



Congressional Record

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

Vol. 3

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

No. 44

CALL TO ORDER

At 3:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Ferdinand L. Hernandez called the session to order.

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

NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez, F.).
Please stand for the singing of the National Anthem.

Everybody rose to sing the Philippine National Anthem.

PRAYER

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez, F.).
Please remain standing for a minute of silent prayer.

Everybody remained standing for the silent prayer.

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

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we defer the calling of the roll of the honorable Members.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker, likewise, I move that we defer the approval of the Journal.

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

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez, F.).
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 Resolutions on First Reading, Message from the Senate, Communications and Committee Reports, and the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding references:

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 2392, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF THE VISAYAS (UV) ON ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF BEING A SCHOOL THAT TEACHES LOVE AND SERVICE TO HUMANITY”

By Representative Abayon
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2393, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEMISE OF HONORABLE REPRESENTATIVE AKO BICOL PARTY-LIST RODEL M. BATOCABE OF LEGAZPI CITY (BICOL STANDARD)”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2394, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING MR. DONNIE LIBOON NIETES FOR WINNING THE WBO WORLD SUPER FLYWEIGHT TITLE”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GAMES AND AMUSEMENTS

House Resolution No. 2395, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES AND SYMPATHY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF REPRESENTATIVE HOMOONO T. CEZAR, MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DURING THE NINTH AND TENTH CONGRESSES”

By Representative Romualdo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2396, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEMISE OF FORMER GOVERNOR DR. GEORGE T. HOFER, FOUNDING FATHER OF THE PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY”

By Representative Lobregat
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Message dated January 14, 2019, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed without amendment House Bill No. 8648, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING JANUARY 17 OF EVERY YEAR AS JAMES LEONARD TAGLE GORDON DAY, A SPECIAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY IN THE CITY OF OLONGAPO AND IN THE SUBIC BAY FREEPORT ZONE, IN RECOGNITION OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS, CONTRIBUTIONS AND HEROISM OF JAMES LEONARD TAGLE GORDON”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

COMMUNICATIONS

Report of Honorable Dante Roberto P. Maling, Acting Secretary General, House of Representatives, on enrolled bills, submitted to the Office of the President, for His Excellency’s consideration and signature, pursuant to the provision of Rule VI, Section 18, Par. (h) of the Rules of the House of Representatives:

1. House Bill No. 4935, entitled:
“AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY DON ALBINO T. TARUC IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOCORRO, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE”;
2. House Bill No. 6030, entitled:
“AN ACT INTEGRATING THE CEBU CITY

MOUNTAIN EXTENSION CAMPUS AS A SATELLITE CAMPUS OF THE CEBU TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9744, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘AN ACT CONVERTING THE CEBU STATE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SYSTEM IN THE CITY OF CEBU AND ALL ITS SATELLITE CAMPUSES LOCATED IN THE PROVINCE OF CEBU INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE CEBU TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY (CTU) AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR’”;

3. House Bill No. 6465, entitled:
“AN ACT CONVERTING THE NORTHWESTERN MINDANAO STATE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (NMSCST) IN THE CITY OF TANGUB, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHWESTERN MINDANAO (UNM) AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;
4. House Bill No. 6620, entitled:
“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF ST. ANTHONY MOTHER AND CHILD HOSPITAL IN CEBU CITY FROM TWENTY-FIVE (25) TO TWO HUNDRED (200), AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;
5. House Bill No. 6741, entitled:
“AN ACT CONVERTING THE ZAMBOANGA CITY STATE POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;
6. House Bill No. 7784, entitled:
“AN ACT CREATING A HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS IN THE PROVINCE OF BATAAN TO BE KNOWN AS THE BATAAN HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;
7. Consolidated House Bill No. 7442 and Senate Bill No. 2023, entitled:
“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE SPECIAL PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IN SITUATIONS OF ARMED CONFLICT AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF”;
8. House Bill No. 7166, entitled:
“AN ACT CONVERTING THE KABASALAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY IN THE

MUNICIPALITY OF KABASALAN, PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY INTO THE ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE (ZSPI) AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

9. Consolidated version of House Joint Resolution No. 32 and Senate Joint Resolution No. 17, entitled:

“JOINT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE AVAILABILITY OF THE 2018 APPROPRIATIONS FOR MAINTENANCE AND OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES AND CAPITAL OUTLAYS TO DECEMBER 31, 2019, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 61 OF THE GENERAL PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10964, THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT OF FISCAL YEAR 2018”;

