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House of Representatives

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No. 44c

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:00 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. HOFER. Mr. Speaker, I move that we take up the Additional Reference of Business, and may we request that the Secretary General be directed to read the same.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the Secretary General is directed to read the Additional Reference of Business.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 8853, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE MANUFACTURING, IMPORTATION, AND USE OF SINGLE-USE PLASTIC PRODUCTS, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES, LEVIES, AND AN INCENTIVES SYSTEM FOR INDUSTRIES, BUSINESS ENTERPRISES AND CONSUMERS THEREOF”

By Representative Gasataya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 8855, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING HABAL-HABAL AND OTHER MOTORCYCLE SERVICES”

By Representative Campos
TO THE COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 8856, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE BICOL REGIONAL TRAINING AND TEACHING HOSPITAL (BRTTH) FROM TWO HUNDRED FIFTY (250) TO EIGHT HUNDRED (800), UPGRADING ITS FACILITIES AND AUGMENT ITS HOSPITAL STAFF, AND ITS OPERATIONS ACCORDINGLY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Salceda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 8859, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS IN CHARGE OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION TO RIDE PUBLIC TRANSPORT AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 8860, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO RODERICK MCMICKING HALL”

By Representative Leachon
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 2420, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PEOPLE’S PARTICIPATION TO EXERCISE ITS OVERSIGHT FUNCTION TO REVIEW AND STUDY THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 15 (S. 2018) OR THE GUIDELINES FOR THE PROTECTION OF SEC REGISTERED NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS (NPOs) FROM MONEY LAUNDERING AND

TERRORIST FINANCING ABUSE, AND ITS IMPLICATIONS ON THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE AND FORM ASSOCIATIONS AND PRIVACY OF ITS OFFICERS, MEMBERS, SUPPORTERS, AND BENEFICIARIES”

By Representatives Zarate, Tinio, Castro (F.L.) and Casilao

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2421, entitled:

“AN EXTREMELY URGENT RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG), AND OTHER APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES INCLUDING THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS (COMELEC), TO INVESTIGATE, INQUIRE, AND STREAMLINE THE APPLICATION PROCESS OF EXEMPTION OF SECURITY PERSONNEL FROM THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE - POLICE SECURITY AND PROTECTION GROUP (PNP-PSPG), IN VIEW OF THE UPCOMING 2019 ELECTIONS”

By Representative Ortega (V.N.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

House Resolution No. 2422, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SINCERE CONDOLENCES AND PROFOUND SYMPATHIES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE PASSING OF HENRY SY SR., THE FOUNDER OF SM INVESTMENTS CORPORATION”

By Representative Vargas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2423, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING SENATOR EMMANUEL ‘MANNY’ D. PACQUIAO FOR SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDING HIS W.B.A. (REGULAR) WELTERWEIGHT TITLE VIA UNANIMOUS DECISION IN FRONT OF A SELL-OUT CROWD IN MGM GRAND, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, U.S.A.”

By Representative Vargas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2424, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, BY THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE PHP37 BILLION WORTH OF CONSULTANCY CONTRACTS BID OUT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT (DBM)”

By Representative Suarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2425, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEES ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT A JOINT INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE OCTOBER 11, 2018 - VIOLENT DISPERSAL OF THE PICKETLINE OF STRIKING AGRICULTURAL WORKERS UNDER THE NAGKAHIUSANG MAMUMUO SA SUYAPA FARM (NAMASUFA) AND ILLEGAL ARREST OF ITS MEMBERS IN COMPOSTELA VALLEY PROVINCE”

By Representatives Casilao, Zarate, De Jesus, Tinio, Brosas, Castro (F.L.) and Elago

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2426, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEES ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT AND HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT A JOINT INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE EXTRA-JUDICIAL KILLING OF DANNY BOY BAUTISTA, AGRICULTURAL WORKER OF SUMITOMO FRUITS (SUMIFRU) AND THE CONTINUING VIOLENT ATTACKS AGAINST OTHER UNION MEMBERS UNDER THE NAGKAHIUSANG MAMUMUO SA SUYAPA FARM (NAMASUFA) IN COMPOSTELA VALLEY PROVINCE”

By Representatives Casilao, Zarate, De Jesus, Tinio, Brosas, Castro (F.L.) and Elago

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2427, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEES ON AGRARIAN REFORM AND HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT A JOINT INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE FEBRUARY 20, 2018 - VIOLENT DEMOLITION OF HOUSES OF POTENTIAL FARMER-BENEFICIARIES OF LAND DISTRIBUTION, FROM THE 75.5-HECTARE PRODUCTIVE AGRICULTURAL LANDS WHICH WAS COVERED BY THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM (CARP), LOCATED AT SITIO COMPRA, BRGY. SAN MATEO,

NORZAGARAY TOWN, BULACAN PROVINCE”

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

House Resolution No. 2428, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON AGRARIAN REFORM TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE LETHARGIC IMPLEMENTATION OF LAND DISTRIBUTION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM (DAR) OF THE 75.5-HECTARE PRODUCTIVE AGRICULTURAL LANDS LOCATED AT SITIO COMPRA, BRGY. SAN MATEO, NORZAGARAY TOWN, BULACAN PROVINCE, THAT ENABLED THE LANDOWNER, ROYAL MOLUCCAN REALTY HOLDING’S INC., TO SCHEME THE DISPLACEMENT OF POTENTIAL FARMER-BENEFICIARIES LEADING TO A VIOLENT DEMOLITION OF THEIR HOUSES ON FEBRUARY 20, 2018”

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

House Resolution No. 2429, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE SYNCHRONIZED ENHANCED MANAGING POLICE OPERATIONS (SEMPO) CONDUCTED ON DECEMBER 27, 2018 BY THE COMBINED ELEMENTS OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE - SPECIAL ACTION FORCE (PNP-SAF) REGIONAL OFFICE 7 AND THE 94TH INFANTRY BATTALION OF THE PHILIPPINE ARMY THAT RESULTED IN THE KILLING OF SIX INDIVIDUALS AND ARRESTS OF 27, MOSTLY MEMBERS OF VARIOUS PROGRESSIVE ORGANIZATIONS IN GUIHULNGAN CITY AND TOWNS OF MABINAY AND STA. CATALINA, NEGROS ORIENTAL PROVINCE”

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

House Resolution No. 2430, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN SUPPORT AND COMMITMENT TO

