



Congressional Record

PLENARY PROCEEDINGS OF THE 17th CONGRESS, THIRD REGULAR SESSION

House of Representatives

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Monday, December 10, 2018

No. 39

CALL TO ORDER

At 3:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Evelina G. Escudero called the session to order.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). The session is now called to order.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

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

Everybody rose to sing the Philippine National Anthem.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). Everybody will please remain standing for a prayer to be led by Hon. Marisol C. Panotes.

Everybody remained standing for the prayer.

INVOCATION

REP. PANOTES. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Heavenly Father, as we enter this workplace, we bring Your presence with us. We speak Your peace, Your grace, Your mercy, and Your perfect order in this office. We acknowledge Your power over all that will be spoken, thought, decided, and done within these walls.

Lord, we thank You for the gifts You have blessed us with. We commit to use them responsibly in Your Honor. Give us a fresh supply of strength to do our jobs. Anoint our projects, ideas, and energies, so that even our smallest accomplishment may bring You glory.

Lord, when we are confused, guide us; when we are weary, energize us; when we are burned out, infuse us with the light of the Holy Spirit. May the work that we do and the way we do it bring faith, joy and peace to all.

Almighty and eternal Father, we praise and thank You for calling us to serve Your people. Give us Your anointment and help us not to seek power nor position but rather make us a vessel of Your grace to touch the lives of our people and to seek to be worthy of Your love.

Lord, mold us to Your heart. Use us a channel of Your compassion. Help us to be worthy of Your trust that we may be an instrument of peace and hope to everyone. Give us courage to be an agent of change to achieve our dream of transformation.

Finally, we ask You to heal our land and to restore faith and righteousness in our nation.

This we ask in the mighty Name of Jesus.

Amen.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). Amen.

REP. PANOTES. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). Thank you, Representative Panotes.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we defer the calling of the roll.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we defer the approval of the Journal.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ATIENZA. Mme. Speaker.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). I move for a one-minute suspension of the session, Mme. Speaker.

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

It was 3:04 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:17 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

ROLL CALL

REP. GONZALES (A.P.) Mme. Speaker, I move that we call the roll.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none,

REP. GONZALES (A.P.) Roll of Members, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). ... the motion is approved.

The Secretary General is directed to call the roll of Members.

*The Secretary General called the roll, and the result is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.**

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. The Speaker is present.

Mme. Speaker, the roll call shows that 183 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 183 Members responding to the call, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. GONZALES (A.P.) Mme. Speaker, I move that we approve Journal No. 38, dated December 5, 2018.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. GONZALES (A.P.) Mme. Speaker, may we acknowledge the presence of the guests of the Hon. Milagros Aquino-Magsaysay in the gallery. They are from Save Luna, Coalition of OFW Associations in La Union, Anak Ti Luna, Federation of Senior Citizens Associations of Luna, San Juan Unions Consumers Cooperative, Save the Beauty of La Union Coalition, Greenpeace, and the Philippine Movement for Climate Justice.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). The guests of Honorable Magsaysay will please stand up. Welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. GONZALES (A.P.) Mme. Speaker, I move that we now proceed with the Reference of Business.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Secretary General will please read the Reference of Business.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 8716, entitled:

“AN ACT RENAMING THE MACTAN-CEBU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TO LAPU-LAPU INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT”

By Representative Olivarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 8717, entitled:

“AN ACT WAIVING GOVERNMENT FEES AND CHARGES ON THE ISSUANCE OF DOCUMENTS REQUIRED IN THE APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT OF FIRST TIME JOBSEEKERS”

By Representative Alonte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND
EMPLOYMENT

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
MALACAÑAN PALACE
MANILA

House Bill No. 8721, entitled:

06 December 2018

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING GREEN BUILDING
ROOFTOPS ON ALL GOVERNMENT AND
PRIVATELY-OWNED BUILDINGS WITHIN
THE COUNTRY”

By Representative Sy-Alvarado
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES
GSIS Bldg., Financial Center
Roxas Blvd., Pasay City

Attention : SENATOR VICENTE C. SOTTO III
Senate President
-and-

House Bill No. 8722, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 7432 AS AMENDED BY RA 9994,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS EXPANDED
SENIOR CITIZENS ACT, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Bagatsing
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SENIOR
CITIZENS

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills
Quezon City, Philippines 1126

Attention : REPRESENTATIVE GLORIA
MACAPAGAL-ARROYO
Speaker

House Bill No. 8723, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE
PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF
WATERWAYS AND WATER SYSTEMS BY
HOST COMMUNITIES, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Cua
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL
RESOURCES

Subject : Further Extension of Martial Law
and Suspension of the Privilege
of the Writ of Habeas Corpus
in Mindanao

Members of Congress:

Pursuant to Section 18, Article VII of the Philippine
Constitution, I write to initiate a further extension of
Martial Law and suspension of the privilege of the writ
of habeas corpus in Mindanao, which first took effect
upon my issuance of Proclamation No. 216.

On 18 July 2017, I requested both Houses of the
Congress to extend such proclamation of Martial Law
and the suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas
corpus in the whole of Mindanao for compelling reasons
cited in my letter of even date.

On 22 July 2017, the Congress passed Resolution of
Both Houses No. 2, extending the subject Martial Law
proclamation and suspension of the privilege of the writ
of habeas corpus until 31 December 2017.

On 08 December 2017, I requested both Houses
of Congress to further extend the subject proclamation
and suspension of privilege for a period of one (1)
year, or from 01 January 2018 to 31 December 2018,
or for such other period of time as the Congress may
determine.

On 13 December 2017, after a thorough deliberation,
the Senate and the House of Representatives, in a joint
session, overwhelmingly adopted Resolution of Both
Houses No. 4, further extending the period of Martial
law and suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas
corpus in the entire Mindanao for one year, from 01
January 2018 to 31 December 2018.

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 2348, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES, THROUGH THE
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS, TO
CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, ON MEMORANDUM
ORDER NO. 32 AND ITS AGGRAVATING
EFFECT ON THE GRAVE HUMAN RIGHTS
SITUATION IN EASTERN VISAYAS”

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

House Resolution No. 2349, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INQUIRY
IN AID OF LEGISLATION IN RELATION
TO THE ILLEGAL RAID CONDUCTED
AGAINST THE PROPERTY OF MAYOR
JASMIN AND VICE MAYOR GLICERIO
MONTON JR.”

By Representative Amante
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

On 05 December 2018, I received a letter from Secretary of National Defense Delfin N. Lorenzana, as Martial Law Administrator, requesting for the further extension of Martial Law and the suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus in Mindanao up to 31 December 2019.

I am pleased to inform the Congress that during the Martial Law period, as extended, in Mindanao, we have achieved significant progress in putting the rebellion under control, ushering in substantial economic gains in Mindanao. In a joint security assessment report, General Carlito G. Galvez Jr., the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Chief of Staff and Martial Law Implementor, and Director-General Oscar D. Albayalde, Chief of the Philippine National Police (PNP), highlighted the following accomplishments, among others, owing to the implementation of Martial Law in Mindanao: reduction of the capabilities of different terrorist groups, particularly the neutralization of 685 members of the local terrorist groups (LTG) and 1,073 members of the communist terrorist group (CTG); dismantling of seven (7) guerilla fronts and weakening of nineteen (19) others; surrender of unprecedented number of loose firearms (more than eight thousand from January to November 2018); 19% reduction of atrocities committed by CTG in 2018 compared to those inflicted in 2017; 29% reduction of terrorist acts committed by LTG in 2018 compared to 2017; and substantial decrease in crime incidence (Cotabato City – 51% reduction and Maguindanao – 38% reduction). All of these gains in security and peace and order have resulted in remarkable economic gains in Mindanao. In fact, private sectors, local and regional peace and order councils, and local government units in Mindanao are now also clamoring for a further extension of the subject proclamation and suspension.

Notwithstanding these gains, the security assessment submitted by the AFP and PNP highlights certain essential facts which indicate that rebellion still persists in Mindanao and that public safety requires the continuation of Martial Law in the whole of Mindanao.

The Abu Sayyaf Group, Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters, Daulah Islamiyah (DI), and other terrorist groups (collectively labeled as LTG) which seek to promote global rebellion, continue to defy the government by perpetrating hostile activities during the extended period of Martial Law. At least four (4) bombings/Improvised Explosive Device (IED) explosions had been cited in the AFP report. The Lamitan City bombing on 31 July 2018 that killed eleven (11) individuals and wounded ten (10) others, the Isulan, Sultan Kudarat IED explosion on 28 August and 02 September 2018 that killed five (5) individuals and wounded forty-five (45) others, and the Barangay Apopong IED explosion that left eight (8) individuals wounded.

The DI forces continue to pursue their rebellion against the government by furthering the conduct of their radicalization activities, and continuing to recruit new members, especially in vulnerable Muslim communities.

While the government was preoccupied in addressing the challenges posed by said groups, the CTG, which has publicly declared its intention to seize political power through violent means and supplant the country's democratic form of government with Communist rule, took advantage and likewise posed serious security concerns. Records disclosed that at least three hundred forty-two (342) violent incidents, ranging from harassments against government installations, liquidation operations, and arson attacks as part of extortion schemes, which occurred mostly in Eastern Mindanao, had been perpetrated from 01 January 2018 to 30 November 2018. About twenty-three (23) arson incidents had been recorded and it had been estimated that the amount of the properties destroyed in Mindanao alone has reached One Hundred Fifty-Six (156) Million Pesos. On the part of the military, the atrocities resulted in the killing of eighty-seven (87) military personnel and wounding of four hundred eight (408) others.

Apart from these, major Abu Sayyaf Group factions in Sulu continue to pursue kidnap for ransom activities to finance their operations. As of counting, there are a total of eight (8) kidnappings that have occurred involving a Dutch, a Vietnamese, two (2) Indonesians, and four (4) Filipinos.

The foregoing merely illustrates in general terms the continuing rebellion in Mindanao. I will be submitting a more detailed report on the subsisting rebellion in the next few days.

A further extension of the implementation of Martial Law and suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus in Mindanao will enable the AFP, the PNP, and all other law enforcement agencies to finally put an end to the on-going rebellion in Mindanao and continue to prevent the same from escalating in other parts of the country. We cannot afford to give the rebels any further breathing room to regroup and strengthen their forces. Public safety indubitably requires such further extension in order to avoid the further loss of lives and physical harm, not only to our soldiers and the police, but also to our civilians. Such extension will also enable the government and the people of Mindanao to sustain the gains we have achieved thus far, ensure the complete rehabilitation of the most affected areas therein, and preserve the socio-economic growth and development now happening in Mindanao.

For all the foregoing reasons, I implore the Congress of the Philippines to further extend the proclamation of Martial Law and the suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus in the whole of Mindanao for a period of one (1) more year, from 01 January 2019 to 31

December 2019, or for such other period of time as the Congress may determine, in accordance with Section 18, Article VII of the 1987 Philippine Constitution.

