution No. 2056, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE POSITION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT WHEN CONGRESS CONVENE AS A CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY TO PROPOSE AMENDMENTS TO, OR REVISION OF THE CONSTITUTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 1, PARAGRAPH 1 OF ARTICLE XVII OF

THE 1987 CONSTITUTION, THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SHALL VOTE SEPARATELY”

By Representatives Macapagal-Arroyo, Andaya, Veloso, Yap (A.) and Garbin  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

#### COMMUNICATIONS

Letter dated June 29, 2018 of Rommel J. Isip, Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Executive Director, Early Childhood Care and Development Council, submitting the 2017 Annual Report of the Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) Council.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

Letter dated July 4, 2018 of Jay Daniel R. Santiago, General Manager, Philippine Ports Authority, submitting the Matrix of Accomplishment Report of the Philippine Ports Authority for the 2nd Quarter of CY 2018.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Letter dated July 5, 2018 of Rowena P. Jamito, Chief, Maintenance Division, Regional Office XI, Department of Public Works and Highways, furnishing the House of Representatives with the Monthly Progress Status Report for the month of June 2018, of projects implemented by their office within the First Legislative District of Davao del Norte.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

Letter dated 5 July 2018 of Atty. Jose Jobel V. Belarmino, OIC, Deputy Administrator for Administrative, Finance and AFCSD, Light Rail Transit Authority (LRTA), submitting their Report of Utilization of Operating Subsidy to the LRTA for the 2nd Quarter of CY 2018.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated 5 July 2018 of Ernesto M. Pernia, Secretary of Socio-Economic Planning, submitting the 2017 Accomplishment Report of the Legislative-Executive Development Advisory Council (LEDAC).

TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Letter dated July 6, 2018 of Sec. Adelino B. Sitoy, Presidential Adviser on Legislative Affairs and Head, PLLO, submitting the details on

Appropriations, Obligations and Disbursements for the month ending May 31, 2018, pursuant to Section 95 of Republic Act No. 10964.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated July 6, 2018 of Sec. Adelino B. Sitoy, Presidential Adviser on Legislative Affairs and Head, PLLO, submitting the details on Appropriations, Obligations and Disbursements for the quarter ending June 30, 2018, pursuant to Section 95 of Republic Act No. 10964.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated 9 July 2018 of Atty. Joseph Melvin B. Basas, Director IV, Finance, Planning and Management Office, Philippine Competition Commission (PCC), submitting the PCC Agency Action Plan and Status of Implementation (AAPSI) for the observations and recommendations in the Annual Audit Report for Calendar Year 2017.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated 10 July 2018 of Carlito G. Galvez Jr., Chief of Staff, Armed Forces of the Philippines, submitting the Monthly Report on the implementation of Martial Law in Mindanao covering the period of June 1 to 30, 2018.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

Letters dated 19 July 2018 of Jose R. Fajardo, Acting Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel and Legal Services, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), furnishing the House of Representatives with duly certified and authenticated BSP issuances, to wit:

1. Circular Letter No. CL-2018-048 dated 29 June 2018;
2. Circular Letter No. CL-2018-049 dated 10 July 2018;
3. Memorandum No. M-2018-021 dated 12 July 2018;
4. Circular Letter No. CL-2018-050 dated 12 July 2018;
5. Circular Letter No. CL-2018-051 dated 12 July 2018;
6. Circular Letter No. CL-2018-052 dated 12 July 2018; and
7. Circular Letter No. CL-2018-053 dated 12 July 2018.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

Letters dated 23 July 2018 of Jose R. Fajardo, Acting Deputy General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel and Legal Services, Bangko Sentral

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

1. Circular Letter No. CL-2018-054 dated 17 July 2018; and
2. Circular Letter No. CL-2018-055 dated 17 July 2018.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

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

1. House Bill No. 927, entitled:  
"AN ACT CONVERTING THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) LICENSING CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF KAWIT, PROVINCE OF CAVITE INTO A REGULAR LICENSING CENTER TO BE KNOWN AS THE LTO CAVITE LICENSING CENTER OF KAWIT, CAVITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR";
2. House Bill No. 3169, entitled:  
"AN ACT CONVERTING THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) LICENSING CENTER IN THE CITY OF BATANGAS, PROVINCE OF BATANGAS INTO A REGULAR LICENSING CENTER TO BE KNOWN AS THE BATANGAS CITY LICENSING CENTER OF BATANGAS CITY, BATANGAS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR";
3. House Bill No. 3986, entitled:  
"AN ACT CONVERTING THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BALAYAN, PROVINCE OF BATANGAS INTO A REGULAR LTO DISTRICT OFFICE TO BE KNOWN AS THE LTO DISTRICT OFFICE OF BALAYAN, BATANGAS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR";
4. House Bill No. 4166, entitled:  
"AN ACT CONVERTING THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) LICENSING CENTER IN THE CITY OF SAN PABLO, PROVINCE OF LAGUNA INTO A REGULAR LICENSING CENTER TO BE KNOWN AS THE SAN PABLO CITY LTO LICENSING CENTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR";
5. House Bill No. 4946, entitled:  
"AN ACT RENAMING PANGLAO ISLAND CIRCUMFERENTIAL ROAD TRAVERSING

BARANGAYS TANGNAN, BIL-ISAN, LOOC, POBLACION, DANA O, TAWALA, BOLOD AND LIBAONG IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PANGLAO AND BARANGAYS TOTOLAN, SONGCULAN, TABALONG, BINGAG, DAO, SAN ISIDRO, BIKING 1, BIKING 2, CATARMAN, MAYACABAC, POBLACION AND UNION IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF DAUIS, AS ANOS FONACIER CIRCUMFERENTIAL ROAD (DAUIS-PANGLAO)";

6. House Bill No. 6602, entitled:  
"AN ACT SEPARATING THE HERACLEO CASCO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ANNEX IN BARANGAY SAN ISIDRO, MUNICIPALITY OF STA. MARIA, PROVINCE OF DAVAO OCCIDENTAL FROM THE HERACLEO CASCO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS PEDRO MARISCAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR";
7. House Bill No. 6917, entitled:  
"AN ACT CONVERTING THE MAMAGUM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN BARANGAY MAMAGUM, MUNICIPALITY OF SULTAN NAGA DIMAPORO, PROVINCE OF LANA O DEL NORTE INTO AN INTEGRATED SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS MAMAGUM INTEGRATED SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR";
8. House Bill No. 6918, entitled:  
"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY PAN-AY DAKO, MUNICIPALITY OF CLARIN, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL TO BE KNOWN AS FELINASE VILLAO AMINAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR";
9. House Bill No. 6919, entitled:  
"AN ACT CONVERTING THE MABUHAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN BARANGAY MABUHAY, MUNICIPALITY OF SULTAN NAGA DIMAPORO, PROVINCE OF LANA O DEL NORTE INTO AN INTEGRATED SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS MABUHAY INTEGRATED SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR";
10. House Bill No. 6920, entitled:  
"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY BIGNAY, VALENZUELA CITY TO BE KNOWN AS DISIPLINA VILLAGE-BIGNAY NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR";

11. House Bill No. 6921, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY TIBLAC, MUNICIPALITY OF AMBAGUIO, PROVINCE OF NUEVA VIZCAYA TO BE KNOWN AS TIBLAC NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”; and