ADDRESS THE DIRE WORKING AND LIVING CONDITIONS OF HANJIN HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND CONSTRUCTION, INC. (HHIC) WORKERS IN SUBIC, ZAMBALES”

By Representatives Elago, Zarate, Tinio and Casilao

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Resolution No. 2431, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING SENATOR EMMANUEL ‘MANNY’ D. PACQUIAO FOR SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDING HIS WBA WELTERWEIGHT TITLE, DEFEATING ADRIAN BRONER AT THE MGM GRAND GARDEN ARENA IN LAS VEGAS, NEVADA ON JANUARY 19, 2019”

By Representative Nieto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2432, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING DEEPEST CONDOLENCES FOR THE PASSING OF MR. HENRY SY SR., CONSIDERED AS THE ‘FATHER OF PHILIPPINE RETAIL’ ON JANUARY 19, 2019”

By Representative Nieto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 2433, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD, THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD SECURITY AND THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE \$85 MILLION LOAN GRANTED BY THE LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES TO DISTRESSED CORPORATION HANJIN HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND CONSTRUCTION CO. - PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Chavez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

Message dated January 21, 2019, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed the following House Bills without amendment:

House Bill No. 8380, entitled:
“ANACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO HANS GUENTER SCHOOF”;

House Bill No. 8382, entitled:
 “AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO KITSON SORIANO KHO”;
 House Bill No. 8381, entitled:
 “AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO MARGARITA MELIAN ORTIGAS”;
 and
 House Bill No. 7206, entitled:
 “AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO MOHAMAD WASSIM NANAA”.
 TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

ZONES OR TOURISM ENTERPRISE ZONES AND PROVIDING ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS THEREFOR”
 recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 3727
 Sponsors: Representatives Abellanosa and Bravo (M.V.)
 TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Committee on Trade and Industry (Committee Report No. 1073), re H.B. No. 8862, entitled:
 “AN ACT PROVIDING BENEFITS AND PROGRAMS TO STRENGTHEN, PROMOTE, AND DEVELOP THE PHILIPPINE STARTUP ECOSYSTEM”
 recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 2882, 3057, 6609 and 7803
 Sponsors: Representatives Biron, Romualdo, Villafuerte, Yap (V.), Nieto and Garcia (J.E.)
 TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

REP. HOFER. Mr. Speaker, may we acknowledge the presence of the guest of Rep. Federico “Ricky” S. Sandoval II in the gallery, his classmate from New York Maritime College, Ms. Heidi Benedikt.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). The guest of the Honorable Sandoval will please rise. Welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*
 The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker.

Report of the Committee on Games and Amusements (Committee Report No. 1074), re H.R. No. 1698, entitled:
 “A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING FILIPINO FIGHTER JERWIN JUNTILLA ANCAJAS FOR SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDING HIS INTERNATIONAL BOXING FEDERATION (IBF) JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHT WORLD TITLE VIA A TECHNICAL KNOCKOUT OF MEXICAN CHALLENGER ISRAEL GONZALES IN CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON FEBRUARY 3, 2018”
 recommending its adoption without amendment in consolidation with House Resolutions Numbered 1646 and 1705
 Sponsors: Representatives Tambunting, Pineda, Castelo and Rodriguez (M.)
 TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

REP. HOFER. Mr. Speaker, we are in receipt of a message from the Senate informing the House that the Senate has passed with amendments House Bill No. 8055, entitled: AN ACT DIVIDING THE PROVINCE OF PALAWAN INTO THREE PROVINCES, NAMELY: PALAWAN DEL NORTE, PALAWAN ORIENTAL AND PALAWAN DEL SUR.

We have been advised that the Committee on Local Government, sponsor of House Bill No. 8055, as well as the authors thereof, has no objections to the amendments introduced by the Senate to the said House Bill.

Mr. Speaker, in accordance with our rules, I move that we concur with the Senate amendments to House Bill No. 8055.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CHANGE OF REFERRAL OF CERTAIN MEASURES

Report of the Committee on Natural Resources (Committee Report No. 1075), re H.B. No. 8864, entitled:
 “AN ACT PROVIDING FOR MODES OF DISPOSITION FOR AGRICULTURAL LANDS WITHIN TICA O AND BURIAS ISLANDS, PROVINCE OF MASBATE, DECLARED AS SPECIAL ECO-TOURISM

REP. HOFER. Mr. Speaker, I move for the change of referral of the following measures: House Bills No. 1308, 4638, 7035 and 7821, institutionalizing the giving of graduated Cash Grants to senior citizens, from the Committee on Population and Family Relations to the Special Committee on Senior Citizens.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). Is there

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

REP. HOFER. I also move for the change of referral of House Bill No. 2382, declaring July 25 of every year as the National Campus Press Freedom Day, from the Committee on Public Information to the Committee on Higher and Technical Education.

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

REP. HOFER. Furthermore, I move for the change of referral of House Bills No. 3473 and 8028, providing for the prevention and treatment of drug and alcohol abuse among high risk youth, from the Committee on Dangerous Drugs to the Committee on Youth and Sports Development.

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

REP. HOFER. Mr. Speaker, I move for the change of referral of House Bill No. 6448, establishing the Philippine Geriatric Center Research and Training Institute, from the Committee on Health to the Committees on Government Reorganization, and on Health.

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

REP. HOFER. I move for the change of referral of House Bill No. 8473, exempting senior citizens from the payment of Real Property Tax under certain conditions, from the Special Committee on Senior Citizens and the Committee on Ways and Means to the Special Committee on Senior Citizens and the Committee on Local Government.

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

REP. HOFER. I move for the change of referral of House Bill No. 8763, regulating the use of roads for safe, fast and economic transport, from the Committee on Transportation to the Committee on Public Works and Highways.

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

REP. HOFER. I move for the change of referral of House Bill No. 8723, strengthening the protection and management of waterways and water systems by host communities, from the Committee on Natural Resources to the Committee on Ecology.