Very truly yours,

(SGD.) RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE

By the President:

(SGD.) SALVADOR C. MEDIALDEA
Executive Secretary

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Message dated December 3, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed Senate Bill No. 1413, entitled:

“AN ACT RECOGNIZING EVEREST ACADEMY AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER, GRANTING CERTAIN PREROGATIVES TO HASTEN ITS GROWTH AS SUCH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

in which it requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Message dated December 3, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed Senate Bill No. 2063, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING AND REORGANIZING THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6939, CREATING THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY”

in which it requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON COOPERATIVES DEVELOPMENT

Message dated December 3, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed with amendments House Bill No. 7753, entitled:

“AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO THE IGLESIA NI CRISTO (CHURCH OF CHRIST) UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4339, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7225”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

Message dated December 3, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed with amendments House Bill No. 7385, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO PHILIPPINE COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE CORPORATION (PHILCOMSAT) TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE IN THE PHILIPPINES GROUND SATELLITE TERMINAL STATIONS FOR TELECOMMUNICATION WITH SATELLITE FACILITIES AND DELIVERY TO COMMON CARRIERS”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

Message dated December 3, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed with amendments House Bill No. 6167, entitled:

“AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MINDANAO, DOING BUSINESS UNDER THE NAME AND STYLE OF UNIVERSITY OF MINDANAO BROADCASTING NETWORK AND UM BROADCASTING NETWORK, UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8170, ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING THE UNIVERSITY OF MINDANAO A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, ESTABLISH, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES’”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

Message dated December 3, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that on even date the Senate approved the Conference Committee Report of the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 1477 and House Bill No. 8239, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING POSITIVE AND NONVIOLENT DISCIPLINE, PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM PHYSICAL, HUMILIATING OR DEGRADING ACTS AS A FORM OF PUNISHMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Committee on Tourism and the Committee

on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 1003), re H.B. No. 8724, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING BARANGAY KAPATAGAN LOCATED IN THE CITY OF DIGOS, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL SUR AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 5230

Sponsors: Representatives Nuñez-Malanyaon, Nograles (K.A.) and Cagas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 1004), re H.B. No. 8725, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE PASKUHAN VILLAGE IN THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, PROVINCE OF PAMPANGA A NATIONAL TREASURE AND CULTURAL HERITAGE, AND A PROPERTY OF PUBLIC DOMAIN”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 7207

Sponsors: Representatives Nuñez-Malanyaon, Zamora (M.C.) and Gonzales (A.D.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 1005), re H.B. No. 8726, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE ISLANDS OF NAGARAO, NABOCTOT, AND GUINAWAYAN, ALL LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PLACER, PROVINCE OF MASBATE AN ECOTOURISM ZONE, ESTABLISHING THE PLACER ECOTOURISM DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 1090

Sponsors: Representatives Nuñez-Malanyaon, Zamora (M.C.) and Lanete

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Special Committee on Reforestation and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 1006), re H.B. No. 8727, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING PARENTS TO PLANT TWO (2) TREES FOR EVERY CHILD BORN TO THEM”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 536, 3446, 3632, 4430 and 5549

Sponsors: Representatives Villanueva, Go (M.) and Zamora (M.C.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Special Committee on Reforestation and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 1007), re H.B. No. 8728, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING ALL GRADUATING ELEMENTARY, HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE STUDENTS TO PLANT AT LEAST TEN (10) TREES EACH AS A PREREQUISITE FOR GRADUATION”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 1154 and 3132

Sponsors: Representatives Villanueva, Alejano and Zamora (M.C.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education, the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Ways and Means (Committee Report No. 1008), re H.B. No. 8729, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE MARINDUQUE STATE COLLEGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BOAC, PROVINCE OF MARINDUQUE INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY, TO BE KNOWN AS THE MARINDUQUE STATE UNIVERSITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 1281

Sponsors: Representatives Javier, Zamora (M.C.), Suansing (E.), Hofer, Nograles (K.A.) and Velasco

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education, the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Ways and Means (Committee Report No. 1009), re H.B. No. 8730, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE CAMARINES SUR POLYTECHNIC COLLEGES IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NABUA, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR, INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY OF BICOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 5119

Sponsors: Representatives Javier, Zamora (M.C.), Suansing (E.) and Belaro

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education, the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Ways and Means (Committee Report No. 1010), re H.B. No. 8731, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE GUIMARAS STATE COLLEGE IN THE PROVINCE OF

GUIMARAS, INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY, TO BE KNOWN AS THE GUIMARAS STATE UNIVERSITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 7953

Sponsors: Representatives Javier, Zamora (M.C.), Suansing (E.) and Nava

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education, the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Ways and Means (Committee Report No. 1011), re H.B. No. 8732, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE CARLOS HILADO MEMORIAL STATE COLLEGE IN THE CITY OF TALISAY, AND ALL ITS SATELLITE CAMPUSES LOCATED IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD AND IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BINALBAGAN, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE CARLOS HILADO MEMORIAL STATE UNIVERSITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 7081

Sponsors: Representatives Javier, Zamora (M.C.), Nograles (K.A.), Suansing (E.), Hofer and Gasataya

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Government Reorganization, the Committee on Science and Technology, the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 1012), re H.B. No. 8733, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR REGULATORY FRAMEWORK, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE, THE PHILIPPINE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 25, 1691, 2732, 2977, 3651, 4369, 4785 and 4878

Sponsors: Representatives Velarde, Aumentado, Suansing (E.) and Zamora (M.C.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Science and Technology and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 1013), re H.B. No. 8734, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BENEFITS GRANTED TO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (S&T) PERSONNEL OF

THE GOVERNMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8439, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘MAGNA CARTA FOR SCIENTISTS, ENGINEERS, RESEARCHERS AND OTHER S&T PERSONNEL IN THE GOVERNMENT’ ”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 1833, 5541 and 6670

Sponsors: Representatives Aumentado, Zamora (M.C.) and Mangaoang

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Basic Education and Culture and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 1014), re H.B. No. 8735, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE CAMP OFELIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN BARANGAY LINTANGAN, MUNICIPALITY OF SIBUCO, PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE INTO AN INTEGRATED SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS LINTANGAN INTEGRATED SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 6343

Sponsors: Representatives Durano, Zamora (M.C.) and Amatong

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Basic Education and Culture and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 1015), re H.B. No. 8736, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY CALUBE, MUNICIPALITY OF SULTAN NAGA DIMAPORO, PROVINCE OF LANA DEL NORTE TO BE KNOWN AS CALUBE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 2415

Sponsors: Representatives Durano, Zamora (M.C.), Dimaporo (A.) and Dimaporo (M.K.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Basic Education and Culture and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 1016), re H.B. No. 8212, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS THE CURRIMAO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

THE CURRIMAO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – PIAS-GAANG CAMPUS IN BARANGAY PIAS NORTE, MUNICIPALITY OF CURRIMAO, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE, AND SEPARATING IT FROM ITS MOTHER SCHOOL, THE CURRIMAO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY POBLACION 2, MUNICIPALITY OF CURRIMAO, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE, HEREINAFTER RENAMED THE WILBUR C. GO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval without amendment
Sponsors: Representatives Durano, Zamora (M.C.), Fariñas and Marcos
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Basic Education and Culture (Committee Report No. 1017), re H.B. No. 8741, entitled:

“AN ACT RECOGNIZING THE FAITH ACADEMY AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER AND GRANTING THE ACADEMY CERTAIN PREROGATIVES TO PROMOTE ITS DEVELOPMENT”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 8543
Sponsors: Representatives Durano and Lanete
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Secretary General read the following Resolutions and the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding references:

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 2350, entitled:

“RESOLUTION GIVING CONSENT TO HIS EXCELLENCY EDUARDO JOSE A. DE VEGA, FORMER AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES TO MEXICO FROM 31 MARCH 2016 TO 23 APRIL 2018 TO RECEIVE THE AWARD OF THE ‘ORDEN MEXICANA DEL AGUILA AZTECA (MEXICAN ORDER OF AZTEC EAGLE)’ FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO”

By Representative Belmonte (F.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

House Resolution No. 2351, entitled:
“RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND FULLY SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF PRESIDENT MOON JAE-IN OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO BRING PEACE, RECONCILIATION, PROSPERITY AND STABILITY IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA”

By Representative Belmonte (F.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

House Resolution No. 2352, entitled:
“RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE TO REVIEW THE RECENT RESOLUTION ON THE CASE INVOLVING THE MEGA SHABU LAB IN CATANDUANES”

By Representative Sarmiento (C.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2353, entitled:
“RESOLUTION CONVEYING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS THE CONCERN IN THE MANNER BY WHICH THE IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE BOARD (IRB) OF CANADA HEARD, AND EVENTUALLY APPROVED, THE LUDICROUS CLAIM FOR REFUGEE PROTECTION OF A FUGITIVE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL”

By Representatives Andaya, Marcoleta and Suarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2354, entitled:
“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE/S TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE CASE OF MADELYN B. ASUNCION, WHOSE BODY WAS FOUND FLOATING IN PENGALAN RIVER IN MELALAP, MALAYSIA BY A PLANTATION WORKER WHO REPORTED IT TO MALAYSIAN AUTHORITIES IN A ‘POSSIBLE HOMICIDE’ CASE, AND OTHER ABUSES AGAINST OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS (OFWs) IN MALAYSIA THAT SOMETIMES END IN DEATHS AND TO RECOMMEND APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION”

By Representative Violago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2355, entitled:
“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND

CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF MRS. EVANGELINE F. MADRONA, MOTHER OF REPRESENTATIVE EMMANUEL F. MADRONA AND FORMER REPRESENTATIVE ELEANDRO JESUS F. MADRONA, BOTH OF THE LONE DISTRICT OF ROMBLON”

By Representatives Macapagal-Arroyo, Andaya and Suarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2356, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF ATTY. DOMINIC W. SIAO, BROTHER OF HONORABLE FREDERICK W. SIAO, REPRESENTATIVE, LONE DISTRICT OF ILIGAN CITY”

By Representatives Macapagal-Arroyo, Andaya and Suarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Concurrent Resolution No. 24, entitled:

“RESOLUTION PROVIDING THAT BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS CONVENE IN JOINT SESSION TO DELIBERATE ON THE REQUEST OF PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE TO FURTHER EXTEND THE PROCLAMATION OF MARTIAL LAW AND SUSPENSION OF THE PRIVILEGE OF THE WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS UNTIL 31 DECEMBER 2019 OR FOR SUCH OTHER PERIOD OF TIME AS THE CONGRESS MAY DETERMINE”

By Representative Andaya

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the honorable Majority Leader, Rep. Rolando G. Andaya Jr., for his question of privilege.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). The honorable Majority Leader, Rep. Rolando Andaya, is recognized.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE OF REP. ANDAYA

REP. ANDAYA. Yes, thank you very much, Mme. Speaker.

Allow me to rise on a question of personal and collective privilege in which I, including the Members

of the House, would like to seek to reestablish the House’s power over the budget.

In the past few days, this institution including its leadership has been maligned wrongly in the media regarding the exercise of its inherent and constitutional power. Recently, I was informed that there was an allegation that the big allocations were in the allies of our present Speaker.

Mme. Speaker, nothing can be farther from the truth. Let us all remember that when the NEP or the Budget was submitted to us, it was done under the previous leadership of the House. So, logic dictates that the large allocations per district would be from the allies of the previous leadership and not from the present leadership. But that aside, Mme. Speaker, let me remind everyone that it is a belief of anyone that a reenacted budget will result in economic slowdown, specifically, in the first and second quarters as routinely announced by our Secretary of Budget, in which he said that, a delayed budget, as predicted by the Senate, will result in economic slowdown in the first and second quarter.

Mme. Speaker, that is a lot of hot air coming from his rear end. That is not true. Any person who believes in that does not know his history. First of all, during his tenure as Secretary of the Department of Budget in the year 2000, the budget was passed in February. Did the sky fall down? Did the country collapse? I do not think so. We are still here. In the year 2007, the budget was passed on March 22, and on that year, we experienced large economic growth. In the first quarter, we had 6.9 percent growth and in the second quarter, there was the mind-boggling 8.3 percent growth.

Let us not forget, Mme. Speaker, that budgeting is not about expenditure; it is all about revenues. Let us not forget that. So, kahit na mas maliit iyong budget, kahit na-delay iyong budget, depende naman iyan doon sa namumuno sa DBM. Hindi naman po iyan depende sa trabaho ng Kongreso dahil iyang Kongreso, iba naman po ang trabaho niya at dapat balangkasin niya ang ibinibigay sa atin.

Cite the case in point, minadali natin masyado iyong 2018 Budget. Hindi man lang natin tiningnan, ipinasá natin in record time. Buti na lang ngayon, tinitingnan natin iyong Budget at makikita natin iyong performance na kung saan sana pumasok iyong Kongreso para naman hindi madehado tayong lahat. Bibigyan ko po kayo ng example. Noong 2017, ang budget ng flood control ng Public Works ay P73 billion. Hindi natin alam, dahil minadali natin, noong 2018 ang naging budget ng flood control, P123 billion—68 percent increase or P50 billion increase. Eh mabuti na lang ho kung napunta roon sa mga lugar na nangangailangan: sa Bulacan, sa Pampanga, sa Pangasinan, sa Metro Manila. Pero, kapag tiningnan natin, hindi pala roon napunta kasi nagmamadali tayo, hindi natin tiningnan.

Hindi naman po ito hiningi ng mga Mambabatas eh, pero nandoon sa proposal. Ano naman ang gagawin nila, nandoon sa proposal, kahit hindi nila hinihingi? Pero anong nangyari? Napunta lang itong mga flood control na ito sa mga distrito na hindi naman humihingi ng flood control.

I will be very specific. I will go down to the details, huwag na tayong magpaliguy-ligoy pa, sasabihin ko na kung anong distrito, katabi ko naman iyong dalawa eh, sa Second District ng Sorsogon at sa Distrito ng Catanduanes, katabi ko iyong dalawang Congressman dito. Sa Second District ng Sorsogon, may bumabang halos P2 billion na flood control na hindi naman ho hinihingi o walang kamuwang-muwang iyong Kinatawan. Sa Catanduanes, sa kasalukuyang taong ito, ang flood control niya, additional half a billion ang ibinigay sa Distrito ni Congressman Sarmiento (C.) na wala rin siyang kamuwang-muwang pero ipinasá natin dahil ang sabi, iyan daw iyong proposal ng Ehekutibo, huwag daw nating gagalawin, bawal daw iyon. Pero noong kinausap ko naman ang ating mahal na Pangulo, ang sabi naman niya sa akin, “Gawin ninyo ang trabaho ninyo. Do what you have to do. Kung sa tingin ninyong dapat tanggalin, tanggalin ninyo.” Eh dumagdag pa nga siya eh, humirit pa nga na, “Puwede bang idagdag mo itong mga kampo na ipapaayos ko dahil umiikot ako lagi sa mga military camp.” So, iyong utos o iyong pananakot sa atin na huwag gagalawin iyan, sa totoo lang, nilililang lang tayo para huwag nating makita iyong nangyayari, at ito nga po iyong nangyari sa dalawang distritong pinag-uusapan natin.