12. House Bill No. 6971, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY 184, ZONE 19, MARICABAN, PASAY CITY TO BE KNOWN AS PRESIDENT CORAZON ‘CORY’ C. AQUINO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report by the Committee on Social Services and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 808), re H.B. No. 8014, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MANDATORY PHILHEALTH COVERAGE OF ALL PERSONS WITH DISABILITY (PWD), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7277, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘MAGNA CARTA FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITY’ ”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 209, 524, 591, 656, 1831, 2173, 2513, 2546, 2738, 3490, 5579, 5705, 6108 and 6284

Sponsors: Representatives Eriguel, Violago, Garbin, Batocabe, Co, Velarde, Treñas, Vargas, Santos-Recto, Roa-Puno, Pineda, Romero, Tupas, Tan (A.), Bagatsing, Castelo, Villafuerte, Velasco-Catera and Nograles (K.A.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Local Government (Committee Report No. 809), re H.B. No. 8055, entitled:

“AN ACT DIVIDING THE PROVINCE OF PALAWAN INTO THREE (3) PROVINCES, NAMELY: PALAWAN DEL NORTE, PALAWAN ORIENTAL, AND PALAWAN DEL SUR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 7413

Sponsors: Representatives Acharon and Alvarez (F.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Basic Education and

Culture (Committee Report No. 810), re H.R. No. 2055, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT RODRIGO R. DUTERTE TO INVITE REGIONAL AND NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS TO A CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY IN PREPARATION FOR THE COMMEMORATION OF THE QUINCENTENNIAL ARRIVAL OF FERDINAND MAGELLAN IN THE PHILIPPINES”

recommending its adoption in substitution of House Resolution No. 1232

Sponsors: Representatives Durano and Gomez  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker, before we go to the Unfinished Business, with leave of the House, we would like to move that we tackle administrative matters.

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

REP. ANDAYA. First, Mr. Speaker, we would like to acknowledge the presence of the guests, the beneficiaries of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program, from the legislative district of Tondo, Manila who are here today to observe the plenary deliberations. They are Ms. Erlinda Agnasin, Tarcilla Alonte, Betty Amen, Cristita Arcilla, Anjale Awayan, Victoria Babon, Rodelyn Botalon, Nida Carillo, Sheryl Castor, Violeta Cruz, Josephine Frango, Marites Lucinacio, Rosalie Marco, Milagros Noble, Vilma Roldan, Ma. Victoria Sanico, Alex Talento and Soledad Tapiador. All of them are guests of Cong. Manuel Luis T. Lopez, Representative, First District, City of Manila.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The guests of Cong. Manuel Luis T. Lopez will please rise. (*Applause*) Welcome to the House of Representatives.

REP. ANDAYA. Likewise, we would like to acknowledge the presence of guests from 25 Barangay Councils, the Purok Leaders and other officials of Barangay Linasin, San Marcelino, Zambales as follows: Punong Barangay Gerald Cababaro; Kagawads Mila del Rosario, Ferdinand Resumadero, Ramon Fredeluces, Johnny Inocencio, Lareto de Guzman, Danny Resumadero, and George Cosme; SK Chairperson Florence Cobardo; Barangay Treasurer Arjay Rebayno; Barangay Secretary Angelo



Resumadero; Purok Leaders Oscar Padilla, Dionisia Monje, Richard Quemquem, Shiela Grace Obre, Priscila Gesalan and Marilou Cosme; PESO Coordinator Analyn Payumo; day care workers Brenda Baylon, and Ofelia Antonio; Administrative Asst. Romulo Cababaro; and VAWC Erica Grande. They are the guests of Cong. Jeffrey D. Khonghun, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### ELECTION OF REP. LEACHON AS CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

REP. ANDAYA. Likewise, Mr. Speaker, the Office of the Speaker is in receipt of a letter from Cong. Reynaldo V. Umali expressing his intention to join the Minority and in turn, vacating his position as Chairman of the Committee on Justice. So, at this point in time, on behalf of the Majority, we would like to elect Cong. Doy C. Leachon as Chairman of the Committee on Justice.

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

#### ELECTION OF REP. ENERIO CERILLES TO THE COMMISSION ON APPOINTMENTS

REP. ANDAYA. Likewise, Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the Majority, for the proportionate share of the Nacionalista Party in the Commission on Appointments, may we elect Cong. Aurora Enerio Cerilles vice Cong. Rodolfo T. Albano III.

I so move.

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

REP. ANDAYA. Likewise, Mr. Speaker, at this point in time, to finally resolve the issue on the Minority leadership, I would like to move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate as regards the privilege speech of the Hon. Romero "Miro" S. Quimbo and proceed to divide the House on his objection in recognizing Cong. Danilo E. Suarez as the Minority Leader.

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

REP. ERICE. Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ERICE. Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. We now proceed...

REP. ERICE. Objection, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. ... to the voting, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ERICE. Objection.

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

REP. DAZA. Objection, objection, objection. Does the Chair not hear that there is an objection to the motion? Objection.

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker, we are in the process of voting and there can be no disturbance of that process. So, may we ask that the Speaker proceed with the *ayes* and *nays* on the issue at hand.

REP. DAZA. I concur...

#### VIVA VOCE VOTING ON THE RECOGNITION OF REP. SUAREZ AS MINORITY LEADER

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor...

REP. DAZA. I concur with the Majority Leader. There should be...

REP. ANDAYA. Please proceed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). ... of Congressman Suarez to be recognized as the Minority Leader, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

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

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ANDAYA. May we have one-minute suspension of the session, Mr. Speaker.

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

*It was 3:29 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 3:37 p.m., the session was resumed.*

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

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker, at this point in time, may we acknowledge the presence of Atty. Eusebio Lee, Mr. Rock Rubio and Mr. Jerry Tan, guests of Cong. Manuel T. Sagarbarria.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The guests of Congressman Sagarbarria will please rise. (*Applause*)

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Welcome to the House of Representatives. The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. FARIÑAS. Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize Cong. Rodolfo C. Fariñas.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Congressman from Ilocos Norte, Rep. Rodolfo “Rudy” C. Fariñas, is recognized.

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

We just voted on a motion of the Majority Leader by *ayes* and *nays*. May I know how my vote was recorded, Mr. Speaker?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The vote was simply *viva voce*.

REP. FARIÑAS. So, how was my vote recorded? We did not have a division of the House, but a *viva voce*. So, may I state, Mr. Speaker, that I am against, that my vote is against because I maintain that the Hon. Danny Suarez—I just congratulated for any reason, whatsoever—but I am against the position that he is the Minority Leader. So, may it be recorded that I am against or that I voted against the motion.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The manifestation of the distinguished Congressman Fariñas from Ilocos Norte is noted.

REP. LAGMAN. Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. QUIMBO. Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker, let us recognize now Cong. Edcel C. Lagman, please.

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

REP. LAGMAN. Likewise, Mr. Speaker, may I know how my vote was recorded?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The voting was by *viva voce*.

REP. LAGMAN. Well, if there was a recording of votes, my vote should have been an abstention. The recognition of the Minority Leader is not subject to the approval or disapproval of the Plenary. It is composed overwhelmingly of the Majority members, the Minority members, and the Independents.

Under our rules, the Majority Leader should be voted upon by the members of the Majority, and the Minority Leader likewise should be voted upon by members of the Minority. It is never subject to the approval or disapproval of the Plenary, which is a mixed composition.