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

REP. HOFER. Finally, I move for the change of referral of House Resolution No. 1756, directing the Committee on Muslim Affairs to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, to determine the present state of Bangon Marawi Comprehensive Rehabilitation and Recovery Program as mandated by Administrative Order No. 03, as amended, creating an Inter-Agency Task Force for the recovery, reconstruction and rehabilitation of the city of Marawi and other affected localities, from the Committee on Public Works and Highways to the Committee on Disaster Management.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8858

Continuation

REP. HOFER. Mr. Speaker, under the Calendar of Unfinished Business, I move that we resume the consideration of House Bill No. 8858, and may we request that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

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

REP. VILLARIN. Mr. Speaker.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8858, entitled: AN ACT EXPANDING THE SCOPE OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE AND WELFARE SYSTEM AND STRENGTHENING THE SOCIAL REINTEGRATION PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9344, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "JUVENILE JUSTICE AND WELFARE ACT OF 2006."

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

REP. HOFER. Mr. Speaker, our first interpellator for this afternoon ...

REP. VILLARIN. Mr. Speaker, point of order.

REP. HOFER. Mr. Speaker, may we recognize Congressman Villarain for his point of order.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). The Honorable Villarain is recognized.

REP. VILLARIN. Mr. Speaker, last night there was a motion to adjourn and the proponent of the motion has not yet withdrawn the same. May I inquire if we have to call the roll first before we proceed with discussing the proposed legislative measure.

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

REP. CASTRO (F.H.). Mr. Speaker, perhaps, the Gentleman was not listening last night that his motion to adjourn or the motion of any Member of the House of Representatives to adjourn was overtaken or superseded by the motion of this Representation to suspend the proceedings. Upon motion of this Representation, the Presiding Officer or the Chair granted my motion; thus, the motion to adjourn was already rendered moot and academic.

REP. VILLARIN. Then, my motion now, Mr. Speaker, I move that we call the roll of Members before we proceed with the discussion of the proposed measure.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. CASTRO (F.H.). Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the session.

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

It was 3:13 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:36 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

ROLL CALL

REP. HOFER. Mr. Speaker, I move that we call the roll.

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

The Secretary General will please call the roll.

*The Secretary General called the roll, and the result is reflected in Journal No. 44, dated January 23, 2019.**

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. The Honorable Speaker is present.

Mr. Speaker, The roll call shows that 164 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). With 164 Members responding to the call, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move for a few minutes suspension of the session.

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

It was 3:46 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:47 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Before we go on, Mr. Speaker, may we be allowed to acknowledge the presence of the guests in the gallery, starting off with His Excellency Rafael Harpaz, the Ambassador of Israel to the Philippines, guest of the honorable Deputy Speaker Rose Marie "Baby" J. Arenas of the Third District of Pangasinan. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). The guest of Honorable Arenas, welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROA-PUNO. We also have Ms. Evelyn Fantilanan and Ms. Ely Fantilanan, guests of the Second Congressional District Representative of

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

South Cotabato, the honorable Deputy Speaker Ferdinand L. Hernandez.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). The guests of the honorable Deputy Speaker, welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Likewise, we have Ms. Armina Belleza C. Llamas, Manager of the Public Relations Office of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority, here with her party, guests of the Hon. Anthony M. Bravo, PhD of the COOP-NATCCO Party-List. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). The guests of the Honorable Bravo, welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we resume the consideration of House Bill No. 8858 on Second Reading. May we once again ask the Secretary General to read the title of the Bill.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). Is there any objection? The Chair hears...

REP. VILLARIN. Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, objection.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). The Honorable Villarain is recognized.

RECONSIDERATION OF THE APPROVAL OF THE HOUSE RULES

REP. VILLARIN. Well, Mr. Speaker, before we continue with the discussions on the suspended Bill, may I move for a reconsideration of the approval of the House Rules, the amended House Rules that was approved yesterday. It is a motion for reconsideration of the approval of the House Rules that was tackled prior to the discussions on this Bill.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. CASTRO (F.H.). Mr. Speaker, I move for a few minutes suspension of the session.

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

The session is suspended.

It was 3:49 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

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

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

REP. CASTRO (F.H.). On the matter of reconsideration, Mr. Speaker, I move that we divide the House on the matter, on whether we will reconsider what we approved last night or not.

REP. VILLARIN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to raise another point of order. Can we get a copy of the amended House Rules that was approved last night?

REP. CASTRO (F.H.). The copy has already been distributed a long time ago, Mr. Speaker.

REP. VILLARIN. Well, we do not have the minutes or Journal of the House proceedings.

REP. CASTRO (F.H.). Mr. Speaker, there is a motion and we are already in the process of voting.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker, before we even proceed to voting, this Representation also would like to ask, ano po ba iyong ating in-amend na Rule? Can we not even mention it so that we can all vote wisely on the issue?

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. CASTRO (F.H.). Mr. Speaker, I move for a one minute suspension of the session.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). 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 3:55 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

REP. CASTRO (F.H.). Mr. Speaker, the parliamentary status is that there is a pending motion on the motion to reconsider what was amended last night

on the matter of the Rules of the House. Mr. Speaker, copies of this amendment have already been distributed to the Members of the House a long time ago and, therefore, there is no need for them to be briefed or to be informed on what the amendments were. Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I move ...

REP. LAGMAN. Mr. Speaker.

REP. CASTRO (F.H.). ... that we now vote ...

REP. LAGMAN. Mr. Speaker.

REP. CASTRO (F.H.). ... on the matter of motion for reconsideration.

REP. LAGMAN. Mr. Speaker.

REP. CASTRO (F.H.). Mr. Speaker, there is a pending motion. The only thing that they can do now, for those who want to oppose, is to oppose or not, and if there is an opposition, we will consider that in the votation.

Mr. Speaker, I so move that we now vote on the motion for reconsideration.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). There is a motion to reconsider the adoption of the amendments to the Rules of the House of Representatives.

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

FEW MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). As many as are against, please say *Nay*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Nay*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). The *nays* have it, the motion is defeated.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8858

Continuation

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we resume the consideration of House Bill No. 8858 on Second Reading, and once again, may we request that the Secretary General ...

REP. LAGMAN. Mr. Speaker.

REP. ROA-PUNO. ... be directed to read only the title of the measure.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

REP. LAGMAN. Mr. Speaker.

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

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

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8858, entitled: AN ACT EXPANDING THE SCOPE OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE AND WELFARE SYSTEM AND STRENGTHENING THE SOCIAL REINTEGRATION PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9344, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "JUVENILE JUSTICE AND WELFARE ACT OF 2006."

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, the parliamentary status of the Bill is that we are in the period of sponsorship and debate. I move that we recognize for his interpellation the Hon. Lito L. Atienza Jr. of BUHAY Party-List.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). The Honorable Atienza is recognized and has 20 minutes.