Gawin na lang nating example iyong distrito ng Sorsogon, Second District. Ipapakita ko sa inyo kung papaano na-bid at kanino napunta ang mga proyektong ito. Hindi lang flood control pero halos lahat. Ito po o, iyan iyong mga—unang-una, ipapaalam ko pala, iyong webpage ng Public Works sa Region V, bogged down na, so wala na akong makuhang detalye, wala na akong makuhang data. Buti na lang at nakapag-printout ako ng isang page lang, pero iyong isang page na iyan, kitangkita ninyo iyong kuwento. Iyan iyong lahat ng mga projects sa Sorsogon. Iyang mga bilog na iyan, lahat iyan, isang contractor lang 30 projects, isang contractor lang. Iyan ang nangyayari kapag minamadali mo ang Budget, hindi mo nakikita na hindi pa pala ipinapasá iyong Budget eh kinarne na, and to think, tayo iyong inaakusahan ng pork barrel. Iyan po o, hindi pa pasado iyong Budget, may may-ari na.

Pagdating ng Enero uno, kapag naging batas na ang Budget, ang contractor na iyan, sa kanya na lahat ng project. Isa-subcontract na lang niya sa ibang contractors. Pero ang mas nakakatakot, tingnan po ninyo ang pangalan ng contractor, mayroon akong kopya ng kontrata niya. Ito palang contractor na ito ay may 30 ang nakuhang projects. Hindi man lang pala ito korporasyon. Hindi man lang single A o triple A

na kumpanya. Isa siyang single proprietor, para pong sari-sari store, pero ang tinatrabaho niya ay bilyon. Papaano po nangyari ito? Hindi naman puwedeng District Engineer lang ang gagawa niyan. Kailangang mayroong mas mataas na nagkukumpas para mangyari iyan. Ang sample po ng kontrata niya, ang nakalagay ay “a sole proprietorship duly organized and existing by virtue of the laws of the Philippines.” Papaano nangyari iyon, bilyon na kontrata, single proprietorship? That is bad business practice. Mali iyan, hindi puwede iyan, bawal iyan pero nangyari na.

Ito pa ang malala, ang mga project na iyan, nasa Catanduanes at Sorsogon. Saan ba iyong contractor na ito na single proprietorship? Sa Bulacan, papaano nangyari iyon, single proprietorship na nasa Bulacan, na-corner lahat ng kontrata sa kadulu-duluhan ng ibang rehiyon? May milagrang nangyari diyan.

I understand that a lot of Members have the same experience. Maybe its about time some of you stand up for us to retake the power of the purse. We have been misunderstood and maligned all these years. We have actually managed to decrease our influence over the budget.

Now, with me coming out and showing you hard proof of what you know, what has been done to you, maybe it is about time we all, as one voice, stand up and expose this sham.

Thank you very much, Mme. Speaker. *(Applause)*

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

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Anthony M. Bravo, PhD from Party-List COOP-NATCCO for his interpellation.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). The Hon. Anthony Bravo is recognized for his interpellation.

REP. BRAVO (A.). Thank you, Mme. Speaker. Good afternoon.

Will the Gentleman from Camarines Sur yield to some questions from this Representation?

REP. ANDAYA. Yes, gladly, Mme. Speaker.

REP. BRAVO (A.). Just a while ago, Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleague, you challenged this House, the Members of this House to stand and, once and for all, defend our very institution vested with the power of the purse.

May I ask, Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleague, relative to public expenditure of our government, because I am also confused as to how the reporting system is being instituted by no other than the DBM. Mme. Speaker, is our distinguished colleague aware of

an amount that was not used or unused appropriation dating back in 2016, during the learning period of this new administration, which amounted to P596 billion?

REP. ANDAYA. That amount is usual.

REP. BRAVO (A.). That is huge.

REP. ANDAYA. It is not unusual to have that amount of savings for a new administration coming in at mid-stream or at mid-year.

REP. BRAVO (A.). I agree, distinguished colleague, Mme. Speaker, but this is the biggest so far in the history of public expenditure as far as unused appropriation is concerned.

REP. ANDAYA. It could be because the past administration has been notorious for underspending, so that is very much possible.

REP. BRAVO (A.). In 2017, Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleague, an unused appropriation amounting to P388 billion is still huge.

REP. ANDAYA. Yes, Mme. Speaker.

REP. BRAVO (A.). I would like to zero in on the reporting system. In 2016 and 2017, I have not seen the report on savings, was it proper, Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleague, considering that you were the previous DBM Secretary, during your time? Was there any time or particular year of expenditure that there was no report on the general savings of the government?

REP. ANDAYA. Actually, there was a report, but it was quite complicated. It was contained in the NEP and the BSF. It was all there. You would need a certain amount of experience to understand it, but it was reported. The best way to do it was to ask the DBM Secretary himself as to how much savings was there.

I will give an example. Recently, we had a meeting with Usec. Cabral of the Department of Public Works and Highways Planning Office. I asked her how many times they declared savings for this year. She said, "many times." I asked again, when was the first time they declared savings? "In January," she answered. So, January, may savings na pala tayo. How many times did they declare savings? I said four. "Could be," she said. I said, five. She said, "could be." Six could be. Savings is really a big source of additional funding for the Executive under the direct control of the DBM.

REP. BRAVO (A.). Unfortunately, Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleague, while you speak of savings,

there was no report about it in 2016 and 2017. How could there have been augmentation done during those years if there was no declared savings, Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleague.

REP. ANDAYA. We have invited the DBM Secretary for a Question Hour tomorrow, and he will be standing here in the very podium where I am standing now. May I suggest that you ask that question to him because there is no way to augment a particular item in the budget without declaring savings. That can be a very good question that you can ask him.

REP. BRAVO (A.). So, the presence of our DBM Secretary tomorrow is very much material, Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleague.

REP. ANDAYA. Yes, Mme. Speaker

REP. BRAVO (A.). Are we assured that he will be coming tomorrow so that this particular question will be raised in our Plenary session?

REP. ANDAYA. He has been invited since last week.

REP. BRAVO (A.). Was there a reply?

REP. ANDAYA. I received a letter that he is begging for time because he needs to gather data, which is quite unusual. He is very confident before the media. But I guess, this time around, he has changed his attitude. He is now suing for time to get more. But hopefully, with your questioning now, which I hope he is listening to tonight, maybe he will appear tomorrow.

REP. BRAVO (A.). I would like to take this opportunity, Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleague, to call on the DBM Secretary to yield to the invitation of this House, so that once and for all, this will be cleared.

REP. ANDAYA. But you should follow up that question. When you have savings, where does it go when you augment it? That is the question, because I also asked Usec. Cabral, the Head of the DPWH Planning Office, about who decides kung saan at anong klaseng project ang ibibigay. Iyong savings mo na sabi mo nga P300 billion, P400 billion, tinanong namin siya, "Mayroon ka bang papel sa pag-augment ng savings dahil kayo ang nakakaalam kung ano iyong mga project na kailangan?" Ang sagot niya, "Wala kaming alam, basta dumarating na lang sa amin iyan."

Mayroon palang ibang tao na gumagawa at pumapapel na DPWH Secretary maliban kay Secretary Villar. Dahil iyong pondo na iyan, bumababa na lang

daw sa mga distrito, bumababa na lang daw sa regional offices na wala silang kaalam-alam at hindi hinihingi ng Planning Office ng Department of Public Works and Highways. Be that as it may, Usec. Cabral has already assured us that she will give us all the releases for the current year, all the releases coming from the DBM from all sources. Makikita na po natin doon kung alin ang galing sa GAA, alin doon iyong galing sa savings at alin iyong galing sa lump sums para mahimay po at makita natin kung ano iyong direksiyon. Sino ba talaga ang nagdedesisyon dito sa mga bagay na ito? Marami na tayong impormasyon ukol sa mga koneksyon. Bakit malaki iyong alokasyon dito? Bakit napunta sa ganitong contractor? Siguro, hintayin na lang natin kapag humarap dito si Secretary Diokno para magkaintindihan tayong lahat.

REP. BRAVO (A.). Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleague, I think the Question Hour will not be enough for all those questions that need to be clarified by the Secretary.

REP. ANDAYA. Hindi po.

REP. BRAVO (A.). So, I would like to ...

REP. ANDAYA. Question Hours po.

REP. BRAVO (A.). Yes.

REP. ANDAYA. So hindi Question Hour, but Question Hours.

REP. BRAVO (A.). Question Hours, yes, Mme. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. Marami po iyon, puwedeng linggo o ano, araw man.

REP. BRAVO (A.). I would like to push, Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleague, that the Committee on Good Government and Public Accountability deeply pursue the investigation on this matter. That is my position, Mme. Speaker, distinguished colleague.

REP. ANDAYA. Yes, I understand, it will be the Committee on Good Government and Public Accountability that will spearhead the Question Hour.

Thank you very much.

REP. BRAVO (A.). That is all, Mme. Speaker. Thank you, distinguished colleague.

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

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the honorable Majority Leader to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). The question of privilege of Majority Leader Andaya is referred to the Committee on Rules.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mme. Speaker, I move for a suspension of the session.

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

It was 3:51 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:51 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING H.B. NO. 8715 ON THIRD READING

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8715 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8715, entitled: AN ACT ADOPTING INNOVATION AS VITAL COMPONENT OF THE COUNTRY'S DEVELOPMENT POLICIES TO DRIVE INCLUSIVE

DEVELOPMENT, PROMOTE THE GROWTH AND NATIONAL COMPETITIVENESS OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8715
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 206 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8715 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8179
ON THIRD READING

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8179 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8179, entitled: AN ACT GRANTING SOLAR PARASABAYAN CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN DISTRIBUTABLE POWER TECHNOLOGIES AND MINIGRID SYSTEMS THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO SUSTAINABLE ENERGY.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8179
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 198 affirmative votes, seven negative votes and one abstention, House Bill No. 8179 is now approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8720
ON THIRD READING

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8720 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8720, entitled: AN ACT REVITALIZING THE BASES CONVERSION DEVELOPMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7227, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "BASES CONVERSION AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1992," AS AMENDED.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8720
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 200 affirmative votes, six negative votes and no abstention, House Bill No. 8720 is now approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 7785
ON THIRD READING

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mme. Speaker, I move

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 7785 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 5, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7785, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK FOR THE SELECTION OF NATIONAL PERFORMING ARTS COMPANIES, DESIGNATING FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN PERFORMING ARTS GENRES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7785
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 206 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 7785 is now approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8683
ON THIRD READING

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8683 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 5, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8683, entitled: AN ACT LOWERING THE OPTIONAL RETIREMENT AGE OF GOVERNMENT WORKERS FROM SIXTY (60) YEARS TO FIFTY-SIX (56) YEARS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 13-A OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8291, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM ACT OF 1997."

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8683
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 206 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8683 is now approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 7856
ON THIRD READING

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 7856 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 5, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7856, entitled: AN ACT DECLARING SEPTEMBER 8 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY TO COMMEMORATE THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid*

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7856
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 206 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 7856 is now approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8626
ON THIRD READING

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8626 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8626, entitled: AN ACT PRESERVING THE INDIGENOUS GAMES OF THE PHILIPPINES.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8626
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 206 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8626 is now approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8627
ON THIRD READING

REP. GONZALES (A.P.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8627

and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 5, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8627, entitled: AN ACT REQUIRING HOSPITALS, MEDICAL CLINICS, AND OTHER FACILITIES TO RELEASE A CADAVER IN THEIR POSSESSION WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR (24) HOURS FROM THE TIME OF DEATH TO THE FAMILY OR RELATIVES IN RECOGNITION OF RELIGIOUS PRACTICES AND TRADITIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9439, ENTITLED “AN ACT PROHIBITING THE DETENTION OF PATIENTS IN HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL CLINICS ON GROUNDS OF NONPAYMENT OF HOSPITAL BILLS OR MEDICAL EXPENSES.”

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8627
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 207 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8627 is now approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8654
ON THIRD READING

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8654 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8654, entitled: AN ACT MANDATING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO PROVIDE THE APPROPRIATE ARMCHAIRS TO LEFT-HANDED STUDENTS.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8654
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 207 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8654 is now approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8655
ON THIRD READING

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8655 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8655, entitled: AN ACT DEFINING ELECTRONIC VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN, PROVIDING PROTECTIVE MEASURES, AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9262, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “ANTI-VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN ACT OF 2004.”