10. House Bill No. 639, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SANTA ELENA, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES NORTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

11. House Bill No. 5577, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE CONSERVATION OF GABALDON SCHOOL BUILDINGS NATIONWIDE, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

12. House Bill No. 5665, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING THE MALINDANG BROADCASTING NETWORK CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN MINDANAO”;

13. House Bill No. 6740, entitled:

“AN ACT UPGRADING THE LABUAN PUBLIC HOSPITAL IN ZAMBOANGA CITY INTO A LEVEL II HOSPITAL TO BE KNOWN AS THE LABUAN GENERAL HOSPITAL, INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY FOR GENERAL CARE SERVICES TO ONE HUNDRED (100), AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”; and

14. House Bill No. 7264, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CORDILLERA STATE INSTITUTE OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION OR CSITE, INTEGRATING THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING CENTERS AND TESDA-SUPERVISED STATE-RUN TECHNICAL-

VOCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS (TVIs) IN THE CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”.

Letters dated December 14 and 20, 2018 of Salvador C. Medialdea, Executive Secretary, Office of the President, Malacañang, transmitting two (2) original copies each of the following Republic Acts which were signed by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte:

1. R.A. No. 11152, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE – MEDELLIN EXTENSION OFFICE INTO A REGULAR DISTRICT OFFICE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

2. R.A. No. 11153, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A REGULAR DISTRICT OFFICE OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) IN THE CITY OF PANABO, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL NORTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

3. R.A. No. 11154, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) SATELLITE OFFICE IN TICA O ISLAND, PROVINCE OF MASBATE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

4. R.A. No. 11155, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) DISTRICT OFFICE IN THE CITY OF VALENCIA, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

5. R.A. No. 11156, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) DISTRICT OFFICE IN THE CITY OF SIPALAY, PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

6. R.A. No. 11157, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EXTENSION OFFICE OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NARRA, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

7. R.A. No. 11158, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE SATELLITE OFFICE OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) IN THE CITY OF BAYUGAN, PROVINCE OF AGUSAN DEL SUR, INTO A REGULAR DISTRICT OFFICE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

- 8. R.A. No. 11159, entitled:
“ANACTGRANTINGPHILIPPINECITIZENSHIP TO MAYLEEN TING”;
 - 9. R.A. No. 11160, entitled:
“ANACTGRANTINGPHILIPPINECITIZENSHIP TO FATHER JULIAN C. MAZANA”;
 - 10. R.A. No. 11161, entitled:
“ANACTGRANTINGPHILIPPINECITIZENSHIP TO BRUCE DONALD MCTAVISH”;
 - 11. R.A. No. 11162, entitled:
“AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EXTENSION OFFICE OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BROOKE’S POINT, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;
 - 12. R.A. No. 11163, entitled:
“AN ACT DECLARING THE LAST MONDAY OF JANUARY EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY IN OBSERVANCE OF NATIONAL BIBLE DAY”;
 - 13. R.A. No. 11164, entitled:
“AN ACT INCREASING THE MONTHLY OLD-AGE PENSION OF SENIOR VETERANS”;
 - 14. R.A. No. 11165, entitled:
“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING TELECOMMUTING AS AN ALTERNATIVE WORK ARRANGEMENT FOR EMPLOYEES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR”; and
 - 15. R.A. No. 11166, entitled:
“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE PHILIPPINE COMPREHENSIVE POLICY ON HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (HIV) AND ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) PREVENTION, TREATMENT, CARE, AND SUPPORT, AND RECONSTITUTING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL AIDS COUNCIL (PNAC), REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8504, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘PHILIPPINE AIDS PREVENTION AND CONTROL ACT OF 1998’, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”.
- TO THE ARCHIVES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Committee on Transportation and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 1055), re H.B. No. 8833, entitled:
“AN ACT ESTABLISHING AND CONSTRUCTING A HOSPITAL FOR THE PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD, ITS PERSONNEL, EMPLOYEES, THEIR DEPENDENTS AND THE RETIRED