What we have done was a violation of the rules, Mr. Speaker. I would like to put that on record.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Does the Majority Leader desire to react on the statement of Congressman Lagman?

REP. ANDAYA. Negative, Mr. Speaker. At this point in time, may we recognize Cong. Romero “Miro” S. Quimbo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The manifestation of Congressman Lagman is noted. Congressman Quimbo is recognized.

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

While the motion earlier had already been acted upon, and for the very reasons stated by Cong. Edcel Lagman, this Representation would like to put on record

our continuing objection to the recognition of Cong. Danilo E. Suarez as the Minority Leader simply for being illegal, not in due course and at the same time, an indirect violation of the Supreme Court decision enunciated on July 25, 2017 in the case of *Baguilat vs. Alvarez*. I submit this continuing objection, and that this cloud hanging over all proceedings of the House will continue, and that we will take the necessary recourse where it is needed so as to bring order to this House. We are the same in wanting that everything that we do here is devoid of any legal question. What we witnessed today not only created a legal question, but in fact cemented it. It is regrettable, and let our continuing objection be put on record.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ERICE. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Will the Majority Leader react to the statement of Congressman Quimbo?

REP. ANDAYA. Yes, my reaction is, may we now recognize Congressman Erice for his manifestation.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Cong. Edgar R. Erice is recognized. Before that, the statement of Congressman Quimbo is noted.

Congressman Erice will please proceed.

REP. ERICE. Mr. Speaker, may I speak on a matter of personal and collective privilege. I was supposed to be the last interpellator yesterday, but I was asked to postpone my interpellation until today. Unfortunately, the period of sponsorship and debate was closed and so, may I now ask the favor to deliver a personal and collective privilege, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ANDAYA. Before the Gentleman, Congressman Erice, delivers his speech, may we allow other Members who wish to make a manifestation with regard to the votation, because if we digress now to his question of privilege, all other Members will be prevented from raising the point or the issue which we just had in the recently concluded election.

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

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker, may we now recognize Cong. Eugene Michael B. De Vera.

REP. DE VERA. Mr. Speaker, may I be recognized. Mr. Speaker, may I proceed.

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

#### MANIFESTATION OF REP. DE VERA

REP. DE VERA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Majority Leader.

I object to the election or the recognition of the Hon. Danny Suarez as the Minority Leader. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, the Preamble of our rules is very clear and it is in the last sentence therein that we should faithfully obey these rules. Do you think, by having the Honorable Suarez recognized as the Minority Leader, we have faithfully obeyed the rules? My answer is in the negative, Mr. Speaker, because by looking plainly and simply at Section 8 under Rule II of our rules, it is very clear that it governs membership. If you look at Rule III of our rules, it is very clear that it governs the officers or how we would deal with the officers of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, it is with a sad heart that I have to disagree because I find the Honorable Suarez to be a very good leader during my stint in the House as a member of the Minority under his leadership. But again, rules are rules and under the Preamble, we, the Members of the House of Representatives, undertake to faithfully abide by or obey our rules. So, Mr. Speaker, I respectfully manifest and politely address this august Body that I really object to the recognition of the Hon. Danny Suarez as our Minority Leader.

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

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

REP. ANDAYA. I move that we now recognize Cong. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr., Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Before I recognize Congressman Bordado, the Chair takes note of the manifestation of Congressman De Vera. Congressman Bordado is recognized.

#### MANIFESTATION OF REP. BORDADO

REP. BORDADO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I object to the recognition of Congressman Suarez as the Minority Leader.

Mr. Speaker, for the past five days or so, I have been listening intently to the steady and at times, torrid exchange of erudite ideas on who should be the legitimate Minority in the House. Still, Mr. Speaker,

the position taken by the highly articulate and intelligent Representative from Marikina City, the Hon. Miro Quimbo, stands out for its sheer logic and lucidity. Mr. Speaker, let me reiterate a portion of what the Honorable Quimbo said, and I quote:

We make reference to Rule II, Section 8 of the Rules of the House of Representatives and the Supreme Court decision G.R. No. 227757, promulgated on July 25, 2017, which states that: (a) all those who voted for the winning Speaker shall belong to the Majority and those who voted for other candidates shall belong to the Minority; (b) those who abstained from voting shall likewise be considered part of the Minority; and (c) the Minority Leader shall be elected by the members of the Minority.

Mr. Speaker, no amount of Olympic record-setting verbal gymnastics can obliterate this very clear pronouncement not just from Honorable Quimbo, but also from the Supreme Court.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The manifestation of Congressman Bordado is noted.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ANDAYA. Before we recognize Congressman Casilao, the last Member who will raise a manifestation, may we ask that we recognize, once again, Congressman De Vera, for 30 seconds.

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

REP. DE VERA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Majority Leader.

Just for a 30-second statement, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor. I would just like to manifest before this august Body that in the morning of August 2, in my office, I was elected unanimously as the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives by the following Members: Congressmen Pantaleon “Bebot” D. Alvarez, Rodolfo C. Fariñas, Rodolfo T. Albano III, Congresswoman Lucy Torres-Gomez, Congressmen Arnel U. Ty, Juan Pablo “Rimpy” P. Bondoc, Congresswoman Aileen C. Radaza, Congressmen Reynaldo V. Umali, Roger G. Mercado, Manuel Monsour T. Del Rosario III, Mauyag “Jun” B. Papandayan Jr. and Ruwel Peter S. Gonzaga.

Mr. Speaker, Majority Leader, I just want this eventuality to be entered into the records of the House.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As prayed for by Congressman De Vera, his manifestation is noted.

REP. ANDAYA. May we now recognize Cong. Ariel “Ka Ayik” B. Casilao for his manifestation, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### MANIFESTATION OF REP. CASILAO

REP. CASILAO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Let it be put on record, since the votation on the motion was made through *viva voce*, that it be recorded that the vote of the Makabayan bloc, the seven of us in the Makabayan bloc and not only this Representation, is on the negative. This is the first time in the history of Congress that the Plenary, all Members, if not all, the majority of all Members present, decided who is the Minority Leader. Ito po ay salungat sa binuo nating rules na inaprobahan natin noong unang Monday ng July 2016. This is not the rules— the intention and interpretation of the rules.

Mr. Speaker, tila бага patunay ito na ginagamit na ninyo, ng mayoryang ito, ang tiraniya ng numero kahit na baluktutin, at naging baluktot ang resulta nito, ang ating rules.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The manifestation of Congressman Casilao is noted.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ANDAYA. Okay. Mr. Speaker, at this point in time, we would like to recognize Congressman Edgar “Egay” R. Erice.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Gentleman from Caloocan City, Congressman Erice, is hereby recognized.

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

Distinguished colleagues, I was supposed to interpellate the Sr. Dep. Majority Leader yesterday but I was asked to postpone it until today. However, may I ask the Chair that I be allowed to deliver a personal and collective privilege regarding the Minority leadership issue.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Congressman Erice is recognized on a matter of personal and collective privilege.

## QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE OF REP. ERICE

REP. ERICE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker,

Yesterday, on the personal and collective privilege delivered by the Sr. Dep. Majority Leader, he explained that he was very much concerned about media reports which affect the integrity and credibility of this honorable Chamber as far as the Minority leadership dispute was concerned. I would like to assure not just our Sr. Dep. Majority Leader, but the rest of our colleagues that I share the same concern as we are all in the same House. Whether in the Majority or in the Opposition or Minority, it is very important that we value the image, the credibility and the integrity of the House of Representatives.