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8655
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 207 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8655 is now approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, before we proceed, we would like to acknowledge the presence of the guests of the Hon. Ramon V.A. “Rav” Rocamora, the Representative from the Lone District of Siquijor. They are Ms. Gabriella Rocamora, Mateo Rocamora, Luca Rocamora, Diego Rocamora, Inga Helen Rocamora, Hanneke van Eldik and former National Anti-Poverty Commission Secretary Jose Eliseo Rocamora.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). The presence of the guests of Congressman Rocamora is hereby acknowledged. Welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)

The Majority Leader is recognized.

RATIFICATION OF CONF. CTTEE. RPT.
ON H.B. NO. 5615 AND S.B. NO. 1716

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, we are in receipt of the Conference Committee Report reconciling the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 5615 and Senate Bill No. 1716.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). 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.

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

** See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 5615, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SPORTS COMPLEX KNOWN AS THE “NATIONAL SPORTS TRAINING CENTER”, AND PROVIDING FUNDS FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY, THE CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES, AND THE ADMINISTRATION, MAINTENANCE, AND MANAGEMENT OF THE CENTER; and Senate Bill No. 1716, entitled: AN ACT CREATING AND ESTABLISHING A SPORTS COMPLEX KNOWN AS THE “PHILIPPINE AMATEUR SPORTS TRAINING CENTER”, AND FUNDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY, CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES, INCLUDING ITS ADMINISTRATION, MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, in accordance with our rules, I move that we ratify the said Conference Committee Report.

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

The Conference Committee Report is ratified.
The Majority Leader is recognized.

RATIFICATION OF CONF. CTTEE. RPT.
ON H.B. NO. 5784 AND S.B. NO. 1896

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, we are also in receipt of the Conference Committee Report reconciling the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 5784 and Senate Bill No. 1896.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). 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. 5784, entitled: AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A UNIVERSAL HEALTH COVERAGE FOR FILIPINOS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, and Senate Bill No. 1896, entitled: AN ACT INSTITUTING

UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE FOR ALL FILIPINOS, PRESCRIBING REFORMS IN THE HEALTH CARE SYSTEM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN LAWS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we ratify the said Conference Committee Report.

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

The Conference Committee Report is ratified.
The Majority Leader is recognized.

RATIFICATION OF CONF. CTTEE. RPT.
ON H.B. NO. 8014 AND S.B. NO. 1391

REP. MARCOLETA. We are also in receipt, Mme. Speaker, of the Conference Committee Report reconciling the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 8014 and Senate Bill No. 1391.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). 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. 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”; and Senate Bill No. 1391, entitled: AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MANDATORY PHILHEALTH COVERAGE FOR ALL PERSONS WITH DISABILITY (PWDs), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7277, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “MAGNA CARTA FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITY,” AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, in accordance

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

with our rules, I move that we ratify the said Conference Committee Report.

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

The Conference Committee Report is now ratified.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

RATIFICATION OF CONF. CTTEE. RPT.
ON H.B. NO. 8078 AND S.B. NO. 1454

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, we are also in receipt of the Conference Committee Report reconciling the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 8078 and Senate Bill No. 1454.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). 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. 8078, entitled: AN ACT REMOVING THE RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED ON THE REGISTRATION, ACQUISITION, ENCUMBRANCE, ALIENATION, TRANSFER AND CONVEYANCE OF LAND COVERED BY FREE PATENTS UNDER SECTIONS 118, 119, AND 121 OF COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 141, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE PUBLIC LAND ACT," AS AMENDED; and Senate Bill No. 1454, entitled: AN ACT REMOVING THE RESTRICTIONS IN THE REGISTRATION OF LAND TITLES UNDER SECTIONS 118, 119, AND 121, AND OTHER RESTRICTIONS AGAINST ENCUMBRANCE OR ALIENATION ON FREE PATENTS ISSUED UNDER SECTION 44 OF COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 141 OR THE PUBLIC LAND ACT, AS AMENDED.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, in accordance with our rules, I move that we ratify the said Conference Committee Report.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). Is

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

The Conference Committee Report is now ratified.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

DESIGNATION OF MEMBERS
TO THE CONF. CTTEES.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we designate the following as members of the Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 8110 and Senate Bill No. 192, mandating the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration to develop, publish, disseminate and update Handbook on the Rights and Responsibilities of Migrant Workers: Reps. Jesulito A. Manalo, Rogelio "Ruel" D. Pacquiao, Micaela S. Violago, Jose "Pingping" I. Tejada and Peter John D. Calderon.

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

The Members nominated are so designated.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we designate the following as members of the Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 8628 and Senate Bill No. 1898, transferring the Philippine National Police Academy and the National Police Training Institute from the Philippine Public Safety College to the Philippine National Police: Reps. Romeo M. Acop, Leopoldo N. Bataoil, Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento, Juliet Marie D. Ferrer and Richard C. Eusebio.

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

The Members nominated are so designated.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we designate the following as members of the Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 8715 and Senate Bill No. 1355, re The Philippine Innovation Act: Reps. Dennis C. Laogan, Peter "Sr. Pedro" M. Unabia, Victor A. Yap, Wes Gatchalian, Luis Raymund F. Villafuerte Jr., Arthur C. Yap, Ron P. Salo and Aniceto "John" D. Bertiz III.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). Is

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

The Members nominated are so designated.
The Majority Leader is recognized.

CHANGE OF REFERRAL OF CERTAIN MEASURES

REP. MARCOLETA. Finally, Mme. Speaker, I move for the change of referral of House Resolution No. 2347, from the Committee on Overseas Workers Affairs to the Committee on Rules.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; House Resolution No. 2347 is now remanded from the Committee on Overseas Workers Affairs to the Committee on Rules.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. MARCOLETA. I also move for the change of referral of House Resolution No. 2350, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs to the Committee on Rules.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) House Resolution No. 2350 is hereby remanded from the Committee on Foreign Affairs to the Committee on Rules.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8667 ON THIRD READING

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8667 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8667, entitled: AN ACT GRANTING THE BASES CONVERSION AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE, LEASE, OWN, MANAGE

AND MAINTAIN DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS FOR THE CONVEYANCE OF ELECTRIC POWER TO END USERS ANYWHERE IN ALL AREAS COVERED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7227, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “BASES CONVERSION AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1992” EXCLUDING AREAS UNDER THE SUBIC SPECIAL FREEPORT AND ECONOMIC ZONE.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8667 ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 207 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8667 is now approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8668 ON THIRD READING

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8668 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8668, entitled: AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO VIMCONTU BROADCASTING CORPORATION, UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8116, ENTITLED “AN ACT GRANTING THE VIMCONTU BROADCASTING CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS WITHIN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8668
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 209 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8668 is now approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that House Bill No. 87—8670 ...

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, may we move for a one-minute suspension of the session, please.

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

It was 4:49 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:49 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8670
ON THIRD READING

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8670 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill

No. 8670, entitled: AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO SWARA SUG MEDIA CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8122, ENTITLED “AN ACT GRANTING THE SWARA SUG MEDIA CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8670
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 209 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8670 is now approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8673
ON THIRD READING

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8673 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8673, entitled: AN ACT PROHIBITING RACIAL, ETHNIC, AND RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8673
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 211 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8673 is now approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8690
ON THIRD READING

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8690 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8690, entitled: AN ACT REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8690
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 211 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8690 is approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8691
ON THIRD READING

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8691 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8691, entitled: AN ACT CREATING THE DAVAO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8691
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 211 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8691 is now approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8714
ON THIRD READING

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8714 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8714, entitled: AN ACT FURTHER PROMOTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP BY STRENGTHENING, EMPOWERING AND ENHANCING THE FINANCING PROGRAMS FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES, AMENDING

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6977, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “MAGNA CARTA FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (MSMEs).”

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8714
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 212 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8714 is now approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 398
ON THIRD READING

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 398 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 398, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY TANDANG SORA, QUEZON CITY, METRO MANILA TO BE KNOWN AS TANDANG SORA SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 398
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With

212 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 398 is now approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 5371
ON THIRD READING

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 5371 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 5371, entitled: AN ACT SEPARATING THE TINAJEROS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL-ACACIA ANNEX IN BARANGAY ACACIA, CITY OF MALABON, METRO MANILA FROM THE TINAJEROS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS ACACIA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 5371
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 5371 is now approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 5947
ON THIRD READING

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No.

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

5947 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 5947, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY FRANCISCO HOMES-MULAWIN, CITY OF SAN JOSE DEL MONTE, PROVINCE OF BULACAN TO BE KNOWN AS MULAWIN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 5947
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 5947 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 5948
ON THIRD READING

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 5948 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 5948, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY SAN RAFAEL I, CITY OF SAN JOSE DEL MONTE, PROVINCE OF BULACAN TO BE KNOWN AS SAN RAFAEL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 5948
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 215 Members affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 5948 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 5991
ON THIRD READING

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 5991 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 5991, entitled: AN ACT CONVERTING THE EXTENSION OFFICE OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SANCHEZ MIRA, PROVINCE OF CAGAYAN INTO A REGULAR DISTRICT OFFICE, TRANSFERRING ITS LOCATION TO THE MUNICIPALITY OF ABULUG, PROVINCE OF CAGAYAN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 5991
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 215 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 5991 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 6105
ON THIRD READING

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 6105 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 6105, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN SITIO CABAGAAYAN, BARANGAY SIBULAN, TORIL DISTRICT, DAVAO CITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE CABAGAAYAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 6105
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 216 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 6105 is now approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H. CT. RES. NO. 24

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move for the consideration of House Concurrent Resolution No. 24. For this purpose, may I request that the Secretary General be directed to read the title of the said House Concurrent Resolution.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). 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 Concurrent Resolution No. 24, entitled: CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROVIDING THAT BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS CONVENE IN JOINT SESSION TO DELIBERATE ON THE REQUEST OF PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE TO FURTHER EXTEND THE PROCLAMATION OF MARTIAL LAW AND SUSPENSION OF THE PRIVILEGE OF THE WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS UNTIL 31 DECEMBER 2019 OR FOR SUCH OTHER PERIOD OF TIME AS THE CONGRESS MAY DETERMINE.

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

ADOPTION OF H. CT. RES. NO. 24

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move for the adoption of House Concurrent Resolution No. 24.

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

House Concurrent Resolution No. 24 is hereby adopted.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 6588
ON THIRD READING

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 6588 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

** See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 6588, entitled: AN ACT DECLARING THE CITY OF BUTUAN A HERITAGE TOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 6588
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 216 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 6588 is now approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 6613
ON THIRD READING

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 6613 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 6613, entitled: AN ACT DECLARING SEPTEMBER 20 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE IN HONOR OF DOÑA JOSEFA LLANES ESCODA, THE WORLD WAR II HEROINE AND FOUNDER OF THE GIRL SCOUTS OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND CALLING IT “DOÑA JOSEFA LLANES ESCODA DAY.”

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 6613
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 216 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 6613 is now approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8096
ON THIRD READING

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, under the same motion I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8096 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8096, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN INTEGRATED NATIONAL SCHOOL IN BARANGAY CAPUY, CITY OF SORSOGON, PROVINCE OF SORSOGON TO BE KNOWN AS CAPUY INTEGRATED NATIONAL SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8096
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 217 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

abstention, House Bill No. 8096 is now approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8187
ON THIRD READING

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8187 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8187, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY AMBIONG, MUNICIPALITY OF LA TRINIDAD, PROVINCE OF BENGUET TO BE KNOWN AS AMBIONG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8187
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 217 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8187 is now approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8650
ON THIRD READING

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8650 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8650, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LAL-LO, PROVINCE OF CAGAYAN, TO BE KNOWN AS THE LAL-LO, CAGAYAN TESDA TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8650
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 217 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8650 is now approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8684
ON THIRD READING

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8684 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8684, entitled: AN ACT SEPARATING THE MALABON NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL (MNHS) – CONCEPCION TECHNICAL – VOCATIONAL ANNEX IN BARANGAY CONCEPCION, CITY OF MALABON, METRO MANILA FROM THE MALABON NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS CONCEPCION TECHNICAL–VOCATIONAL SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8684
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 217 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8684 is now approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8693
ON THIRD READING

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8693 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8693, entitled: AN ACT SEPARATING THE VILLAMAYOR NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – BAGOLATAO ANNEX IN BARANGAY BAGOLATAO, MUNICIPALITY OF MINALABAC, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR FROM THE VILLAMAYOR NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL,

CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS BAGOLATAO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8693
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 217 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8693 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8696
ON THIRD READING

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, I move that vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8696 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8696, entitled: AN ACT DECLARING FEBRUARY 1 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9090, ENTITLED: “AN ACT DECLARING FEBRUARY FIRST OF EVERY YEAR AS ‘JOSE MARIA C. PANGANIBAN DAY’ AND A SPECIAL WORKING PUBLIC HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE.”