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

Yes, with the kind indulgence of the Sponsor, we would like to participate in the period of sponsorship and debate to ask him questions, more questions on the wisdom, the practicality and the effectivity of this law.

REP. LEACHON. Yes, Mr. Speaker, gladly.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker, we have a provision in our Constitution, under the Bill of Rights, Article III, Section 19, subsection (2), that every citizen has a right to human standards and proper environment in his detention; otherwise, they shall be dealt with by the law.

Ang tanong ko po kay Kagalang-galang na Leachon, ito po bang probisyon na ito ay ano po ba ang pagkakaintindi ninyo, that every citizen has that basic right, under the Bill of Rights, to a condition that is not subhuman, not substandard; otherwise, they shall be dealt with by law?

REP. LEACHON. Mr. Speaker, of course, our good friend from BUHAY Party-List, Cong. Lito Atienza, in

the words of the Constitution as you stated, particularly under the Bill of Rights, it is quite clear and quite self-explanatory that every Filipino has a right to have a humane living condition and, of course, shall be protected by law. In fact, parenthetically, under Article XV of the Constitution, which mandates the protection of children, in the same way, I had my message during the time that we approved it at the Committee level, it was quite clear that there is only one way or a foundation on which we will be standing in the promotion and the request for approval of this amendatory Bill, and that is for the protection and welfare of our youth and our children, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. G. Isponsor, distinguished Congressman Leachon, have we considered and passed a law to protect the right of citizens on this provision's guarantee, that the Constitution guarantees humane standards and a proper environment for detainees in our detention centers? Mayroon na po bang batas na naipasá ang Kongreso along this line, because a law is required before this provision is given full impact and goes into full effect?

REP. LEACHON. Yes, Mr. Speaker. It is quite integrated even under the old law, as enacted on December 8, 1930, particularly the Revised Penal Code. It is actually integrated therein that the inmates and detainees—the normal inmates, not the children that we are talking of this day, but as regards regular inmates in ordinary jails—again, it is integrated therein—the provision that there shall be full protection of our detainees from all harm and for them to be provided with humane living conditions.

REP. ATIENZA. Masasabi po natin, therefore, that the intention of the Constitution is now in full effect and that should be followed by all detention centers.

REP. LEACHON. Yes, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Would the Gentleman agree that today, even with the constitutional guarantee and the passage of the law, detention centers actually have subhuman standards in many, many cases, or practically all, except maybe for a few that are very careful and meticulous in their jail management? In Manila, for instance, iyan pong city jail natin ay for 1,100 inmates. Ang nakakulong po diyan ay 6,800. Maraming detention centers na ganoon din po ang larawan. Therefore, the problem of detention and detention centers, actually, is real. Iyan po ay pumuputok, punung-puno ng mga detainees who are suffering from subhuman treatment and standards, which is a gross violation of our Constitution. Samakatuwid, hindi po natin maaaring ni sa ungi-ungi ...

REP. LEACHON. Yes, ...

REP. ATIENZA. ... ay isama ang mga bata rito.

REP. LEACHON. Definitely, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Kahapon po ay nagbigay ng sponsorship speech ang ating kagalang-galang na Kongresista. Narinig ko po sa kanya na maraming mga probisyon iyong kanyang proposed law, which actually address the doubts, fears and uncertainties on children going into detention centers. With the wrong interpretation of the proposed law that we are discussing today, children may suffer the consequences of the problem of detention centers today, in spite of the constitutional guarantee, in spite of the law that follows the intention of the constitutional provision. Meticulously, he enumerated all the provisions of his proposed law that aim to provide a guarantee to save the child from possible destructive effects. Tama po ba iyong impression ko?

REP. LEACHON. Tama po, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Ang tanong ko po, therefore, ay, ano ang pangangailangan dito sa ating pinag-uusapang batas para ating bigyan ng prayoridad samantalang ang problema natin ay iyong mga detention center, iyong ating criminal justice system, the corruption in the PNP, the corruption in the Judiciary, the corruption all around us? Iyon ang problemang nagpapalala ng ating peace and order condition. But no, your Committee dares to stand up and say, "Ang problema ang mga bata." So, I would like to be enlightened on that, Mr. Speaker. Why are we now starting to think that the children are the problem and not the problems that we have around us regarding detention, punishment and the application of the law.

REP. LEACHON. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Cong. Lito Atienza.

I would like to answer that in two points: number one, this Representation would like to agree with you that, more or less, admittedly, there have been problems in several detention centers across the country, and in fact, these were not left unnoticed.

At present, the Subcommittee on Corrections under the House Committee on Justice has been formulating, in consultation with different agencies of the government, in order to adjust and at least correct the many problems besetting our correctional institutions in the country. So, I think we should belabor one important note, and that is what is, at this instance, the discussion that we are having today. We are having this one as the priority because with or without this Bill, we must admit the existence of so many incidents involving children in

conflict with the law. This is despite the passage of Republic Act No. 9344 in 2006, which was supposed to address the problems brought about by the previous law. That is why it is high time,—I would like to manifest and impress upon all our friends in Congress that I am not even an author of this Bill, as several authors filed this—as the Chair of the Committee on Justice, this is now my obligation and responsibility, and I take it wholeheartedly after so much reflection. Given the present scenario, as I have said, with the surge of criminal incidence involving children in conflict with law, there are so many problems that we seek to address. Number one, there is this unforeseen event that the care, operation and maintenance of youth care facilities, as provided for under existing law, have been given to several local government units across the nation, particularly in the provinces and highly urbanized cities.

I know our good friend was the Mayor of Manila for quite some time, and so was I in our little city of Calapan, and we know for a fact the limitation as to the annual budget of each local government unit. I think there lies the problem because it is quite apparent that we have been establishing provincial jails, provincial hospitals in so many provinces, and those instances actually deplete the budget of local government units.

Now, with the assurance of this provision, of this amendatory Bill, Congress shall provide for the full implementation of the establishment of all youth care facilities, the establishment of agricultural training centers, and the provision of trained personnel, and in fact, it is our commitment here that this Representation is amenable to concessions on the so many concerns that our other Members of Congress raised yesterday regarding the pending full implementation of the law—infrastructure concerns, training of personnel, hiring, creation of plantilla positions—all of these will be given effect and be financed regularly under the General Appropriations Act.