Today, I will not belabor you with questions, explanations and clarifications regarding House rules as yesterday, our brilliant colleagues had already explained several rules in our House rules pertaining to the Majority and the Minority membership and leadership. I also believe that the House rules are not so indispensable since that is just our creation to help us conduct our business orderly, but in case of conflict, what is most important is that we do our job of coming up with legislation that will help our people and progress our beloved country.

For a legislation to be qualitative, a dedicated, credible and responsible opposition or Minority is necessary. The primary task and responsibility of the Minority or the opposition is to provide a no-nonsense and credible checks and balances. We can only protect the image of this House if we can maintain a credible Minority and a pro-active Majority. Our rules can be changed or relaxed anytime if necessary, but quality legislation is essential to maintain the integrity of this House, and so, Mr. Speaker, checks and balances is an integral part of legislation.

I would like to quote, gusto ko pong basahin ang isang talata na binanggit ng isa sa mga hinahangaan kong naging Pangulo ng ating bansa, si Pres. Diosdado Macapagal:

In our action, we should not be guided only by what is legal. We must go beyond legality into the demands of morality. Our acts must not only be legal but must be moral as well.

At this point, my dear colleagues, para po sa ating mas malalim na pagkakaunawa sa moralidad ng ating pinag-uusapan, nais ko pong ipakita sa inyo ang isang maiksing video.

Salamat po.

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ANDAYA. Unfortunately, the video to be

presented has not been cleared through the proper procedure and we cannot show the video at this point in time, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ERICE. Mr. Speaker, I submitted the video yesterday and I was told that it was approved.

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

REP. ANDAYA. It was not submitted to me, Mr. Speaker, and I have not fully reviewed the same.

REP. ERICE. Okay.

REP. ANDAYA. That is the situation, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). In view of the manifestation of the Majority Leader, the video could not be shown today.

REP. ERICE. Okay, I will just explain it in my own words.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Congressman Erice will please proceed.

REP. ERICE. The Hon. Danilo Suarez and I were invited to a CNN program about a week ago regarding the issue of the Minority leadership. He was interviewed first. I will just explain the portion where I have a video clip.

Tinanong po ang ating kagalang-galang na kasamang Danny Suarez, at ang pagkakatanong po sa kanya, "How can you claim that you are the Minority when you are just 14, while the Liberal-led Minority group has more than 20?" His reply, "There are already 32 Members of this House that are applying to be members of the Minority." Another question was asked, "Why is that so? Why not apply to the Majority? Why to the Minority?" The reply of Congressman Suarez was simple, "Because they know that the Minority Leader is close to the Speaker."

Iyong mismong Minority Leader ang umamin na kaya maraming gusto sumama sa Minority ay dahil malapit siya sa Speaker. So, how can you expect a Minority Leader so close to the Speaker to deliver checks and balances in this House? Bakit hindi sa Majority? Mas maraming posisyon sa Majority. Nandiyan ang napakaraming komite. Ang Minority, halos wala. Bakit kailangan? The reply again of Mr. Suarez was simple, "Because I want to leave a legacy. I want to retire from this Congress as Minority Leader."

Ms. Pinky Webb even replied that, "Isn't that too personal to be a reason?" Mr. Suarez added, "Ayokong

alisan iyong aking opisina kasi ginastusan ko iyan.” Ang sagot ni Ms. Pinky Webb, “Hindi ba selfish iyong ganyang reason?”

Mr. Speaker, how can we maintain the credibility of this House kung ganyan ang mga kadahilanan kung bakit tayo maghahalal ng Minority Leader? Iyan po ang dahilan kung bakit iyong Majority ngayon na-affirm nila iyong pagkakahalal ng ating Minority Leader. Subalit, huwag tayong malungkot sapagkat kami na mga tunay na Minorya, may posisyon man o wala, kahit tanggalin ang mga silya namin diyan, mananatili kaming magprovide ng check and balance sa Kongresong ito. We will never be compromised. Ako mismo, naranasan ko iyan, at alam ninyo iyan, na wala akong budget noong 2018 pero kaya ako sumama ay para magkaroon ng pagbabago dito sa Mababang Kapulungan dahil sa pagtatanggal ng mga budget ng Congressmen na gusto lamang magpahayag ng kanilang independence.

Mr. Speaker, my dear colleagues, we will remain as the Minority kahit na wala po kaming mga komite, kahit wala kaming mga pribilehiyo, sapagkat iyan po ang aming tungkulin at sa palagay ko po, iyong mga ginagawa namin, ito ang magbibigay ng kredibilidad at integridad sa Mababang Kapulungan.

Maraming salamat po.

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

REP. ANDAYA. May we request that Cong. Danilo E. Suarez be recognized.

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

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

Tama po iyong sinabi ni Congressman Erice pero noong sinabi ko po iyon kay Pinky, tapos na po iyong interview. Hindi na ho naka record iyon at personal po kaming nagbibiruan. That was off the record at sinabi ko po naman talaga sa kanya, “Pumunta ka sa office ko, tingnan mo kung ano iyong ipinagawa ko. I am proud of that. Ganito ko ho kamahal ang Kongreso. Kung wala na ako, iyong mag-oopisina dito will always remember me.” Walang malisya ho at gusto ko lang matulungan itong minamahal nating Kongreso. Ano ho ang diperensiya doon?

Ngayon, iyong sinabi po ninyo na ang Speaker, ang Majority at ako, Sir, Congressman Erice, ang Minority po, 80 porsiyento po ng trabaho ng Minority ay bantayan ang ginagawa ng Executive Department. Noong ako po ang Minority Leader at Chairperson ng Committee on Oversight, ang Kongreso po ay on-break pero tuloy-tuloy po ang hearing ng aking Committee at ng aking mga kasamahan because we must see

to it that the expenditures of this government were properly accounted for and that is what we are going to do in the next 2019 budget hearing. Kaya kung ang samahan po natin dito ay, between the leadership and the Minority, we will be questioned just because of the camaraderie, I repeat—and I will sound like a broken record— ang Minority, since the time I assumed office, is constructive, hindi po kami destructive. With this remaining session in the Seventeenth Congress, halos tatlong buwan na lang ho tayong magtatrabaho kaya bakit pa ho tayo mag-aaway-away e napakarami hong importanteng issue na dapat nating gampanan?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Your Honor.

REP. ERICE. Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker, there being no other interpellator...

REP. ERICE. Mr. Speaker, just for clarification because Congressman Suarez told us that the interview was not live, it was live and I have the records. It was even in CNN YouTube. You can watch it in CNN YouTube.

Thank you.

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

REP. ANDAYA. There being no other interpellator— we have one last interpellator, Mr. Speaker. At this point, I move to recognize the Hon. Rodante D. Marcoleta.

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

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to know if the Honorable Erice is in a position to take some clarificatory questions.

REP. ERICE. Gladly, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Before you proceed, we will hear first the Majority Leader. The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ANDAYA. Yes, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Congressman Marcoleta manifested his desire to interpellate Congressman Erice. What is the position of the Majority Leader?

REP. ANDAYA. One last interpellator, Mr. Speaker, in the person of Congressman Marcoleta, and then we will terminate the interpellation on the question of privilege of Congressman Erice.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). What is your position on the desire of Congressman Marcoleta to interpellate Congressman Erice, distinguished Majority Leader?