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8696
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 217 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8696 is now approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8697
ON THIRD READING

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8697 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8697, entitled: AN ACT DECLARING NOVEMBER 26 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF DASMARIÑAS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, AND ALL ITS BARANGAYS TO BE KNOWN AS THE “FOUNDATION DAY OF THE CITY OF DASMARIÑAS.”

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8697
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 217 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8697 is now approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8698
ON THIRD READING

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, I move that

we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8698 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8698, entitled: AN ACT DECLARING JUNE 16 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF BAYBAY, PROVINCE OF LEYTE, TO BE KNOWN AS “BAYBAY CITY CHARTER DAY.”

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8698
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 217 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8698 is now approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8699
ON THIRD READING

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8699 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8699, entitled: AN ACT DECLARING MARCH 1 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF DAVAO, PROVINCE OF DAVAO, TO BE KNOWN AS “ARAW NG DABAW”, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACTS NUMBERED 7551 AND 7685.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8699
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 217 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8699 is now approved on Third Reading. The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8700
ON THIRD READING

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No 8700 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8700, entitled: AN ACT DECLARING DECEMBER 27 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF BAYBAY, PROVINCE OF LEYTE, IN CELEBRATION OF ITS “BINAYBAYON FESTIVAL.”

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8700
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 217 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8700 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8702
ON THIRD READING

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8702 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8702, entitled: AN ACT CONVERTING THE STA. IGNACIA-GUIMBA PROVINCIAL ROAD IN THE PROVINCES OF TARLAC AND NUEVA ECIJA VIA GERONA-PURA ROAD STRETCHING FROM BARANGAY NAMBALAN, MUNICIPALITY OF STA. IGNACIA TO BARANGAY BUENAVISTA, MUNICIPALITY OF PURA, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF TARLAC INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8702
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 217 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8702 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8703
ON THIRD READING

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8703 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8703, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION (PRC) OFFICE IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD, PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8703
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 217 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8703 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized

NOMINAL VOTING ON H.B. NO. 8718
ON THIRD READING

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 8718 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure, and call the roll for nominal voting.

I so move.

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

Thereupon, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, printed copies of which were distributed to

the Members on December 6, 2018, pursuant to Section 58, Rule X of the House Rules.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8718, entitled: AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SURIGAO DEL SUR SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE AND FREEPORT IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF CARRASCAL, CANTILAN, MADRID, CARMEN, AND LANUZA, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second roll call was made. The result of the voting on Third Reading on the aforesaid measure is reflected in Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.*

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8718
ON THIRD READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). With 217 affirmative votes, no negative vote and no abstention, House Bill No. 8718 is approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mme. Speaker, I move that the Secretary General be directed to submit all approved House bills on Third Reading to the Senate of the Philippines.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). The Secretary General is directed to submit to the Senate all approved House bills approved on Third Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 2355

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move for the consideration of House Resolution No. 2355. For this purpose, may I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). 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.

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

** See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Resolution No. 2355, entitled: RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF MRS. EVANGELINE F. MADRONA, MOTHER OF REPRESENTATIVE EMMANUEL F. MADRONA AND FORMER REPRESENTATIVE ELEANDRO JESUS F. MADRONA, BOTH OF THE LONE DISTRICT OF ROMBLON.

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

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move for the adoption of House Resolution No. 2355.

ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 2355

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

House Resolution No. 2355 is adopted.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 2356

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move for the consideration of House Resolution No. 2356. For this purpose, may I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

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

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

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

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Resolution No. 2356, entitled: RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF ATTY. DOMINIC W. SIAO, BROTHER OF HONORABLE FREDERICK W. SIAO, REPRESENTATIVE, LONE DISTRICT OF ILIGAN CITY.

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move for the adoption of House Resolution No. 2356.

ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 2356

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

House Resolution No. 2356 is adopted.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

DESIGNATION OF REP. SALO TO THE CONF. CTTEE.

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, I move that we designate Rep. Ron P. Salo as additional member of the Conference Committee reconciling the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 8110 and Senate Bill No. 192, mandating the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration to develop, publish, disseminate and update a Handbook on the Rights and Responsibilities of Migrant Workers.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

Rep. Ron Salo is so designated.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. Mme. Speaker, under the Additional Reference of Business, may I request that the Secretary General be directed to read Committee Report No. 1018, re House Bill No. 8757.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read the said Committee Report.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Secretary General read the Committee Report and the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding reference:

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Committee on Economic Affairs, the Committee on Trade and Industry, the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Ways and Means (Committee Report No. 1018), re H.B. No. 8757, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE AND FREEPORT IN THE AREA ENCOMPASSING THE

BARANGAYS OF DUMABEL, SAN LEONARDO, PINARIPAD NORTE, PALACIAN, LIGAYA, VILLA VENTURA, DIODOL AND PINARIPAD SUR, ALL LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF AGLIPAY, PROVINCE OF QUIRINO, CREATING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE AUTHORITY OF THE FREEPORT AREA OF QUIRINO (AFAQ), AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 6472

Sponsors: Representatives Garcia (G.), Biron, Zamora (M.C.), Suansing (E.) and Cua
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

PRIVILEGE HOUR

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, today, being a Monday, and pursuant to our Rules, I move that we proceed to the Privilege Hour.

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

The Chair declares a Privilege Hour.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Lady from Party-List SENIOR CITIZENS, the Hon. Milagros Aquino-Magsaysay, to avail of the Privilege Hour.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). Rep. Milagros Aquino-Magsaysay is recognized ...

REP. AQUINO-MAGSAYSAY. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). ...to avail of the Privilege Hour.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. AQUINO-MAGSAYSAY

REP. AQUINO-MAGSAYSAY. To my esteemed colleagues of the Seventeenth Congress, to the noble and laudable leadership of the House of Representatives, Mme. Speaker, a pleasant good afternoon to all of you.

I wish to extend my most heartfelt gratitude for this opportunity to bring to light an issue that has been causing me grave concern and anxiety lately, both as

an elderly Representative of this country, as well as a local of my beloved province of La Union.

In my close to two years being among you, this has only been my second time to address this august Chamber, and it is always done with a cause that is close to mine and my constituents' hearts. Before anything, let me start with a posthumous quote by the American industrialist, Jim Rohn who once said, “All good men and women must take responsibility to create legacies that will take the next generation to a level we could only imagine.”

Speaking of the legacies left by good men and women for the generations that follow them, it was in this same Chamber, a decade ago, that the Fourteenth Congress drafted Republic Act No. 9513 or what we now recognize as the Renewable Energy Act of 2008. It was formally enacted by then President and now our principled House Speaker Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo on December 16, 2008—a historic time for the Philippines to welcome cleaner and more sustainable sources of energy to further empower our developing economy.

The Act principally aimed at promoting the development, utilization and commercialization of renewable energy sources, and in the short span of a decade, we have seen it take root and bear fruit in our shores. However, the evils and the perils that this landmark law has aimed to lessen and, hopefully, eradicate completely, unfortunately, still persist. Today, renewable sources of energy constitute only one-fourth or 25 percent of our country's energy supply, while fossil fuel-powered energy sources still make up a disturbing majority.

There is no denying that coal had rapidly fueled global development for the past century, particularly during the ages of the first and second industrialization. However, in our current climate of global warming, rapid environmental degradation, worsening quality of health and their rising collective impacts on our economic development, perhaps it is time for us to recognize the use of coal as our main source of power as what it truly is—a dirty liability, much more than a convenient and cheap asset.

Maybe a number of my colleagues are asking, why am I speaking today on matters that may not be of immediate concern for our nine million senior citizen constituency? To answer it simply, this Representation recognizes this as an opportune time to be able to shape the future of our national progress as one that would leave the most gains for the succeeding generation while tempering out our losses. And, while risking the admission of personal interest, I am taking this privilege to face what is a clear and present threat that is, amidst the darkening skies of fear and uncertainty, currently taking shape in our local shores of La Union.

The historical pebbled beaches of Luna, La Union have long been a haven for farming and fisheries in our

once simple province. Due to its people's resilience and industriousness, they have also built Luna to be a tourism town, complementing to La Union's place and popularity as the surfing capital of the north. Since then, the third-class municipality of Luna, home to some 40,000 individuals, has welcomed growth of a dynamic scale that its people have enjoyed. However, these days, they are being faced with an addition that most, if not all of them, do not actually want, and far less deserve.

In the third quarter of this year, the Global Luzon Energy Development Corporation has formally broken ground for the construction of an P80-billion, 41-hectare, 670-megawatt coal-fired power plant in the seaside barangays of Carisquis and Nalvo Sur. What was once a quiet, idyllic fishing community is now facing the rise of an industrial behemoth, and while some may see this as a welcome development for our province's progress, particularly one that has long been plagued by power shortages, perhaps the more enlightened of us would recognize how building a coal-powered plant in a community that is yet brimming with much potential for development would face losses that could far outweigh its gains.

The local government of Luna has projected that the project would generate jobs for 3,000 individuals and income of up to half a billion in realty taxes. Yet, we asked them, is this enough compensation to throw the whole province's health, economy, environment and future in jeopardy? It would not take a scientist to recognize how burning coal could impact our general health. When coal is burned, it releases a number of airborne toxins and pollutants called "particulate matter." These particulate matters include carbon, mercury, lead, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides and various other heavy metals. These particulate matters, when airborne, may reach our body through the simple act of breathing, and the results are catastrophic. Inhaling them can result in respiratory ailments with long-term or chronic health effects. Once in the body, coal particulate matter can cause and worsen asthma, chronic bronchitis, lung cancer, cardiovascular issues, neurological disorders, birth defects and premature death. Faced with this, it is the children and the elderly having more vulnerable immune systems that are most at risk by coal pollution.

The World Health Organization has identified coal as the highest source of air pollution, and an alarming 9 out of 10 people are exposed to it globally. In a study conducted by Greenpeace in collaboration with Harvard University on communities where coal-fired plants in the Philippines are present, it was concluded that around 2,410 premature deaths could be attributed to the coal power plant operation in the Visayas, including the Iloilo and Cebu coal-fired power plants.

A 670-megawatt coal-fired power plant, like the one being built in Luna, La Union, can send airborne particulate matters and generally affect the quality of air to as far as 50 kilometers, putting the urbanized cities of San Fernando, La Union in the south, and Candon, Ilocos Sur in the north, in serious risk. It could also affect the quality of health of the booming surfing haven of San Juan, La Union, which currently attracts roughly half a million visitors annually.

As a staunch Member of the House Committee on Health, I am most concerned about how a new coal-fired power plant development can further increase the burden of cost to our national healthcare. We live in a country where lung cancer claims the lives of 10,000 Filipinos annually, and where respiratory infections, pneumonia and bronchitis comprise the top three health-related morbidity causes. Speaking as the Senior Citizen Representative, if we cannot see these statistics lessen, we vehemently refuse to see these numbers increase.

While income generated from coal-fired power plants can fatten the coffers of our State to mitigate their health impacts on our society, there is no denying that they are the chief causes of diseases borne out of poor air quality, and I am certain that most of you will agree in the age-old saying that "prevention will always be better and more affordable than cure."

In October of this year, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reported that we have only a period of 12 years to limit our increase in global temperature to one point five (1.5) degrees Celsius, or face irreversible changes in our climate and geographic conditions. Anything in excess would cause Arctic caps to melt and sea waters to rise, and increase the prevalence of drought, harsher conditions for tropical storms and graver incidences of flooding. In the global climate risk index, our country, the Philippines, ranks fifth among those who are most susceptible to climate change. Of course, this news is nothing new to us. We are made more familiar of this at a national, almost personal standpoint by the names "Ondoy," "Yolanda," "Pepeng" and "Pablo." In fact, these persistent debilitating typhoons are the reasons why we became the founding signatories of the Paris Accord in 2015, which gives our national and local government units a more proactive role and higher accountability in regulating and minimizing threats to the global rise in temperature. No small part of what we signed up for was our commitment to stop constructing new coal power plants and to phase out its use by 2050, thereby recognizing that carbon emissions caused by burning coal constitute the biggest threat to our pervasively warming climate.

Other than its irreversible impacts to our global climate, the use of coal for energy proves largely damaging to our environment. Its production cycle alone—from its mining to its transportation—leaves

an indelible mark on its surroundings. Adding to that, with the bill on the environment caused by its utilization cycle, from its burning to its waste disposal, you will get an all throughout destructive force that proves burdensome not only to our generation, but also to those that will succeed us.