Many would say, “Why the special treatment?” Definitely, to allay the fears of so many, in fact, I was even surprised that this caught attention nationally. Because we are dealing with our children, as a father, I would also like to emphasize that I think it is justifiable for all of us to give emphasis to this in order to enable this law to meet the concerns of the prevailing problems involving children in conflict with the law.

There was a surge after raising the minimum age from 9 to 15. There have been cases of rape—in fact, more than about 3,000 for the last 5 years—about 66,000 crimes in the last 10 years, and it is the principle of all Members present during the time that we passed it. That is our idea that it is very easy to build strong children than to repair broken men. It is in this light, Mr.

Speaker, that I would like to assure our distinguished Gentleman from the BUHAY Party-List that in all the provisions, we are still being open to concessions and amendments in order to further enhance the security and assurance that these children in conflict with the law will be fully accorded the attention of the State, as provided for under the Constitution, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker, that is exactly the reason why I stood here. I would like to clarify certain issues with the Sponsor. He mentioned the provisions, as I heard yesterday, which try to guarantee the proper implementation of the law. He seems to be forgetting that the original law, which is R.A. No. 9344, which has been amended immediately, has not even been implemented properly up to now. Now, he stands up and guarantees us that the provisions of this proposed law will be implemented.

Iyon ang kanyang agam-agam, at sinasagot na rin niya mismo. He knows very well, as a father and as a parent, that the children will be in jeopardy if the law is misapplied to anyone, if the government fails to answer and submit to the intentions of the provisions that he has meticulously, conscientiously injected into the letter of the law.

Ang tanong ko po ay, bakit natin ilalagay sila sa panganib? Why are we putting the children in jeopardy if there are many questions that may remain unacted upon like the provisions that you stated, the responsibilities of the government? I would estimate that they will not be delivered at all, in the same manner that the guarantees of R.A. No. 9344 have not been delivered up to this point in time. So, if we have this urgent problem, as stated by the Gentleman, na dumarami ang mga krimen na kinasasangkutan ng mga bata—iyon po ba? Tama po ba ang narinig ko, dumarami ang mga krimen na kinasasangkutan ng mga bata?

REP. LEACHON. Opo, Mr. Speaker. Yes, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. I would like to put on record that that statement is not supported by the records of the Philippine National Police. I was listening to the spokesman of the PNP yesterday and he said kumakaunti po ang mga kaso na kinasasangkutan ng mga bata. And I could not help but worry that my colleague may have a different set of records from those of the PNP. The Philippine National Police says hindi dumarami at kumakaunti. Ang sabi ng ating Sponsor ay dumarami. Ano po ba ang inyong pananaw doon?

REP. LEACHON. With all due respect, Mr. Speaker, and to our good Cong. Lito Atienza, I beg to disagree, because it should be read in the whole context of the

statement. For precisely, if we are talking about the comparison of the current year with the previous year, there was actually a decrease, as shown by the records, but that is not the point, Mr. Speaker. The point is here from the time it was amended, five years prior 2006, the average crime involving children in conflict with the law was, more or less, 1,000 to 1,700. After its passage in 2006, there was an apparent surge in the incidence. In fact, from 2006 to 2009, more or less, about 3,000. In 2010, more or less, about 5,000. In 2011, there was about 6,000. In 2013, there was 8,000, and actually, the highest was in 2014 with about, more or less, 15,000. There was a decrease during the following year to about 14,000. So, if we are trying to compare the two previous years, there was a decrease, definitely. But what I am trying to do is to read it in the whole context of the criminal incidences involving children in conflict with the law because with about 66,000 crimes committed after 2006, we cannot deny the fact, and it cannot be left unnoticed by our eyes, that there have been abuse and exploitation of children. In fact, they have, in their own volition, been committing offenses primarily because after having such discernment to commit an offense, they would have the very subtle and instant excuse that they are exempt from any criminal responsibility, as mandated by Republic Act No. 9344, promulgated and enacted in 2006.

So, just to be clear about the matter, Mr. Speaker, there was a decrease, definitely from a previous year, but then there was a surge coming or an output coming from the time it was amended in 2006. There was definitely an apparent surge in criminal incidences involving children in conflict with the law.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker, what the Gentleman has just narrated are records that we also know, that obviously, under certain administrations of justice and inefficiencies of the police, crimes not only involving children, but crimes in general shoot up. That is the very reason why President Duterte was chosen by the electorate, because he committed and he promised he will bring down the crime rate in the country, sapagkat at one point in time in the past government, people were no longer safe even in taxicabs; they were being held up inside the taxi that they were already riding. People got held up in buses, in jeepneys, in the sidewalks of the country. Therefore, iyong sinasabi niyang record, we agree with that. Pero pababa na ang record ngayon. Undeniably, we cannot help but believe the police who are saying that the crimes are going down, especially crimes where children are involved. So, the downtrend has started. Why are we now rushing a law that could jeopardize the future of this nation?

Remember, if children get traumatized today by the inadequate judicial reforms and judicial

system that we are employing, they will carry the permanent damage through their generation. We will have a set of Filipinos who are more accepting of criminality and the commission of crimes rather than a society that will give everybody a decent, peaceful, and progressive Philippines.

The danger, therefore, of involving children in the criminal world is far greater than the imagined intention of some of our Members who sponsored this measure stating that this is the only solution. There are many solutions, Mr. Speaker. As I mentioned earlier, repormahin muna natin iyong ating judicial system. Ikulong muna natin iyong mga Judge na nabibili. Alisin muna natin sa serbisyo iyong mga pulis na umaareglo ng kaso. Those who are using children in the commission of their crimes should be punished to the fullest, *prision mayor*, life imprisonment. Let us maximize the punishment for any syndicate exploiting the innocence of the children and the poverty that they are soaked in today. Kaya sumasali ang batang iyan sa mga ganyang klaseng gawain—bibigyan ng pera, papapasukin sa bahay, pabubuksan iyong main gate, hoholdapin iyong bahay. Maraming paraan ang paggamit sa pagkawalang-malay ng bata. It only shows that children do not yet have a set mental capacity because of their young age.

Experts and I have volumes of studies of experts saying the full development of a person's mental capacity starts at 15 onwards, not at 9. Wala po tayong iniisip nang mga panahong 9 years old pa tayo kung hindi kumain, makapiling ng magulang, maglaro, mag-aral, magdasal, kumain uli at matulog. Hindi tayo nag-iisip ng masyadong maraming bagay sapagkat wala pa roon ang ating mental capacity. So, the shock that was given to me in this proposed law is why would we even consider trying to, whatever we say as the crime situation, put the blame on the children? Iyan po ay palagay ko, to say the least, hindi lamang distorted iyan, misoriented and does not make sense at all.