REP. ANDAYA. Yes, as a Member, Mr. Speaker, may we allow him a few questions.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Congressman Marcoleta is hereby recognized to interpellate Congressman Erice.

REP. MARCOLETA. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, is it the assumption that in the selection of a Minority Leader, the basis for the assumption is that one group is a better fiscalizer?

REP. ERICE. We have our rules and we have already discussed that lengthily yesterday.

REP. MARCOLETA. The question ...

REP. ERICE. That is why the subject of my personal privilege is not the legal issue, but the morality of allowing someone who is very close to the Speaker, someone who voted and campaigned for the Speaker, to be the Minority Leader.

REP. MARCOLETA. That is the reason I am asking the question, Mr. Speaker. Is it the assumption that in selecting a Minority Leader, it is based on the assumption that one group is a better fiscalizer or perceived to be a better one in being able to fiscalize? Is that the rule, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor?

REP. ERICE. Well, a better one is after the fact, after the election and after the assumption and after the performance, but what is in the rules is that those who voted for the Speaker are members of the Majority. I believe—and it is not an assumption, it is my belief—that Congressman Suarez is a member of the Majority not only because he voted for the Speaker, but he also campaigned for the Speaker. I also believe that he shares the same advocacy of our Speaker.

REP. MARCOLETA. Since he made reference to Section 8, again, that Members who voted for the winning Majority or the winning Speaker shall constitute the Majority, may I ask, Mr. Speaker, when we voted for a new Speaker two weeks ago, how many candidates were there?

REP. ERICE. There was only one.

REP. MARCOLETA. There was only one. Thank you very much. When we voted for the Speaker two years ago, how many candidates were there?

REP. ERICE. Three.

REP. MARCOLETA. Thank you very much. May I draw your attention first, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, on what happened two weeks ago when there was only one single candidate. Strictly speaking, it is not a matter of who won the speakership because in any combat or battle or contest, there should be at least one opponent. Is that not correct, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor?

REP. ERICE. No, Mr. Speaker, there are elections ...

REP. MARCOLETA. You cannot win, Mr. Speaker, unless there is one opponent.

REP. ERICE. That is not accurate, Mr. Speaker.

REP. MARCOLETA. Can you give me an instance, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, where somebody in a contest can win without any opponent?

REP. ERICE. Well, there are lot of Congressmen who are unopposed in this House.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, I am sorry but the question is not being answered. It is very simple. The position of this Representation is, Your Honor, it was not a case of who won simply because there was votation of the majority. The correct interpretation there was that the new Speaker, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, got the majority of the votes and that is why she replaced the incumbent Speaker. It is as simple as that.

REP. ERICE. No, Mr. Speaker.

REP. MARCOLETA. Technically speaking, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, she did not win because she has no opponent whatsoever. It could have been a different matter altogether if there were two candidates who contested the vacancy left by the incumbent but in this case, Mr. Speaker, there was only one candidate.

REP. ERICE. There was only one candidate.

REP. MARCOLETA. Senator Manny Pacquiao, Mr. Speaker, could not have won without Lucas Matthyse. I cannot imagine any situation, Mr. Speaker, that somebody can win any contest without an opponent. So, technically speaking, Your Honor, Speaker Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo did not win, she simply got the

majority votes and qualified to replace the incumbent. It is as simple as that, Your Honor, and so, they banked on the words “the winning Speaker.” Nobody won, Your Honor, because she only had to get the majority votes. It was not a question of winning.

REP. ERICE. Meaning, she was not elected, Mr. Speaker.

REP. MARCOLETA. She was elected by majority votes. But let us do away ...

REP. ERICE. How can she be elected when there was no election?

REP. MARCOLETA. Let us do away with the operative words—we are so engrossed by the term “the winning Speaker, candidate for Speaker.”

REP. ERICE. Mr. Speaker, ...

REP. MARCOLETA. Let us dissect that very simply.

REP. ERICE. ...there was a motion to declare the position vacant, there was a motion to open the period of nomination. There was nomination, there was election, and there was nominal voting, there was election.

REP. MARCOLETA. That is not the point, Mr. Speaker. I am asking him, was there another candidate other than Speaker Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo? There was none. She was only one.

REP. ERICE. There was none—as many other Congressmen/Representatives in this House who ran unopposed and won an election unopposed.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, that is not the point. We are talking here ...

REP. ERICE. I cannot see your point, Mr. Speaker.

REP. MARCOLETA. I am sorry if he cannot see the point. The point is very simple. You cannot win any contest ...

REP. ERICE. Your point is very complicated, Mr. Speaker, it is not simple. So if you will insist on your legalese, as I said earlier, I am not here to talk about the rules, I am here to talk about the morality of what we did today.

REP. MARCOLETA. But you have not even answered the first question.

REP. ERICE. Actually, Mr. Speaker, ...

REP. MARCOLETA. Was it the assumption...

REP. ERICE. ...we spent three hours yesterday talking about the legality ...

REP. MARCOLETA. Was it the assumption of the Gentleman, Mr. Speaker, that the selection of a Minority Leader is based on a perception of morality, that one group is perceived to be better than the one? That is not the rule, Mr. Speaker. We are all guided by the rules.

REP. ERICE. The rules are not clear ...

REP. MARCOLETA. Whoever pretends to be on the moral side—that is not the point, Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ERICE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we terminate the interpellation on the question of privilege of Congressman Erice and refer it to the Committee on Rules.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7735 (Continuation)

#### PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker, we now proceed to the Unfinished Business and I move that we consider House Bill No. 7735, contained in Committee Report No. 739, as reported out by the Committees on Agriculture and Food, Ways and Means, and Appropriations.

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

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

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



THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7735, entitled: AN ACT REPLACING THE QUANTITATIVE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON RICE WITH TARIFFS AND CREATING THE RICE COMPETITIVENESS ENHANCEMENT FUND.

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

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker, for us to give time to the technical staff, before we proceed, may we acknowledge the presence of the guests of our Members.

REP. ROA-PUNO. We would like to acknowledge the presence of the guests of the Hon. Raymond Democrito C. Mendoza, the Samahan ng Nagkakaisang Pamilya ng Pantawid or the SNPP leaders: Jeana Cotocio, Analiza Notolio, Anabelle Luna, Nida Carillo, Luisa Villalez, Edwin Arcillas, Angela Tubello, Rosario Reyes, Sarah Pacayra, Florence Mendeja, Vina Buenafe, Beth Capinig, Juliet Logan, Zhariah Taha, Nenita Reyes, Perla Adolfo, Myra Paja, Olivia Aballe, and all of their companions in the gallery, Mr. Speaker. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). All the guests of Congressman Mendoza are hereby recognized and all of you are welcome to the House of Representatives.

REP. ROA-PUNO. We would also like to acknowledge the presence of the guests of the Hon. Ma. Theresa V. Collantes from the Third District of Batangas, all of the 44 Parent-Leaders of the Pantawid ng Pamilyang Pilipino Program of the Third District who are in the gallery today. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The guests of Congresswoman Collantes, welcome to the House of Representatives.

REP. ROA-PUNO. The guests of the Hon. Strike B. Revilla from the Second Legislative District of Cavite in the gallery and they are the members of the Samahan ng Nagkakaisang Pamilya ng Pantawid of the City of Bacoor. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Welcome to the House of Representatives.