Coal-fired power plants utilize as much water as would meet the basic needs of five billion people, according to the International Energy Agency. If we do not halt its use, this statistic is poised to double by 2035. Since we import much of our coal, we expect it to be transported using huge barges that, in turn, expend more fossil fuels and induce more carbon emissions. I believe we are also no stranger to the numerous cases of coal barge accidents that have occurred in our country.

When we barbecue from our own homes, we realize one persistent problem, what to do with the ash left from our charcoal grills? The same is true for coal-fired power plants which produce more than 100 million tons of coal ash every year. More than half of this dirty waste ends up in ponds, lakes, landfills, and other sites where, over time, can contaminate our waterways, drinking water supplies, irrigation channels and, ultimately, our farmlands and fishing grounds.

The Carisquis-Darigayos area harvests shellfish, prawns, crabs, octopus and seaweeds from the intertidal zone for local consumption, all of which species are known to take up, retain and concentrate toxic elements discharged from power plants. The long-term effects of habitual consumption of those toxins can be serious, especially for children and the elderly.

Imagine a thirsty coal plant which needs plenty of water to run and poses incredibly heightened risks in water and land contamination through its transportation and its waste management practices, and imagine it operating in a once peaceful, unadulterated seaside community. Maybe we do not need to imagine further, as the province of Bataan had since been faced with the reality of relocating some 250 families displaced by the coal-fired power plant operations in Limay. These, Ladies and Gentlemen, will soon be the future of Luna, La Union, if we refuse to act.

Most of our coal-power industrialists can dispute how coal is a more economical, more efficient source of energy that can, in turn, generate power stability and lessen supply costs, particularly for our fast-developing economy. But this is where convenience and cost become quite a contentious issue.

According to the 2018 Department of Energy Report, the Philippines so far has a total of 40 coal-fired power plants operating in the country, and yet, the Filipinos are still paying the second most expensive electricity rate in Asia, next only to Japan, a first-world economy. If coal indeed is a cheap source of energy, why does our electric generation cost continue its uphill surge despite more and more addition of coal-

generated energy to our national grid? Perhaps this is because investing in coal has always been a lopsided proposition. Other than its externalized costs: costs in health, climate and social justice which we have enumerated earlier, the use of coal-powered energy had since been exceedingly more expensive compared to other increasingly popular and growingly economical alternative power sources.

We have reached the times when investing in coal, once cheap and convenient, has now become financially risky. The University of Oxford's Stranded Assets Program has theorized that fossil fuel assets risk becoming stranded in a strong climate change mitigation scenario. Since more and more investors are shifting their capital on developing renewable sources of energy, the prices of sustainable energy technology have since experienced a staggering decline. What was an alternative has now become the norm.

According to a report by the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis, coal-fired power generation costs upwards of P3.80 to P5.50 per kilowatt hour. Compare this to rooftop solar, which only costs between P2.50 per kilowatt hour to P5.30 per kilowatt hour to generate, utility scale solar power can cost as little as P2.99 per kilowatt hour. Wind power generation costs as little as P3.50 per kilowatt hour. Geothermal energy costs P3.50 to P4.50 per kilowatt hour, and hydropower generation costs only P3 per kilowatt hour. Overall, the cleaner, greener, more sustainable options for power-generation have now become the cheaper, more convenient—not to mention, cleaner—energy options.

China, once chiefly powered by coal, has begun the process of moving away from coal-fired plants and is leading the global industry on renewable energy. This, while the Philippines' financial sector exposes itself on risky investments towards a new fleet of coal-fired power plants, which, once built, entails our dependence on coal imports, as opposed to liberating and empowering us by utilizing readily-available sources for energy generation. My friends, tell me, what part of this is good business?

Given this equation, one cannot help but be curious of what we have to gain from these new coal-fired power plants, when a total of seven is currently green-lit to be built around the country, including the 670-megawatt Luna Power Plant. A study by the US-based think tank Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis says another 10,423 megawatts of coal projects worth over P1.1 trillion are in the country's energy pipeline. Sure, these plants, once built, would drastically increase the capacity of our national grid, which can help secure the supply of energy at an opportune time when our economy is growing at an unprecedented rate, but at a cost of P1 trillion, and including the yet unquantifiable costs to our healthcare, environment, economic risks

and social justice, which would be the sole burden of our taxpayers. May I ask this august Chamber, are these new developments in coal-powered energy generation worth it?

The Energy Regulatory Commission seems to think so. On April 29, 2016, Meralco submitted seven power supply agreements entered with generation companies to the Energy Regulatory Commission. These seven power supply agreements, when taken together, amount to 3,551 megawatts of additional electricity that would be sourced from seven coal plants, six of which are yet to be constructed. However, the said power supply agreements were submitted to and accepted by the ERC on the last day of the deferment period beyond the Commission's office hours, which added a more sinister color to the existing deals. These seven power sharing agreements are set to be awarded the Energy Project of National Significance status.

We, as a congressional body, deeply concerned about the welfare and the future of our country, have made major strides in curbing the Philippines' dependence in coal power. Through the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion Law, we have implemented a monumental 400-percent tax hike on imported coal, the first in 30 years. However, this imposition does not seem to be a deterrent in curbing new coal-fired power plant projects. Perhaps, we need to go back to the drawing board to find a solution to further decrease or eradicate our country's dependence on this dirty source of energy.

In a country which possesses the untapped renewable energy potential of 4,000 megawatts from geothermal sources, 76,000 megawatts from wind power, 10,000 megawatts from hydropower and roughly 170,000 megawatts from ocean or tidal energy, according to the Renewable Energy Management Bureau of the Department of Energy, which this remarkable House of Representatives empowered some 10 years ago with the Renewable Energy Act, my question is: What exactly powers our dependence on coal-generated energy?

If this speech is of any evidence, the numbers, statistics, even the more perceptible realities do not seem to add in favor of coal-generated energy. The fact is, more and more cities and provinces in our archipelago have since professed their disdain and separation from coal. Provinces such as Bohol, Guimaras, Negros, Ilocos Norte, Masbate and South Cotabato, as well as Ormoc City and the municipality of Sariaya have all declared their areas as "Coal Free Zones." Why then do some parts of our country refuse to recognize the real cost of coal power in our society?

As I am not in the sage position to answer my own inquiries, may I implore my more able, respected colleagues from the House Committee on Energy to look into strengthening the mandate this notable House of Representatives first introduced some 10 years ago with the advent of RA No. 9513, and perhaps look

into lessening or even, if possible, eradicating our dependence on coal power.

Speaking on a personal note, I know that my speech is set to open a Pandora's box of more questions, even contentions from my beloved friends here in this honorable Chamber, but may I assure each one of you that I am taking this privilege, not speaking out of politics, but of genuine concern for the future of our country and my grandchildren, some of whom are residing in La Union—a cleaner future that is secure with ecologically sound and more practical sources of energy, the same future which some of you present here have imagined a decade ago when you drafted and supported the Renewable Energy Act. If we were able to do it some 10 years back, I am more than positive that we are more empowered now to steer our country to a forward course where our development is more responsible, more accountable and more sustainable as a lasting legacy for the generations that will succeed us.

As the once American President Bill Clinton said, "The price of doing the same old thing is far higher than the price of change," I thank you very much for this empowering opportunity to address each one of you, and may God bless this honorable House of Representatives.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). Thank you.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the Hon. Milagros Aquino-Magsaysay to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). The speech of the Hon. Milagros Aquino-Magsaysay is remanded to the Committee on Rules.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the distinguished Lady from the Second District of Zamboanga del Sur, the Honorable Aurora Enerio Cerilles to avail of the remaining time of the Privilege Hour.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). Rep. Aurora Enerio Cerilles from the Second District of Zamboanga del Sur is now recognized.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. CERILLES

REP. CERILLES. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

Mme. Speaker, honorable Members of the House of Representatives, ladies and gentlemen, good afternoon.

Last November 20 2017, I delivered the privilege speech before this august Body, exposing the injustice done by the NAPOLCOM against Gov. Antonio H. Cerilles when it issued *en banc* Resolution No. 2017-571, withdrawing Governor Cerilles' NAPOLCOM deputation based on a confidential report that was never furnished to him, thus, giving him no opportunity to explain his side. Worse, it was released at the time when several mayors were likewise stripped of their NAPOLCOM deputation for alleged drug links. As a result, the name of Governor Cerilles was included in the headlines as among the so-called "narco-politicians."

The NAPOLCOM tried to correct the press statement after my privilege speech but it was a little too late, and damage has been done.

My privilege speech was referred to the Committee on Public Safety. In a Committee hearing held last December 4, 2018, the previous Provincial Directors, Police Sr. Supt. Sofronio Ecaldre and Police Sr. Supt. Allan Nazarro, with Provincial Intelligence Officer Police Superintendent Pantaran, together with Lt. Col. Alvin Luzon, his successor, Lt. Col. Virgilio Hamos and the incumbent Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Marlowe Patria, all from the 53rd Infantry Battalion, attested that Governor Cerilles has not committed any abuse of authority, nor did they receive any complaint or report against him. Also, the PDEA hierarchy clearly stated that Governor Cerilles is not in the narco-list.

In fact, during the Committee hearing, after hearing the invited guests from the PNP, the PDEA and the Armed Forces of the Philippines, the Committee Chairman, Hon. Romeo Acop, said that if this happened to him, he would immediately file a case for the injustice committed and for violating protocol. He was referring to the NAPOLCOM Commissioners.

Today, Mme. Speaker, I stand again before you and my distinguished colleagues, because I have to bring to your attention the effect of NAPOLCOM's withdrawal of deputation on illegal quarry and illegal gambling in the province of Zamboanga del Sur. In both illegal quarry and illegal gambling, the government stands as a loser.

During the incumbency of Police Senior Superintendent Nazarro, he was directed by the Provincial Peace and Order Council, chaired by Governor Cerilles, to create a task force against illegal gambling, pursuant to Section 63 of RA No. 8551, otherwise known as the Philippine National Police Reform and Reorganization Act of 1998, which provides, among others, that the control and supervision of anti-gambling operations shall be within the jurisdiction of local government executives. However, the said Provincial Anti-Illegal Gambling Task Force was deactivated by Police Sr. Supt. John Gano Guyguyon, and which deactivation was continued by his successor, Police Sr. Supt. Redentor L. Retusto.

After the deactivation of the Provincial Anti-illegal Gambling Task Force, illegal gambling operations in the province, particularly illegal numbers game, started to proliferate. It has become a threat to the authorized agent of the PCSO in Zamboanga del Sur. In fact, due to the sales competition, two personnel of the authorized PCSO agents were murdered. Did the acting PNP Provincial Director give justice to the family of the victims? No, Mme. Speaker. As far as I know, the PNP of Zamboanga del Sur, under the leadership of Acting Police Director Retusto, did nothing about it.

Illegal numbers game has been of public knowledge in Zamboanga del Sur when Acting Provincial Director Redentor Retusto assumed his post. Did he make any effort to stop it? No, Mme. Speaker. In fact, it became public knowledge after an exposé in the Sangguniang Panlalawigan session that a certain Balong Molina, who arrogated unto himself that he is close to PCSO Director Sandra Cam, was the widely known operator of the illegal numbers game in the province. But, did Acting Police Director Retusto do something to stop Balong Molina? No, Mme. Speaker. In fact, Balong Molina was a regular visitor of Acting Provincial Director Retusto in the Provincial Police Office, and Balong Molina was even provided with a police bodyguard in the person of PO1 Divino Viaco.

Also, Mme. Speaker, in his total disrespect for the duly constituted authorities of the province of Zamboanga del Sur, not a single meeting of the Provincial Peace and Order Council was attended by this Acting Provincial Director Retusto since he assumed his post in Zamboanga del Sur. There was even an instance when the Sangguniang Panlalawigan requested for the presence of PCSO Branch Manager, the leaders from different municipalities, as well as the members of the Provincial PNP to be resource persons. Everybody else appeared except Acting Provincial Director Retusto who did not even send a representative on his behalf. I wanted to believe that Acting Police Director Retusto is on the side of the government when it comes to illegal gambling, Mme. Speaker, but his actions speak otherwise. Not only that he did not run after the illegal numbers game operator or operators, but instead he ran after a legitimate operator.

I have learned recently that Acting Provincial Director Retusto is actually going after the PCSO authorized agent. I am referring to Mekas Gaming, an authorized agent corporation, which became the subject of an adverse report made by Acting Provincial Director Guyguyon. His report was then made as basis in the termination of STL Agency Agreement.