UNIFORMED PERSONNEL TO BE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD GENERAL HOSPITAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”
recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 6090
Sponsors: Representatives Sarmiento (C.) and Sandoval
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Health and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 1056), re H.B. No. 8835, entitled:
“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF CORAZON LOCSIN MONTELIBANO MEMORIAL REGIONAL HOSPITAL IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD, PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL FROM FOUR HUNDRED (400) BEDS TO ONE THOUSAND (1,000) BEDS, AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE OF ITS PERSONNEL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”
recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 7962
Sponsors: Representatives Tan (A.), Gasataya and Zamora (M.C.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Government Reorganization, the Committee on Population and Family Relations and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 1057), re H.B. No. 8837, entitled:
“AN ACT CREATING THE NATIONAL COMMISSION OF SENIOR CITIZENS, PROVIDING FOR ITS FUNCTIONS, ABOLISHING THE NATIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL AND MONITORING BOARD, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”
recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 802, 6251 and 7018
Sponsors: Representatives Velarde, Aragonés and Zamora (M.C.)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the session.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez, F.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the session is suspended.

It was 3:05 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:40 p.m. the session was resumed.

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

ROLL CALL

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker, I now move to call the roll of the honorable Members.

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

*The Secretary General called the roll, and the result is reflected in Journal No. 44, dated January 16, 2019.**

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. The Speaker is present.

Mr. Speaker, the roll call shows that 163 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez, F.). With 163 Members present, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker.

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker, may we know the concern of the Honorable Atienza.

REP. ATIENZA. We are questioning the count. We are counting ourselves pero there are only 142 of us so far. To say that we are 160-plus now, again, is a grievous, serious misrepresentation of a fact. So, 142 Members is what we have, not 160. So, we are objecting to the count of the Secretariat; we are demanding that a more accurate count be done.

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker, there are committee

meetings going on; they are conducting hearings as of the present and all those Members that were included in the committee meetings were also counted as present in this plenary.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I move that we take note of the manifestation of the Senior...

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker.

REP. PALMA. ...Deputy Minority Leader.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker, we have also double-checked if there are committee meetings going on, but there are none. So, to say that there are Members attending the committee meetings is another misrepresentation of the truth. Kung wala po tayong quorum, maghintay tayo na may quorum tayo before we even take up any measure; otherwise, we are violating a basic Rule of the House that a quorum should be a majority of all the Members of the House. The quorum, Mr. Speaker, should be 149; we only have 142 Members right now. We have to wait for seven more Members before we start the session.

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

REP. ANDAYA. Yes, at this point in time, as we speak, we have various committees simultaneously holding their meeting with hearings and, therefore, the Members attending the same are counted as present. We have the Committee on Public Works and Highways with 13 Members present. We have the Committee on Transportation with five Members present. We have the Committee on Appropriations with five Members present. That is more than the number required for our quorum. May this be under advisement to our Senior Deputy Minority Leader.

REP. ATIENZA. We are requesting for a 15-minute break and we will double-check the figures stated by the Majority Leader. Our report is that there are no committee meetings still happening right now and if that is ascertained, we are violating our own Rule. Bigyan po ninyo ng pagkakataong mai-report sa amin ngayon kung mayroong katotohanan iyong inyong binanggit. Wala pong committee meeting na nangyayari at wala po tayong Miyembro na excused sa kanilang absence ngayon. Masama po bang i-establish natin ang quorum bago tayo mag-meeting? Marami po tayong pag-uusapang importanteng mga measure. We should follow the Rules; otherwise, your action, the action of this Chamber will be questionable all the way.

I am asking for a 15-minute break, Mr. Speaker.

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

Mr. Majority Leader, I am appealing to you, let us do our work properly; otherwise, we will be subjected to public questioning and public ridicule.

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

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ANDAYA. Let us have a 15-minute break.

REP. ATIENZA. Thank you.

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

The session is suspended.

It was 3:53 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:02 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker, ...

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

REP. ATIENZA. ... while we are waiting for the official report from my side on the actual number of Members present in the committee meetings, if there are any still going on, we are temporarily putting our motion on hold and our request in deference to our departed colleague, Congressman Batocabe, whose replacement is now waiting to be inducted. We are asking the Majority Leader, we are requesting him to allow us to hold in abeyance the issue on the floor and proceed with the swearing in of the replacement of Cong. Rodel M. Batocabe.

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

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker, we join with the request of the Senior Deputy Minority Leader, and with that, Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the session for one more minute to prepare for the oath-taking of the replacement of the Honorable Batocabe.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

The session is suspended.