REP. ROA-PUNO. The guests of the Hon. Tomasito “Tom” S. Villarín, Representative of Akbayan Party-

List who are also in the gallery today and his guests are from the Samahan ng Nagkakaisang Pamilya ng Pantawid. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The guests of Congressman Villarín, welcome to the House of Representatives.

REP. ROA-PUNO. The guests of the Hon. Mario Vittorio “Marvey” A. Mariño from the Fifth District of Batangas in the gallery today and they are the members of the Samahan ng Nagkakaisang Pamilya ng Pantawid of Batangas City. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The guests of Congressman Mariño, welcome to the House of Representatives.

REP. ROA-PUNO. The guests of the Hon. Amihilda J. Sangcopan of ANAK MINDANAO Party-List in the gallery today and they are the members of the Samahan ng Nagkakaisang Pamilya ng Pantawid or SNPP. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The guests of Congresswoman Sangcopan, welcome to the House of Representatives.

REP. ROA-PUNO. The guests of the Hon. Romero “Miro” S. Quimbo from the Second District of Marikina City in the gallery today and they are the officers and board of directors of the Kapisanan ng mga Barangay Kagawad or KABAKA from Marikina City. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The guests of Congressman Quimbo, welcome to the House of Representatives.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Likewise, the beneficiaries of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program or 4Ps of Marikina City in the gallery today, also the guests of the Hon. Miro Quimbo. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The additional guests of Congressman Quimbo, welcome to the House of Representatives.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Finally, the Grade 12 students from Miriam College with their teacher, Ms. Rizalyn S. Camacho, the guests of the honorable Rep. Jorge “Bolet” Banal from the Third District of Quezon City. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The guests of Cong. Bolet Banal, the students

from Miriam College are welcome to the House of Representatives.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ROA-PUNO. I move to suspend the session, Mr. Speaker.

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

*It was 4:19 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 4:21 p.m., the session was resumed.*

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, the parliamentary status is that we are considering, on Second Reading, House Bill No. 7735 contained in Committee Report No. 739..

I move that we open the period of amendments and proceed to consider Committee amendments. I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, there being no Committee amendments, I move that we proceed to consider individual amendments. I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the honorable Rep. Jose T. Panganiban Jr., the Sponsor of the Bill. I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. PANGANIBAN. Mr. Speaker, the Sponsor is ready to accept individual amendments, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we

recognize the Hon. Edcel C. Lagman of the First District of Albay for his amendments. I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Congressman from Albay, Cong. Edcel Lagman, is hereby recognized.

#### INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

REP. LAGMAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Unless there are anterior amendments on page 3, I have an amendment on page 3. Mr. Speaker, distinguished Sponsor, the amendment to the Charter of the National Food Authority (NFA), could not be effected in the Rice Tariffication Bill because it will violate the constitutional prohibition that no bill should have more than one (1) subject matter. In other words, Mr. Speaker, the amendment to the NFA Charter should be made through a separate bill. Accordingly, Section 6 of the Bill, lines 40 to 50 on page 3, and lines 1 to 8 on page 4 should be deleted.

I hereby move accordingly.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). What is the response of the Sponsor?

REP. PANGANIBAN. Mr. Speaker, as elucidated by the good Gentleman from Albay, I accept the proposed amendment, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. LAGMAN. Thank you, distinguished Sponsor.

Now, on page 4, lines 36 to 41, the following is provided, and I quote verbatim:

Any order issued by the President adjusting the applied tariff rates shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication. In the event of any imminent or forecasted shortage, or such other situation requiring government intervention, the President is empowered, for a limited period of time and/or a specified volume, to allow the importation of rice at a lower applied tariff rate, to address the situation. Such order shall take effect immediately and may be issued even when Congress is in session.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished Sponsor, the limited period of time provided for in the Bill should be amended to read as follows: "x x x for a limited period of time NOT EXCEEDING TWO (2) MONTHS UNLESS EXTENDED BY THE CONGRESS."

I submit, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). What is the response of the Sponsor?

REP. PANGANIBAN. I accept the proposed amendment, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. LAGMAN. Thank you, distinguished Sponsor.

The phrase “and/or a specified volume” should be amended to read as follows: “and/or a specified volume NOT EXCEEDING 50,000 METRIC TONS UNLESS INCREASED BY THE CONGRESS.”

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

REP. PANGANIBAN. Mr. Speaker, I accept the proposed amendment of the Gentleman from Albay.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). On the part of the House, is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the amendments are approved.

REP. LAGMAN. On page 8, Mr. Speaker, line 16, before the phrase “Fund releases,” we provide the following: THE PROCEEDS FROM THE RICE FUND SHALL AUTOMATICALLY BE APPROPRIATED AND PERIODICALLY RELEASED BY THE DBM TO THE DA IN ORDER TO SUSTAIN THE PROGRAM ON RICE SUFFICIENCY AND ENHANCE THE SMALL FARMERS’ SELF-RELIANCE.

I submit, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. PANGANIBAN. Mr. Speaker, I accept the proposed amendment.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). On the part of the House, is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the amendment is approved.

REP. LAGMAN. Be it on record, Mr. Speaker, distinguished Sponsor, in answer to your query, with this amendment, the proceeds from the Rice Fund will not anymore be incorporated in the General Appropriations Act because it is automatically appropriated.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, distinguished Sponsor.

REP. PANGANIBAN. Thank you.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, for his individual amendments, I move that we recognize the Hon. Carlos Roman L. Uybarreta of 1-CARE Party-List. I so move, Mr. Speaker.

REP. UYBARRETA. Mr. Speaker, will the distinguished Sponsor still allow additional amendments to the said measure?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The Hon. Carlos Uybarreta is recognized.

REP. PANGANIBAN. I shall gladly accept any proposed amendments from Representative Uybarreta, Mr. Speaker.

REP. UYBARRETA. Thank you, distinguished Sponsor.

Mr. Speaker, on page 9, line 35, this Representation proposes and moves that a new subparagraph (D) be inserted to read as follows: (D) ESTABLISHMENT OF MANUFACTURING PLANTS FOR FARM EQUIPMENT, AND PROVIDING SUBSIDIES THEREFOR.

Will the distinguished Sponsor accept such amendment?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). What is the response of the distinguished Sponsor?

REP. PANGANIBAN. I accept the proposed amendment, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). On the part of the House, is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the amendment is approved.

REP. UYBARRETA. With the acceptance of the distinguished Sponsor of the said amendment, I also move that, correspondingly, the other subparagraphs be rearranged and be marked accordingly. So, the previous paragraph will now be (E) and the previous paragraph (e) will be (F), and so forth, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. PANGANIBAN. Yes, Mr. Speaker, I accept the proposed amendment.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) On the part of the House, the Chair hears no objection; the amendment is approved.

REP. UYBARRETA. Mr. Speaker, will the

distinguished Sponsor be amenable to a new Section 16—oh, 18, on page 9, line 45, to read as follows: SECTION 18. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS.— WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT, THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE, AND DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT SHALL FORMULATE THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS.

Will the distinguished Sponsor accept such amendment?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). On the part of the House, is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the proposed amendment is approved.

REP. UYBARRETA. Mr. Speaker, with the acceptance of the said amendment, the old Section 18 should be marked and adjusted, and renumbered accordingly; likewise, the old Section 19 and Section 20.