Since last December 7, 2018, Mekas Gaming has been complaining that it has received a termination letter from the PCSO without due process. The PCSO relied on its decision based on the report submitted by

Acting Provincial Director Retusto who is hostile to Mekas Gaming after the latter turned down his request for monetary contribution in order to fund an alleged project worth more than P300,000. The PCSO should not have relied on Police Sr. Superintendent Retusto's report which is highly questionable. Moreover, such act of solicitation for monetary contribution from a PCSO authorized agent is expressly prohibited under Section 21 of the Revised IRR for the STL operations of the PCSO.

Mme. Speaker, all of these happened after the withdrawal of the NAPOLCOM deputation of Governor Cerilles. It appears that the leadership of the PNP of Zamboanga del Sur does not only disrespect him but the provincial government as well.

Let me borrow the words of President Duterte when he said that "when there are illegal activities happening such as illegal gambling, there is corruption." I hope this matter will be seriously looked into by the national government, Mme. Speaker.

Thank you very much.

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

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). The speech of the Honorable Cerilles is referred to the Committee on Rules.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Gentleman from Party-List ANAKPAWIS, the Hon. Ariel "Ka Ayik" B. Casilao, to avail of the remaining time of the Privilege Hour.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). Rep. Ariel Casilao is now recognized.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. CASILAO

REP. CASILAO. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

Mme. Speaker, mga kapwa ko Mambabatas, mainit na pagbati ang ipinapaabot ng Kinatawag ito mula sa ANAKPAWIS Party-List.

Sa araw na ito, Mme. Speaker, Disyembre 10, ating ginugunita ang ika-70 taon ng Deklarasyon ng Pandaigdigang Araw ng Karapatang Pantao. It is ironic, Mme. Speaker, dear colleagues, that as we commemorate the Human Rights Day, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, we are experiencing the deterioration of human rights in the country. From the massacre of the

striking farmworkers of Hacienda Luisita in 2004 to the massacre of nine farmworkers in Hacienda Nene, Sagay City, Negros Occidental, peasants are being slaughtered as reprisal for their assertion of their right to land. Hanggang sa kasalukuyan, Mme. Speaker, walang katarungan na nakuha o nakukuha ang mga biktima at ang kanilang pamilya. Sa katunayan, Mme. Speaker, nagpapatuloy ang pagpaslang sa kanilang hanay at tagasuporta. Lupa at nakabubuhay na sahod ang kanilang panawagan; bagkus, bala ang isinukli sa kanila. Hindi nahinto ang pamamaslang at pagmasaker sa mga maralitang magsasaka at manggagawang bukid. Sa katunayan, kahit sa kasalukuyang rehimen, nagpapatuloy ang mga ganitong karahasan laban sa mismong nagpapagal para makakain ang mga mamamayan ng ating bansa. Nakalulungkot, Mme. Speaker, dear colleagues, na silang mga food producer, sila pa itong walang makain o hirap maitawid ang kagutuman.

Ang nagaganap at naganap na masaker sa Sagay noong Oktubre 20 sa Hacienda Nene ay buhay na patunay dito. Siyam ang napaslang, kabilang na ang tatlong kababaihan at dalawang menor de edad. Hindi pa nagkasya sa walang habas na pinagbabaril ang mga biktima, ang katawan nila ay sinunog pa ng mga armadong salarin. Ang mas nakakagalit, Mme. Speaker, at mga kapwa ko Kinatawan, sinisi pa ng awtoridad ang mga biktima. Binaboy ng mga salarin ang kanilang mga bangkay, at pilit pa ring binaboy ng mga nag-iimbestiga ang krimen sa tangka nilang ilihis ang mga tunay na maysala na gumawa ng karumal-dumal na pagpaslang sa mga manggagawang bukid.

Sa kasaysayan, Mme. Speaker, lagi't lagi na lang na isinisisi sa mga mahihirap ang kanilang sinapit kapwa ng mga nagdaan at kasalukuyang gobyerno. Ginagawa silang scapegoat sa mga kakulangan ng ating gobyerno na makapagbigay ng tunay na reporma na mag-aangat sa kanilang mga abang kalagayan sa matagal na panahon. Kapag ang mga maralita sa kanayunan ang nagalit, na naggigiit ng kanilang batayang karapatan lalo na sa lupa, madalas dahas ang tugon sa kanilang lehitimong panawagan. Dahas ang tugon ng gobyerno at ng mga panginoong maylupa, kakutsaba ang kanilang mga pribadong grupo.

Sa ilalim ng administrasyon, ayon sa grupong Karapatan at Tanggol Magsasaka, may naitalang 11 masaker sa hanay ng mga mamamayan sa kanayunan. Tampok dito ay ang Sagay 9 masaker, gayundin ang masaker sa dalawang Lumad lider at educator ng isang Lumad school sa Caraga noong 2016, at ang masaker sa walong Lumad sa Lake Sebu noong 2017 na puro kagagawan po ng mga elemento ng Sandatahang Lakas ng Pilipinas. Katulad ng nabanggit noong una, tila may template ang nasa kapangyarihan kung sino ang sisisihin sa mga pamamaslang na ito—walang iba kundi ang mga magsasaka, katutubo at iba pang mahihirap sa kanayunan sa kanilang sinapit. Habang kagyat na

ipinagtatangol agad-agad ang mga armadong puwersa ng ating gobyerno sa gitna mismo na ang masa na ang nagsabi kung sino ang may sala, ang masahol, Mme. Speaker, binibigyan pa ang mga ito ng parangal.

Mme. Speaker, nakakabahala ang ganitong kalagayan. Kung sino pa ang nagsasakripisyo para sa kapakanan ng mamamayan sa ating bansa at kung sino pa ang nangangailangan ng tulong mula sa ating gobyerno, sila pa ang nagiging biktima ng karahasan at sila pa rin ang nasisisi sa bandang huli. Mayorya sa mga magsasaka ang sumisigaw ng “Tunay na reporma sa lupa!” at “Libreng pamamahagi ng lupa!” ngunit bala ang kanilang natatanggap.

Hindi panggigipit at pamamaslang sa hanay ng mga magsasaka ang sagot sa kanilang daan-taong suliranin na nakaugat sa papatinding kawalan sa lupa dulot ng pagmomonopolyo nito ng iilang mga pamilya at korporasyon. Hindi rin mapipigilan ng kanilang hanay sa patuloy na paggiit sa lupa sa kabila ng mga karahasan sa kanilang hanay. Kung makasaysayan ang pakikibaka ng magsasakang Pilipino laban sa kolonyalismo o piyudalismong Espanyol, gayundin sa kasalukuyan, hindi titigil ang masang magsasaka na ipaglaban ang kanyang karapatan sa lupa at kabuhayan. Magpapatuloy sila sa kanilang pakikibaka.

Mme. Speaker, ang deklarasyon po na ginugunita natin, ang 70 taon na Universal Declaration of Human Rights ay hindi ibinigay nang kusa. Hindi simpleng pagkakasundo ito ng mga bansa sa buong daigdig. Iniluwal ang unibersal na deklarasyon na ito mula sa isang pakikibaka. Pitumpung taon na ang nakakaraan ngunit hindi pa rin natatamasa nang tunay ng mga mamamayan sa buong daigdig lalo pa ng mamamayang Pilipino ang mga nasulat na mga katitikan, kung anu-ano ang mga karapatan ng bawat tao, bagkus, madalas ang mga binanggit at mga nakasulat na mga karapatang ito ay tuluy-tuloy na nilalabag. Ang nakakalungkot, Mme. Speaker, pangunahin ang gobyerno o ang instrumento ng kanyang Estado ang sistematikong lumalabag dito. The duty bearers who have the responsibility to protect, uphold, defend human rights are the ones violating and perpetrating human rights violation.

Kaya ang aming sigaw, Mme. Speaker, “Stop the attacks against the people!” “Tunay na reporma sa lupa!” “Libreng pamamahagi ng lupa para sa mga magsasaka!” “Katarungan sa mga biktima ng Sagay masaker!”

Magandang hapon po. Maraming salamat, Mme. Speaker.

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

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

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). The speech of Rep. Ariel Casilao is referred to the Committee on Rules.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Gentleman from Party-List BAYAN MUNA, the Hon. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate, to avail of the remaining time of the Privilege Hour.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). Rep. Carlos Isagani Zarate of BAYAN MUNA is now recognized.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. ZARATE

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

Mme. Speaker, ngayong araw po ay ginugunita natin ang ika-70 taon mula nang mabalangkas ang Universal Declaration of Human Rights, subalit, Mme. Speaker, nakakalungkot dahil pagkalipas ng 70 taon, patuloy na naliligo pa rin sa dugo ang ating bayan. Sa kasaysayan ng Pilipinas, labas sa digmaan laban sa mananakop, ang nakaraang tatlong taon marahil ay isa sa maituturing nating pinakamasahol dahil sa nadilig ng maraming dugo ng mga Pilipino.

Maaalala natin, Mme. Speaker, na bago pa man naupo sa Malacañang si Pangulong Duterte, nagbanta na siya na papatayin ang mga gumagamit ng droga, ang mga drug dealer at iba pang mga sangkot sa kalakaran ng droga, at nangyari o nangyayari nga ito—higit 20,000 na ang namamatay sa kampanya ng kasalukuyang pamahalaan laban sa droga at sa diumano ay drug personalities. Mga bata, mga matatanda, mga ama, mga nanay, mga buntis—sila ang mga pinapatay sa kampanyang ito, at halos lahat sa kanila ay mga kababayan nating nagdarahop. Kaya ito ang isa sa katotohanan ng kampanya laban sa droga, ito ay kampanya laban sa mahihirap. Ngunit, Mme. Speaker, mga kababayan, mga kapwa ko Mambabatas, hindi lamang buhay ng libu-libong sangkot umano sa droga ang kinikitil ng mapanupil na rehimen. Ang karahasan ng mga puwersa ng mga ahente ng Estado ay nakatutok din sa mga magsasaka na naggigiit sa karapatan nila sa lupang sinasaka, sa mga manggagawa na ipinaglalaman ang nakabubuhay na sahod at kasiguruhan sa trabaho, sa mga manananggol o abogadong nagtatanggol sa karapatan ng mahihirap at api, sa mga katutubong nagtatanggol sa kanilang mga lupang ninuno, sa mga kritiko ng administrasyon—ang pagpaslang sa kanila ang nagbibigay-mukha sa lumalalang pasismo at paglabag ng karapatang-pantao ng Estado.

Nitong nakaraang Nobyembre 6 ay pinaslang ang aming kasamahang manananggol, isang human rights lawyer, si Atty. Ben Ramos sa Kabankalan, Negros Occidental. Siya ang ika-53 abogado na pinaslang sa

ilalim ng kasalukuyang administrasyon. Si Atty. Ben ay Secretary General ng National Union of Peoples' Lawyers-Negros, at bilang peoples' lawyer, siya ay kilalang-kilala dahil sa pagtindig niya laban sa pang-aapi sa mga magsasaka, sa patayan sa ngalan ng kampanya laban sa droga at sa mga panunupil sa karapatang-pantao ng mga mamamayan, lalo na ng mga aktibista. Katunayan, siya ang tumatayong abogado sa kaso ng Sagay massacre, ang pagpatay sa siyam na magsasaka sa Hacienda Nene matapos nilang bungkalin ang lupang tigang—bagay na hindi nagustuhan ng mga *haciendero*. Ang kahila-hilakbot at nakakapanggalit na pangyayaring ito, Mme. Speaker, ay sinakluban pa ng pagpatay sa abogado ng mga mahihirap, sa mga magsasakang walang-awang pinaslang. At pagkatapos ng mga insidenteng ito, nakakabahala at nakakapanggalit din ang sumunod na mga insidente pa. Nitong nakaraang mga araw lamang, maaalala natin, Mme. Speaker, na sinampahan ng gawa-gawang kaso ang kasamahan natin sa Kapulungang ito, si Rep. France Castro, at ang dati nating kasamahan sa Kapulungang ito na si Ka Satur Ocampo ng mga kasong kidnapping, human trafficking at child abuse, na talaga namang walang basehan. At nitong nakaraang araw, isang peace consultant na naman sa usapang pangkapayapaan ng gobyerno ng Pilipinas at ng National Democratic Front of the Philippines ang hinuli at ginawan uli ng gawa-gawang kasong illegal possession of explosives at iba pa.

Ironically, Mme. Speaker, sa araw na ito ay ginugunita natin ang ika-70 taong pagbalangkas ng Universal Declaration of Human Rights at ang Kapulungang ito ay nakatanggap ng sulat mula sa Malacañang na humihingi na naman ng isang taong extension ng batas militar sa ka-Mindanao-an, na kahit ano pa mang pagtatakip ng militar at ng Estado ay hindi nila maitatago ang mga nangyaring paglabag sa karapatang pantao na naitala. Mayroong 88 cases of killings committed by soldiers and paramilitary forces nitong mga nakaraang panahon sa ilalim ng batas militar, mayroong 128 na victims of frustrated killings, 1,450 illegally arrested, 139 detained with false charges, 148 individuals facing trumped up criminal cases, and 346,940 people affected by community bombings by the military. Nakakapoot, Mme. Speaker, ang mga pangyayaring ito. Walang paglalagyan ang lungkot, galit at pighati ng mga mamamayan sa walang habas na paglabag sa kanilang karapatang pantao at sa mga pagpapaslang at kawalang pananagutan sa lahat ng mga ito. Nakakapoot at nakakapanggalit ang walang hustisya.