Ang sabi nga ng marami ngayon, usapan ito sa ating mga plaza at sa ating mga palengke, ang Kongresong ito ay hindi na namin maintindihan. Bakit iyong mga bata ang ikukulong? Iyong mga masasamang tao ang dapat ninyong ikulong at huwag nang palabasin. Mayroon pang nagsasabi—again, we are all hurt by this statement—the politicians are the ones who should be jailed, not the children. So, therefore, the dangers on the children and the future of this nation are real and that is the reason why people are speaking. Nagsasalita na ngayon ang ating mamamayan ng kanilang damdamin. Hindi na sila kimî sapagkat kung mali, mali. At ang sigaw ng bayan ngayon, mali itong proposed law na ito na hindi makatutulong; bagkus, ito ay makasasama.

I am appealing to my colleagues, to all of you. You are parents, grandparents, and you are all responsible, patriotic, elected officials of the land. Let us reject

this law because it will not do good to the children of families. The Philippines is the only country where families are still solid. Let us not destroy it with this kind of a proposed law. Kapag naging reality po ito, the burden of the government failing in its duty, abusing its power, a Congress that fails in its duties—tayo po ang papasán noon. Let us not succumb to any pressure and let us use our free will, wisdom, love of country and fear of God that children are the most sacred of all sectors of society.

Kung nagkakamali, tingnan natin, pag-aralan natin kung bakit nagkakamali, pero huwag nating isali sila sa mundo ng mga kriminal na dapat nating nilalaban. With that, Mr. Speaker, I hope the Gentleman will not take it personally, but this law is one of the worst—ang pinakamasamang batas na nakita ko dito sa ating Kongreso ngayon. May panahon pa para ito ay hindi mangyari. Huwag nating suportahan ito. Huwag ninyong iboto ito kung hindi sisisihin kayo ng kanyang pamilya. And with God's grace and support, we shall be enlightened.

Thank you.

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

REP. LEACHON. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move to recognize our next interpellator, the Hon. Joel Mayo Z. Almario of the Second District of Davao Oriental.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). The Honorable Almario is recognized.

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

I have a few questions, Your Honor, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, but let me start with the age as prescribed in the Bill which is 9 years old. Do I understand it right, Mr. Speaker, that in Republic Act No. 9344, the age mentioned in that Act is 12 years old and in Republic Act No. 10630, it was raised to 15 years old?

REP. LEACHON. Mr. Speaker, to answer the query of Congressman Almario, for the record, the history of criminal justice system in the Philippines as regards the penalty, from December 8, 1930, when the Revised Penal Code was enacted into law up to 2006, more or less, about 76 years, the original minimum age of criminal responsibility was 9, and then, it was increased in 2006 to 15. Now, the proposed Bill seeks the reversion to the original, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ALMARIO. And what was the mindset of

the authors of this Bill in lowering it now to 9 years old? I mean, let me just go on to my next question, Mr. Speaker, ...

REP. LEACHON. Yes.

REP. ALMARIO. ...because the answer will be related to it anyway. Is that the age specified by psychologists, by experts on this Bill, as the age of discernment?

REP. LEACHON. Number one, yes, and number two, the authors feel it is better if there will just be a reversion to the original minimum age of social responsibility which is at nine and it is also based on data that, as I said, there was an increase or surge of criminal incidents involving minors that prompted the five authors to file the respective Bills to the Committee on Justice.

REP. ALMARIO. Okay. Well, in my mind, Mr. Speaker, I would believe that the more appropriate age would be 12 years old. In other words, I agree with the intent of the Bill, but I do not agree with the age of 9 years old.

REP. LEACHON. As I said before, Mr. Speaker, in recent interpellations that I had with the different esteemed Members of Congress, the Committee on Justice does not own the monopoly of good judgment. We voted for this Bill, but if there is a proposal for any compromise to that effect, to a certain age, this Representation, on behalf of the Committee on Justice, will always be subservient to the will of the majority. If the will of the majority wishes to increase it to a certain age, as long as it is the collective judgment of the Members of this Congress, who am I to refuse the decision and wisdom of the majority of the Members of this Congress?

REP. ALMARIO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Now, one very important feature of this Bill is the establishment of Bahay Pag-asa and, as it says here, it is the key for this Act to be sustainable. Now, Mr. Speaker, first, I agree that in my district, when the age was increased to 15, the observation was that, dumarami nang dumarami ang mga kabataan below 15 years old na nasasangkot sa krimen and that has been expressed many times during the interpellations and I would like to put on record that it is also happening in my district. In fact, my constituents would like this Bill to be enacted into law.

Now, ito na ang susi, ang Bahay Pag-asa. If this Bill, Mr. Speaker, will be enacted or will be approved by the House of Representatives and the Senate, and enacted into law, the IRR will come out in 90

days, if I am not mistaken, and then, this Bill or the Act, the Republic Act, will now be operationalized so magkakahulihan na ng mga kabataan sa iba't ibang parte ng buong bansa who will qualify under this Act. If the age will be raised to 12 years old, so iyong mga 12 years old—mayroon ba tayong sapat na dami ng Bahay Pag-asa?

REP. LEACHON. As of this moment, per the data that were submitted to us, out of the 80 provinces across the nation, there are about 58 Bahay Pag-asa in operation and five are not operating.

REP. ALMARIO. Mr. Speaker, I represent the Second District of Davao Oriental. May I know if there is a Bahay Pag-asa anywhere in my district, because I will be answerable to them. When I go home this Thursday, they will ask me, “O, ang ganda noong Bill ninyo, nasaan iyong Bahay Pag-asa?”

REP. LEACHON. Yes, Mr. Speaker. In fact, as I said yesterday, we are amenable to the provision, because there should be a transitory provision for this one. For example, if there is an existing Bahay Pag-asa, then the law shall be ineffective or, otherwise, he shall be released in recognizance of his parents; but then the State has an obligation in a certain period under the General Appropriations Act to complete the facilities within a year, and by then, it shall be in full force together with the trained personnel. By that time, they can already accommodate; but in the meantime that we have yet—there should be a transitory provision to effect that any wish of any Member, but in practice, I have actually conversed with more than 20 prosecutors already and I inquired what was happening or what has been happening for quite some time and it has been said that they usually release these minors in recognizance. There have been problems because more often than not, the cases have been piling up because without reformation given to the children in conflict with the law, they continue to commit crimes again and again.