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

REP. PANGANIBAN. I accept the proposed amendment and the arrangement or the renumbering, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). On the part of the House, is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the proposed amendment is approved.

REP. UYBARRETA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, distinguished Sponsor.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, there being no other individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments. I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we vote on House Bill No. ...

REP. TINIO. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Cong. Antonio L. Tinio is recognized.

REP. TINIO. Do we have a quorum? We are about to vote on a ...

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

*It was 4:33 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 4:42 p.m., the session was resumed.*

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Honorable Tinio.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Cong. Antonio L. Tinio is recognized.

REP. TINIO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For now, I would like to withdraw my question regarding the quorum as I now see Members coming back to the floor.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7735

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the consideration of House Bill No. 7735 on Second Reading.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7773 ON SECOND READING

#### PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 7773, contained in Committee Report No. 752, as reported out by the Committees on Poverty Alleviation, and Appropriations.

May we ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure. I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

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

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7773, entitled: AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM (4Ps) TO REDUCE POVERTY AND PROMOTE HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Raymond Democrito C. Mendoza of Party-List TUCP for his sponsorship speech.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

Congressman Mendoza, the distinguished Sponsor of the measure, is recognized.

#### SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REP. MENDOZA

REP. MENDOZA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Good afternoon, Mr. Speaker, at magandang hapon din po sa 4Ps beneficiaries in this Chamber, most especially the 639 Parent-Leaders of the SNPP, Samahan ng Nagkakaisang Pamilyang Pantawid.

Mr. Speaker, today, I come before you and our esteemed colleagues, to address one of the country's pervasive problems, one which continues to plague many of our constituents and that is abject poverty. Here is the profile of a typical Filipino household: uneducated; has no source of income—walang trabaho, walang negosyo; may apat na anak; buntis pa iyong asawa, pregnant, with a baby and hoping that it will be their youngest. They squat in a self-made shanty, a squatter, where they have no access to clean or potable water. They survive on sporadic sources of income such as assisting in building construction and doing laundry for some middle-class families. Having three meals a day, Mr. Speaker, is a rare experience, and their children feel blessed if they can get to eat instant noodles. While education is free in public schools, their children do not attend classes as they are

obliged to find ways to augment the income of their parents and so, they roam the streets and beg for coins from bystanders— some of them either wanting to help them or would say, “just get rid of them.”

Mr. Speaker, when you have almost one-fourth of the country's population—from the Philippine Statistics Authority, 2016, for this year 2015 rather, we have 21.6 percent poverty incidence. It is not surprising that the next generation will be hit by this and who will likely be multiplied, and their number will end up the same as their parents', if not in a worse, dire condition.

Mr. Speaker, the State has the moral obligation to do something to reduce the number of citizens who will continue to live in this cycle of intergenerational poverty. The government has to aggressively act to ensure that the children of these indigent families grow up healthy and educated. Then perhaps, they will have a better fighting chance of becoming self-sustaining and productive citizens. So, this is what institutionalizing, making it into a law, 4Ps is all about. Let us stop the transfer of poverty to the next generation. That is why the substitute bill, House Bill No. 7773, seeks to make the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program a regular program of the government to help 60 percent of the total number of extremely poor households in this country. That is why House Bill No. 7773 seeks to address the many issues surrounding 4Ps, the centerpiece of the government's social protection efforts for the past decade.

Mr. Speaker, House Bill No. 7773 seeks to: one, correct double entries, data errors and delayed cash releases, and prevent the occurrence of unpaid beneficiaries; two, remedy the deficiencies in the basic services for children in both education and health and to ensure that they remain healthy and that they stay in school; three, involve the private sector and civil society organizations in monitoring the implementation of the program and in providing feedback for proper action; and four, strengthen the mechanism of accountability and of transparency by requiring the DSWD to post on the website a report of financial disclosures, information about beneficiaries, and to submit the same to Congress.

While we recognize that the 4Ps alone cannot guarantee alleviation from poverty of our children, we still believe that, in convergence with other social protection programs particularly on health, education, housing and livelihood, 4Ps should be implemented until the poor are able to stand on their own, kaya po “pantawid.” The World Economic Forum Executive Chairman Klaus Schwab asserted, “The key to the future of any country lies in the talent, skills and capacities of its people.” Ang kabataan ay ang pag-asa ng ating bayan.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Committee on Poverty Alleviation, I therefore call upon the honorable Members of this august Body to unanimously

\* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

push for the passage of this piece of legislation. With one mind and one heart, let us give the next generation of marginalized Filipinos a fighting chance.

Daghang salamat. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, for her interpellation ...

REP. MENDOZA. Mr. Speaker, Cong. Tom Villarin would like also to deliver his sponsorship speech—Tom Villarin of AKBAYAN Party-List.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Tomasito “Tom” S. Villarin for his sponsorship speech. I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). Congressman Villarin is hereby recognize to deliver his sponsorship speech.

#### SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REP. VILLARIN

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

Kagalang-galang na mga Kinatawan dito sa Mababang Kapulungan, mga Parent-Leaders na nandito sa ngayon, magandang gabi.

Nitong nakaraang Mayo, naglabas po ng datos ang World Bank tungkol sa poverty rate o bahagdan ng kahirapan sa buong Pilipinas. Tinalakay po nila kung ano na ang naging resulta doon sa tinatawag nating mga poverty reduction programs. Ayon sa kanila, nabawasan ang kahirapan mula 26.6 percent noong 2006 hanggang 21.6 percent noong 2015. Limang porsiyento po ang ibinaba, maliit kung tutuusin pero para sa isang pamilyang Pilipino, katumbas nito ang pag-ahon sa kahirapan at bagong simula tungo sa pag-unlad at para na rin sa ikabubuti ng kanilang mga anak na siyang magiging susunod na henerasyon. Isa sa mga diumano ay naging dahilan kung bakit nabawasan ang kahirapan ay ang conditional cash transfer na mas kilala natin bilang Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program or 4Ps. Ayon din sa ilang mga pag-aaral, tinagurian ang 4Ps bilang isa sa mga pinakamainam na targeted social safety nets sa buong mundo dahil pinapanatili ng 4Ps ang tuloy-tuloy na pagpaparaal at pagpapagamot sa ating mga anak at sa ating mga nanay.

Mismo sa kadahilanang ito, narito tayo ngayon upang isulong ang pagsasabatas ng Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program or 4Ps. Layunin ho natin sa pagsasabatas ng panukalang ito na hindi puwedeng maging bigla-bigla

na lamang na ang 4Ps, na may 4.5 million Filipino households ang nakikinabang, ay biglang itigil na lang dahil sa iba’t ibang kadahilanan, kaya ninanais natin na maglagay ng sunset provision para dito sa 4Ps program.

Kasama po ang AKBAYAN, sinikap ng Komite sa pamumuno ni Cong. Raymond Mendoza na gawing batas at ma-institutionalize ang 4Ps para kahit na sino ang maupo, hindi maapektuhan ang ayuda at serbisyo para sa pamilyang Pilipino. Ang panawagan ko lamang sa mga kagalang-galang kong kasamahan sa bulwagang ito, ipasa na po natin ito. Katibayan po na epektibo ang 4Ps, ang masusing pagpapalawak nito sa ilalim ng nakaraang administrasyon at sa pagpapatuloy nito sa kasalukuyang administrasyon, na mabuting hangarin ng isang programang sinimulan ng walang iba kundi ang ating kasalukuyang Speaker, Speaker GMA. Higit sa lahat, wala nang mas mainam pang patunay sa kabutihang dulot nito kaysa sa testimonya ng napakaraming pamilya na kabilang sa Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program na kasama natin ngayon, na karamihan po ay nandito sa ating gallery, upang tunghayan ang makasaysayang pagkakataong ito.