Maaalala natin, Mme. Speaker, na noong November 23, 2018 ay ang ika-siyam na taon ng madilim na kabanata sa karapatang pantao sa Pilipinas na nangyari sa bayan ng Ampatuan sa probinsya ng Maguindanao—ang kahindik-hindik na Ampatuan massacre. Sa katunayan, Mme. Speaker, itinalaga ang ika-23 ng Nobyembre bilang pandaigdigang araw para

wakasan ang kawalang pananagutan or International Day to End Impunity upang bigyang-diin ang naganap na malagim na masaker sa Maguindanao sa araw na iyon noong November 23, 2009, na kung saan, 58 katao, kabilang ang pamilya ng ating kasamahan na si Rep. Dong Mangudadatu at ang 32 miyembro ng media ang walang awang pinaslang ng mga miyembro ng daynastiyang Ampatuan. Halos mag-iisang dekada na ang karumal-dumal na kasong ito, subalit tila malayo pa rin at napakailap pa rin ng hustisyang hinahanap ng mga kaanak ng mga biktima at ng mga mamamayan, katulad ng paghahanap ng hustisya ng libu-libo pang naging biktima ng paglabag sa karapatang pantao.

Kaya, Mme. Speaker, ito pa rin tayo, siyam na taon nang nakalipas ang Ampatuan massacre—inaalala natin sa araw na ito ang 70th Anniversary ng Universal Declaration of Human Rights, subalit ang kadiliman ay mas lalo pang kumakalat sa ating bayan. Bukambibig na ng bawat isa mula sa mga baryo at kanayunan, hanggang sa mga urban poor communities sa kalunsuran ang mga salitang EJK or extrajudicial killing, ang tokhang, at ang takot na kahit sino ay puwedeng sumambulat sa lansangan sa kahit na anong oras. Hindi lingid sa kaalaman ng lahat na ang mga ahente ng Estado mismo ang maaaring kumitil sa buhay nila o ng kanilang mahal sa buhay. Ang lahat ay nanganganib dahil maya't maya ay nangangako ang Pangulo na “Patayin ko kayo. I will kill you.” Mme. Speaker, walang panatag sa panahon ngayon.

Ironically, kamakailan ay umaangal ang Philippine National Police kung paano silang inilalarawan sa isang sikat na palabas sa telebisyon bilang mga corrupt na mamamatay tao, ngunit nais nating ipaalaala, Mme. Speaker, “art imitates life and life sometimes imitates art.” Ang sumisira sa imahe ng PNP ay ang mga miyembro at opisyal nito mismo. Ilang beses na bang nasangkot ang mga miyembro ng PNP at maging ang mga militar sa mga vigilante operations, sa tanim-ebidensya, sa panggagahasa, sa pamamaslang, sa pananakit, sa torture, at iba pang mga paglabag sa karapatang pantao? Ang pasismo o ang paggamit ng puwersa ng Estado upang takutin at dahasin ang mamamayan ay nanunuot sa kaisipan at sa kultura. Ang mga ito ay hindi likha lamang ng isang sikat na palabas sa telebisyon, subalit, Mme. Speaker, mga kapwa ko Mambabatas, huwag tayong maniwalang hindi darating ang panahon ng paniningil, paglilitis at pagbabayad sa bawat krimen na ginawa laban sa bayan at laban sa mamamayan. Sinigurado tayong hindi natutulog nang mahimbing habang panahon ang mga pasista, ang mga magnanakaw at ang mga mapagsamantala. Sumisigaw ang lupang diniligan ng dugo ng mga mamamayan. Ito ay pataba para sa araw ng paniningil.

Kaya sa araw na ito, Mme. Speaker, sa ika-70 taong pag-alala natin sa Universal Declaration of Human Rights, ang ating patuloy na sigaw ay “Hustisya sa lahat

ng biktima ng pasismo at ng paglabag sa karapatang pantao!” “End impunity!” “Itigil ang pamamaslang!” “Stop the attacks!”

Maraming salamat, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the Hon. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). The speech of Congressman Zarate is now referred to the Committee on Rules.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we extend the Privilege Hour for another 20 minutes.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the Privilege Hour is extended for another 20 minutes.

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

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

The Privilege Hour is suspended.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the honorable Minority Leader, Rep. Danilo E. Suarez.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). The Minority Leader, Rep. Danny Suarez, is recognized.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

REP. SUAREZ. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

Mme. Speaker, on the part of the Minority, I respectfully move for the election of the following Members to the Committee on Public Accounts:

The Minority Leader read the names of the House Members elected to the Committee on Public Accounts, per Journal No. 39, dated December 10, 2018.

As Vice-Chairpersons:
Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr.

Rep. Anthony M. Bravo, PhD

Rep. Luis N. Campos Jr.

Rep. Aniceto “John” D. Bertiz III

Rep. Harlin Neil J. Abayon III

Rep. Joseph Stephen S. Paduano

Rep. Orestes T. Salon, and

Rep. Gerald Anthony “Samsam” V. Gullas Jr.

As members:

Rep. Alfredo A. Garbin Jr.

Rep. Francisco Jose F. Matugas II

Rep. Salvador B. Belaro Jr.

Rep. Carlos Roman L. Uybarreta

Rep. Rodel M. Batocabe

Rep. Wilfredo S. Caminero

Rep. Jonas C. Cortes

Rep. Jose Carlos L. Cari, and

Rep. Paul P. Hernandez.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the following Members are elected to the Committee on ...

REP. SUAREZ. Public Accounts, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). ... Public Accounts.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

ELECTION OF REP. GARCES TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, on the part of the Majority, I move that we elect the Hon. Ulysses G. Garces as member of the Committee on Youth and Sports Development.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; Representative Garces is elected to the Committee on Youth and Sports.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Arlene D. Brosas for a short manifestation.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). Representative Arlene Brosas is now recognized.

REP. BROSAS. Yes, thank you, Mme. Speaker. Mme. Speaker, I would like to manifest that my

explanation of vote with regard to House Bill No.8655, An Act Defining Electronic Violence Against Women and their Children, Providing Protective Measures and Prescribing Penalties for Violations Thereof, Amending for the Purpose R.A. 9262, Otherwise Known as the Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children Act of 2004, be inserted in the records.

Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

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

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we insert into the records the manifestation of the Honorable Brosas.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

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

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the Privilege Hour is resumed.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Sarah Jane I. Elago of the Party-List KABATAAN to avail of the remaining time of the Privilege Hour.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). The Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago of Party-List KABATAAN is now recognized.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. ELAGO

REP. ELAGO. Thank you, Mme. Speaker.

I rise today, not only to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, but also to expound upon the continuing and important task of promoting the fundamental right to education and the pursuit of free public education at all levels.

More than a year after the passage of Republic Act No. 10931 or the Universal Access to Quality and Tertiary Education or UAQTE, tuition and other fees are still being collected in State schools. The moribund policy of commercialization or the policy wherein rights are priced and barcoded remains deeply entrenched in

our education system. Our struggle for free education continues, free in the sense that it is accessible and at no cost, and free in the sense that our rights and welfare are enshrined at its core.

Ang pagpasá ng R.A. No. 10931 ay mahalagang panandang-bato sa pagsusulong ng libreng edukasyon, ngunit hindi dito nagtatapos ang laban ng kabataan. At the home front, the youth and student movement still has a lot of battles to wage: the actual and swift implementation of the “No Collection policy,” the high cost of other living expenses of students including food, lodging, and transportation and, of course, the big elephant in the room, the yet-to-be-slayed high cost of matriculation in private schools.

Ang nakasaad sa free higher education provision ng R.A. No. 10931 ay wala nang kokolektahin na tuition and other school fees mula sa lahat ng qualified na undergraduate students. Ngunit ngayon, Mme. Speaker, napag-alaman natin na marami pa ring mga SUCs at LUCs ang nangongolekta ng iba’t ibang mga bayarin sa eskuwelahan. Halimbawa, ngayon, libre na ang ID fee, ngunit nangongolekta pa rin ng fee para naman sa ID lace at ito ay isa sa mga requirement para makapagpatuloy sa enrolment ang isang iskolar ng bayan at makakuha ng mga subject.

Ito po ang umusbong na suliranin ngayon sa ginawang maniobra ng UniFAST Board sa kanilang inilabas na Implementing Rules and Regulations sa pagpapatupad ng R.A. No. 10931. Imbes na sakupin lahat ng mga other school fees o mga miscellaneous fees ang mga bayarin na sinisingil sa mga paaralan ay nilimitahan lamang doon sa 13 na nakalista na other school fees o OSF ang subsidized ng national government. Ibig sabihin, kung wala doon sa 13 na other school fees ang currently sinisingil doon sa eskuwelahan ay kailangang magbayad ang mga estudyante. Kaya ngayon, maraming nabibigla, libre ngunit marami pa rin silang mga binabayaran na other school fees.

Ang esensiya, Mme. Speaker, noong pagsasama ng miscellaneous fees or other school fees doon sa free higher education provision ay wala na talagang mga babayaran iyong mga estudyante. Kapag sinabi mo na libre, walang koleksyon, walang ilalabas mula sa kanilang mga bulsa ang mga estudyante. Thus, Mme. Speaker, we must forge strong unity and step up the fight against maneuvers skirting free education, assess the overall Philippine education system and, most importantly, plan for our next steps. Our significant strides in achieving free education will contribute to greater victories amid various issues and challenges confronting the youth. Nandiyan po ang isyu ng kontraktwalisasyon, ang kawalan ng trabaho at ang mababang pasahod. Isa sa apat na mga kabataan na nasa edad 15 hanggang 24 po ang wala sa edukasyon o hindi nag-aaral, wala ring trabaho at hindi rin naman naka-enroll sa isang cleaning program. Iyan po ay napakalaking bahagdan ng mga estudyante

at mga kabataan na hindi binibigyan ng opportunity para mapaunlad ang kanilang mga potensyal bilang kabataan.

Marami pang laban ang kailangang maipanalò at ang bahagi po ng labang ito ay ang pagpapatuloy ng paglalata ng landas tungo sa pagkamit ng hustisya at kapayapaan sa ating bayan dahil ang kapayapaan, Mme. Speaker, gaya po ng libheng edukasyon ay magiging matagumpay hindi lamang—o isang tagumpay na aanihin hindi lamang ng henerasyong ito kundi para rin sa mga susunod na henerasyon.

We call on the Committees on Basic Education and Culture, Higher and Technical Education, and Youth and Sports Development to tackle the myriad concerns of stakeholders of the education community from attacks against democratic rights to militarization of schools. Ang iba't ibang mga isyu pong iyan ang kinakailangan nang madinig, mapaimbestigahan at makapagplano tayo, makagawa ng mga sound decisions na nakadepende or nakabatay doon sa masusi na pag-aaral hinggil sa mga isyung ito. We strongly urge the Oversight Committee on R.A. No. 10931 to convene the soonest and take immediate actions that can stop the unconscionable move of turning free education into a scam, and defend the right to free and quality education.

Ngayon, higit kailanman, Mme. Speaker, kailangang pagtibayin ang ating pagkakaisa at palakasin ang mga pagkilos tungo sa mas marami pang mga tagumpay, lalo na po ngayong araw ng International Human Rights Day. Kasama ng kabataan at mga estudyanteng Pilipino ang mga kabataan sa buong mundo na maipakita na sila ay handang gampanan ang kanilang maningning at kanilang makasaysayang gampanin bilang mga pag-asa ng bayan. Hamon sa ating lahat na gamitin ang lahat ng pagkakataon para isulong ang libre at makabayang edukasyon para sa lahat, isang edukasyon tungo sa pagkilala ng mga karapatan, isang edukasyon na tungo sa pagkamit ng kapayapaan at hustisyang panlipunan.

Maraming, maraming salamat, Mme. Speaker, at muli, isang makabayan at palaban na pagbati mula sa mga kabataan ngayong International Human Rights Day.

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

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). The speech of Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago is referred to the Committee on Rules for proper action.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

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

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

The Privilege Hour is terminated.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. NOGRALES (J.). Mme. Speaker, I move that we adjourn the session until three o'clock in the afternoon of Tuesday, December 11, 2018.

I so move, Mme. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Escudero). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the session is adjourned until Tuesday, December 11, 2018, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

It was 6:58 p.m.