So, I think that is the very purpose and motivation as to why this Bill is being sought to be approved and that is to cure the existing problems besetting respective localities across the nation, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ALMARIO. Mr. Speaker, I truly agree with the intent of the Bill, with the explanation of the Sponsor. I am just very worried that when this Bill becomes a Republic Act and, in 90 days, the IRR will come out and there will now be apprehensions, that is why I want to be very specific, in concrete, kapag walang Bahay Pag-asa, saan dadalhin iyong nahuling minor?

REP. LEACHON. Yeah.

REP. ALMARIO. But the LGU does not have it. Mr.

Speaker. In fact, I would like to ask the Sponsor if it is possible to enact a Bill into law and the effectivity of that law will start one year after? Because if that is possible, you might as well think when the effectivity of this Bill will finally come, when all the Bahay Pag-asa are already in place. Kasi if we talk about the General Appropriations Act, you cannot find that in the proposed 2019 GAB.

REP. LEACHON. If that is a question that is precisely okay because even under the Civil Code of the Philippines, there are two ways the effectivity of laws can be made: number one, when it is specifically stated under the law; and second, 15 days after the publication of the law in a newspaper of general circulation. But then we can also add a specific provision in the current Bill that we are seeking to pass, that in the meantime that the Bahay Pag-asa is being constructed or ...

REP. ALMARIO. Or the source of funds that are being sought for...

REP. LEACHON. ...the source of funds is actually in the Bill. If you are saying that one, we can base it on tradition being practiced by several prosecutors in different jurisdictions, and that is to release these minors or these children in conflict with the law on recognizance of the parents, but then, in fact, after the establishment, it will be mandatory that they will operate the Bahay Pag-asa.

REP. ALMARIO. I do not think it will be wise to go to that option to release these children to the parents. In the first place, these children are in conflict with the law because they lack the supervision of their parents. But you also mentioned earlier, Mr. Speaker, that the source of fund is mentioned in the Bill. May I know what section of the Bill speaks of the source of funds for the establishment of the Bahay Pag-asa, and corollary to that, I would like to know, Mr. Speaker, how much does it cost to operate a Bahay Pag-asa, because it is not only the building, but it is also—and I quote the Bill itself,

A multidisciplinary team composed of a social worker, a psychologist/mental health professional, a medical doctor, an educational/guidance counselor, and a Barangay Council for the Protection of Children.

Now, if we talk about medical doctors, the provincial, the city, and the municipal hospitals right now are already lacking in medical doctors for the reason that, as they always say, “walang pondo sa pag-hire.” But now, here we are, talking about Bahay Pag-asa, wherein according to this Bill, it is mandatory to have a medical doctor. So, where in this Bill does it state that there is a source of fund already for the

establishment, for the operation of a Bahay Pag-asa, and how much would that be, Mr. Speaker?

REP. LEACHON. Mr. Speaker, number one, it is very clear here that some Bahay Pag-asa have been operated by local government units. Number two, it is quite apparent also that there is an instruction, in fact, that the DSWD has the immediate obligation to submit how much. But then, if the good Congressman is asking for the particular provision, it is cited under Section 13 of the amendatory Bill that the funding necessary for the establishment and continued operation of Bahay Pag-asa by the DSWD shall be included in the budget of the DSWD in the General Appropriations Act. It is a very, very clear provision cited in the amendatory Bill that is being discussed today.

REP. ALMARIO. Exactly, Mr. Speaker, but the approved proposed 2019 Budget for DSWD does not contain this. So, in the meantime, where will the funding come from, because we have already approved the proposed budget but it does not contain this?

Now, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor, will it be all right with the Sponsor if somewhere along this Bill, we also put a section that PAGCOR must earmark some funds for the construction of Bahay Pag-asa?

REP. LEACHON. No problem.

REP. ALMARIO. That we all—will be halfway there.

REP. LEACHON. No problem, Mr. Speaker, I am perfectly amenable to the wishes of the good Congressman.

REP. ALMARIO. Now, after Bahay Pag-asa's concern, Mr. Speaker, let me also ask a few more questions on some other provisions or sections of this Bill, from Section 3, and I quote:

THE PARENT, GUARDIAN OR FOSTER PARENT WITH CUSTODY OVER THE CHILD SHALL LIKEWISE UNDERGO INTERVENTION PROGRAMS, INCLUDING PARENTING SEMINARS AND COUNSELLING x x x.

Now, comparing that with Section 7, Mr. Speaker, that, and I quote:

PARENTS OF CHILDREN WHO COMMITTED ANY OF THE SERIOUS CRIMES UNDER SECTION 20-A OF THIS ACT, AND OF CHILDREN WHO ARE REPEAT OFFENDERS UNDER SECTION 20-B OF THIS ACT, SHALL UNDERGO MANDATORY INTERVENTION x x x.

That is the only point I would like to raise, Mr. Speaker. Why is it—well, it is obvious why it is mandatory in Section 7, but why is it not mandatory in Section 3?

REP. LEACHON. Yes.

For the information of our colleagues in Congress, *iyon po iyong gusto nating linawin*. Wala pong incarceration at imprisonment itong batas na ito. That is why I call it a pro-child legislation. Kapag ang isang bata in conflict with the law ay nakagawa let us say a petty offense, wala pong confinement iyan. Nagkakaroon lang po ng confinement sa tatlong pamamaraan: una, kapag ang bata na nakagawa ng krimen ay naka-commit ng serious offenses, exclusive po ito, sampu lang: robbery, parricide, murder, infanticide, homicide, carjacking, serious illegal detention, rape with homicide, robbery with homicide, and violation of the Dangerous Drugs Act. Malinaw naman po na serious offenses ito kaya mandatory ang confinement, pero nakalagay din po kung bakit ito ay child-friendly pa rin dahil po sa loob ng isang taon, ang ating mga lokal—social welfare and the multidisciplinary team composed of doctors, nurses, and guidance counsellors will just submit a progress report sa Judge. If the Judge is more or less satisfied na nakapagkumpleto ang bata pong ito ay puwede na po siyang bumalik sa kanyang pamilya kasama ho na nagkaroon ng intervention program ang kanyang magulang. So, that is the first instance when confinement is mandatory under the present amendatory Bill.