It was 4:03 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:30 p.m., the session was resumed, with Speaker Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo presiding.

THE SPEAKER. The session is resumed.

REP. ANDAYA. In view of the untimely demise of Rep. Rodel M. Batocabe of AKO BICOL Party-List, I move that we recognize Mr. Ronald S. Ang to assume the position vacated by the late Representative Batocabe. Mme. Speaker, I now move that we allow Mr. Ronald S. Ang, Representative of Party-List AKO BICOL, to take his oath in open session.

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

The Secretary General is directed to call the Representative of Party-List AKO BICOL to take his oath of office before this Body.

At this juncture, Rep. Ronald S. Ang, accompanied by the members of his family, ascended the rostrum and took his oath of office as AKO BICOL Party-List Representative in the House of Representatives before the Hon. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

THE SPEAKER. May I request all the Members of the House of Representatives and all our guests in the gallery to please rise to witness the oath-taking of our new Member.

OATH-TAKING

THE SPEAKER. Please raise your right hand and recite your oath before me.

I, RONALD S. ANG, of Pinecrest 1, Newport Boulevard, Pasay City, having been elected as Representative of AKO BICOL Party-List, hereby solemnly swear that I will well and faithfully discharge to the best of my ability the duties of my present position and of all others I may hereafter hold under the Republic of the Philippines; that I will support and defend the Constitution of the Philippines; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the laws, legal orders, and decrees promulgated by the duly constituted authorities of the Republic of

the Philippines; and that I impose this obligation upon myself voluntarily, without mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

So help me God.

THE SPEAKER. Congratulations! (*Applause*)

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ANDAYA. Mme. Speaker, in order to allow our Members to meet and extend their greetings to Hon. Ronald S. Ang of AKO BICOL Party-List, I move that we suspend our session for a few minutes.

THE SPEAKER. The session is suspended.

It was 4:33 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:35 p.m., the session was resumed, with Deputy Speaker Ferdinand L. Hernandez presiding.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker.

REP. ANDAYA. May we move to recognize the Honorable Atienza, please.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez, F.). Honorable Atienza is hereby recognized.

REP. ATIENZA. Thank you, Mr. Majority Leader.

We have requested for a break so that we can also count the Members attending meetings. We would like to report officially on the floor, wala na pong committee meeting na nagaganap ngayon, both in the Mitra or in the South Wing buildings. There is only one meeting wrapping up with one Member of Congress attending and that is Cong. Bayani F. Fernando. So, iyong estimation po ng Majority Leader earlier ay hindi po talaga tutugma sa ating requirement for a quorum and right now, our latest count of those present, we only have about 85 on the floor, so we have to wait now for another 64 if we are to constitute a quorum. Ang sabi nga po sa Spanish—ito po naman ay kinonsulta ko sa mga Kastila nating Miyembro—*cuentas claras conservan la amistad*. Ang ibig sabihin po noon, dapat ang ating bilang ay makatotoo para po maayos ang samahan.

At this point in time, we move for the adjournment of the session because there are not enough Members on the floor for us to take up any official meeting or business.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

REP. ANDAYA. Before we proceed with that motion, can we have a one-minute suspension of the session, please.

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

It was 4:37 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:37 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

RECONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7436 ON SECOND READING

REP. ANDAYA. Yes. With the indulgence of the Honorable Atienza, Mr. Speaker, with leave of the House, I move that we reconsider the approval on Second Reading of House Bill No. 7436, for some perfecting amendments.

I move that we open—I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

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

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker, earlier we have distributed to all Members copies of the substitute Bill to House Bill No. 7436, and, Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Section 104 of our Rules, I move to amend by substitution the entire Bill with the contents of the substitute Bill earlier distributed to all our Members.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker, there being no other amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

REP. ANDAYA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No, 7436, as amended.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

House Bill No. 7436, as amended, is approved on Second Reading.

REP. ANDAYA. Honorable Atienza please.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker, we reiterate our motion. We move to adjourn the session simply because

we only have 85 Members on the floor. For a simple lack of quorum, we cannot proceed. At this point, we are asking for another roll call, if the Chair would allow it.

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

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ANDAYA. I move that we suspend the session until three o'clock on Monday, January ...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Hernandez, F.). Twenty-one.

REP. ANDAYA. ... twenty-one.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The session will resume on Monday, January 21, 2019, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

It was 4:39 p.m.