Alam ho natin na ang 4Ps o Conditional Cash Transfer Program ay hindi ho iyan kapalit doon sa mga mahahalagang sinasabi nating livelihood, mga mahahalagang programa pa ng ating gobyerno. Ang halaga ho sa 4Ps, napakaliit po lamang niyan kung tutuusin doon sa pangangailangan ng isang household. So, with the 4Ps, ang importante ho dito, tinitingnan ho natin ito na investment for a generation of our Filipino families na, finally, they can break the cycle of poverty. Kaya, again, this Representation, also others, we are moving for the immediate passage of this measure to institutionalize the 4Ps.

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

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

#### SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7773

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker, at this point in time, I move that we suspend the consideration of House Bill No. 7773.

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

The consideration of House Bill No. 7773 is hereby suspended.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7735 *Continuation*

#### PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker, at this point in

time, I move that we resume the consideration of House Bill No. 6574—oh, excuse me, Mr. Speaker, resume the consideration of House Bill No. 7735 and recognize Congressman Panganiban as Sponsor.

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

The Secretary General is hereby directed to read the title of the bill.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7735, entitled: AN ACT REPLACING THE QUANTITATIVE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON RICE WITH TARIFFS AND CREATING THE RICE COMPETITIVENESS ENHANCEMENT FUND.

REP. ANDAYA. Likewise, Mr. Speaker, I move that we vote on House Bill No. 7735, as amended, on Second Reading.

#### VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). There is a motion for the approval of House Bill No. 7735, as amended, on Second Reading.

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

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

#### APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7735, AS AMENDED, ON SECOND READING

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

House Bill No. 7735, as amended, is approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7652 ON SECOND READING

#### PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 7652, contained in Committee Report No. 732, as reported out by the

Committee on Information and Communications Technology.

May I ask the Secretary General to be directed to read only the title of the measure. I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

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

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7652, entitled: AN ACT REQUIRING PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS ENTITIES TO PROVIDE NATIONWIDE MOBILE NUMBER PORTABILITY TO SUBSCRIBERS.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Victor A. Yap of the Second District of Tarlac for his sponsorship speech. I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The Hon. Victor A. Yap is hereby recognized.

REP. YAP (V.). Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Yes. It is my distinguished honor to sponsor House Bill No. 7652 which, basically, is a Consumer Welfare Bill that allows people to transfer their personal numbers to telco providers. It is for this purpose that I move to dispense with the reading of my sponsorship speech, and I move, Mr. Speaker, that this be read into the records, Mr. Speaker.

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

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ROA-PUNO. I move to suspend the session, Mr. Speaker.

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

\* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

*It was 4:59 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 4:59 p.m., the session was resumed.*

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note of the Bill or the sponsorship speech of the Hon. Victor Yap be inserted into the records. I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7652

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the consideration of House Bill No. 7652.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we include additional coauthors of House Bill No. 7773, as contained in the list to be submitted by the Committee on Rules.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### RATIFICATION OF CONF. CTTEE. RPT. ON H.B. NO. 6203

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, we are in receipt of the Conference Committee Report reconciling the disagreeing votes on House Bill No. 6203.

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

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

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

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

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 6203, entitled: AN ACT CONVERTING THE SORSOGON STATE COLLEGE IN THE PROVINCE OF SORSOGON INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III STATE UNIVERSITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, and House Bill No. 6203, as amended by the Senate entitled: AN ACT CONVERTING THE SORSOGON STATE COLLEGE IN THE PROVINCE OF SORSOGON INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE SORSOGON STATE UNIVERSITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we ratify the said Conference Committee Report.

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

The Conference Committee Report is ratified.

#### APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve Journal No. 6, dated August 1, 2018.

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

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ROA-PUNO. I move that we suspend the session, Mr. Speaker.

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

*It was 5:00 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 5:03 p.m., the session was resumed.*

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

\* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)



The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H. B. NO. 6770  
ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 6770, contained in Committee Report No. 508, as reported out by the Committee on Labor and Employment.

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

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

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

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

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 6770, entitled: AN ACT INCREASING THE SERVICE INCENTIVE LEAVE OF EMPLOYEES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE 95 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Randolph S. Ting from the Third District of Cagayan to deliver his sponsorship speech.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). The distinguished Gentleman from Cagayan, Cong. Randolph Ting, is hereby recognized.

REP. TING. Mr. Speaker, please allow us to consider the Explanatory Note of the Bill be as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note of the Honorable Ting be entered into the records as the sponsorship speech on the measure. I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate or speak against the measure, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate on House Bill No. 6770.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION  
OF H.B. NO. 6770

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the consideration of House Bill No. 6770.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ROA-PUNO. I move that we suspend the session, Mr. Speaker.

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

*It was 5:05 p.m.*

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 5:07 p.m., the session was resumed.*

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

OMNIBUS CONSIDERATION OF LOCAL BILLS  
ON SECOND READING

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move for

\* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

the omnibus consideration of the following local bills contained in the Calendar of Business for Thursday and Friday; to consider the respective Explanatory Notes of the bills as the sponsorship remarks on the measures; to close the period of sponsorship and debate, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate or speak against the measure; to open the period of amendments; to approve the Committee amendments, if any; to approve the individual amendments submitted to the Committee on Rules, if any; and to close the period of amendments, there being no individual amendments:

1. House Bill No. 7477 contained in Committee Report No. 688;
2. House Bill No. 7478 contained in Committee Report No. 689;
3. House Bill No. 7480 contained in Committee Report No. 691;
4. House Bill No. 7481 contained in Committee Report No. 692;
5. House Bill No. 7482 contained in Committee Report No. 693;
6. House Bill No. 7486 contained in Committee Report No. 697;
7. House Bill No. 7487 contained in Committee Report No. 698;
8. House Bill No. 7488 contained in Committee Report No. 699;
9. House Bill No. 7489 contained in Committee Report No. 700;
10. House Bill No. 7499 contained in Committee Report No. 710;
11. House Bill No. 7717 contained in Committee Report No. 736;
12. House Bill No. 7761 contained in Committee Report No. 748;
13. House Bill No. 7779 contained in Committee Report No. 761;
14. House Bill No. 7780 contained in Committee Report No. 762;
15. House Bill No. 7781 contained in Committee Report No. 763;
16. House Bill No. 7784 contained in Committee Report No. 764;
17. House Bill No. 7801 contained in Committee Report No. 768; and
18. House Bill No. 7103 contained in Committee Report No. 774.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that the above-mentioned local bills be approved on Second Reading.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

#### VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Castro, F.H.). As many as are in favor of the approval of the local bills enumerated in the omnibus motion, please say *aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

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

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

The bills enumerated in the omnibus motion are hereby approved on Second Reading.\*

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the session.

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

*It was 5:09 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 5:13 p.m., the session was resumed.*

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adjourn the session until tomorrow, Wednesday, August 8, 2018, at 3:00 p.m.

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

The session is adjourned until tomorrow, August 8, 2018, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

*It was 5:13 p.m.*