Pangalawa, kapag wala pong mga magulang iyong mga batang in-conflict with law, rather than pakalat-kalat sa kalsada, it would be better for that child to be confined in a youth care institution. At ang pangatlo, even for petty offenses pero paulit-ulit na ginagawa, katulad po iyong isa kong na-interview na piskal, na ang kanyang karanasan ay sa 11-year-old na 17 beses nagnakaw ng cellphone, so kapag recidivist ka, serious offense at walang magulang, that is the only time, but for any other offense, wala pong confinement and that makes this legislation pro-child. As I have said, if others would claim the opposite, I would say this is a pro-child legislative measure that we are proposing.

REP. ALMARIO. Mr. Speaker, the two Sections I cited do not talk of confinement as far as the parents of the children are concerned. It is just a mandatory intervention.

REP. LEACHON. Yes, dahil po the law speaks for itself, dahil serious ang offenses kaya mandatory rin para sa mga magulang.

REP. ALMARIO. Oo. Kaya nga kung puwede nating ilagay dito kahit hindi iyon serious offenses, mandatory intervention pa rin.

REP. LEACHON. Wala hong problema sa atin iyon.

REP. ALMARIO. Because as they always say, Mr. Speaker, kaya nga iyong batang menor de edad na sangkot sa mga violations of the law ay naging children in conflict with the law, because of the lack of intervention and supervision of the parents. Kaya dapat managot iyong parents ng mga batang ito. So, let us also make it mandatory that they attend these kinds of intervention programs, Mr. Speaker.

REP. LEACHON. Yes, I am amenable to that, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ALMARIO. Now, in the meantime na ginagawa iyong mga intervention program for the children and for the parents, what happens to the school days of the children kung nag-aaral siya sa isang eskwelahan and what happens to the working days of the parents kung nagtatrabaho naman sila sa isang trabahuhan, sa isang opisina, Mr. Speaker?

REP. LEACHON. Mr. Speaker, malinaw po roon na part of the intervention program is the establishment also, like, of informal schools, depende po. Kung kokonti lang, we can create the formation of the alternative learning schools para po sa mga bata para hindi napapabayaang ang kanilang pag-aaral, in the meantime that they are confined at a youth reformation facility.

REP. ALMARIO. Now, another concern on the budget source, Mr. Speaker, is found in Section 14 of the amendatory Bill where it says that, "THE DSWD IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE BUCOR SHALL ESTABLISH AT LEAST TWO (2) AGRICULTURAL CAMPS EACH IN LUZON, VISAYAS AND MINDANAO. THE DSWD, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH TESDA, SHALL LIKEWISE ESTABLISH AT LEAST TWO (2) TRAINING FACILITIES EACH IN LUZON, VISAYAS AND MINDANAO."

Pondo na naman, Mr. Speaker. Mayroon na ba itong pondo para sa mga establishment ng agricultural camps and training facilities, and also the geographical location? I could imagine perhaps one agricultural camp and one training facility will be in Davao. But what about those who are in conflict with the law, who come from far places? Will they be brought to Davao, Mr. Speaker? What about the distance that is being created between them and the parents?

REP. LEACHON. It will be treated in the same way that you asked for the funding. We will be funding these agricultural training centers also and, ...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). The time of the ...

REP. LEACHON. ... of course, in due consideration of the geographical area also, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ALMARIO. Mr. Speaker, isang tanong na lang. Iyong riot ba ng kabataan, iyong gang war na usong-uso sa probinsiya, usually mga 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 to 15 years old, kasama ba rito iyan?

REP. LEACHON. Kapag hindi ho siya—if he belongs to the exemption of age, hindi siya kasama, pero halimbawa iyong eight years old na nakapatay, eh absolute ho exemption noon from any social responsibility. Kung ikaw naman ay nakapatay, kahit ho anong gawin nating riot ng mga bata eh nakapatay ka, kasalanan pa rin iyon, and that is actually covered under this one.

REP. ALMARIO. Now, the final question, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor, I would like to get the idea of the Honorable Leachon, lahat naman ng ito ay nasa barangay di ba? What would you think if we include among those accountable the elected Punong Barangay?

REP. LEACHON. Mahirap naman na maging accountable siya kung wala siyang kinalaman sa mga pangyayari. Of course, the immediate parental or solidary liability shall always pertain to the parents under the principle of *parens patriae*. It shall be the responsibility of the State, so with the parents to discipline your children. Napakahirap naman ho sa Kapitan na hindi naman niya alam iyong pangyayari unless the criminal incidence happened in his own eyes and tolerated the happening of it.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). The time ...

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

REP. LEACHON. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ALMARIO. Mr. Sponsor, thank you very much.

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

REP. PIMENTEL. Mr. Speaker, before we proceed, may we acknowledge the presence of the delegation from the Poland-Philippines Parliamentary Friendship Group. They are here to visit the House of Representatives and they are Parliamentarians from Poland. They are Hon. Bozena Bukiewicz, Chairperson; Hon. Andrzej Maciejewski, Vice Chairman; Hon. Mirosława Nykiel,

Member; Hon. Artur Zasada, Member; Mr. Jaroslaw Szczepankiewicz, Ambassador Designate, *Chargé D'affaires*, Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Manila; Ms. Paulina Rasinska, Delegation Secretary; and Ms. Joanna Wasiewska, *Chargé D'affaires*, Embassy of the Republic of Poland in Manila. They are also visitors of Rep. Rose Marie "Baby" J. Arenas, Mr. Speaker. (*Applause*)

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). We welcome you to the House of Representatives.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8858

Continuation

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, we checked some of the facts with the Secretariat in connection with House Bill No. 8858. It appears, Mr. Speaker, that there were already speakers for the measure satisfying the requirement under Section 54 of our Rules and more than two speakers who spoke against the measure, also more than satisfying the requirement. Because of this, Mr. Speaker, ...

REP. TINIO. Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

REP. MARCOLETA. ... I move to close the debate ...

REP. TINIO. Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

REP. MARCOLETA. ... on the measure, House Bill ...

REP. TINIO. Point of order.

REP. MARCOLETA. ... No. 8858.
I so move, Mr. Speaker.

REP. TINIO. Point of order.

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

REP. TINIO. Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, I stand with the motion.

REP. TINIO. Mr. Speaker, point of order.

REP. MARCOLETA. Those who are in favor ...

REP. TINIO. Mr. Speaker, I have ...

REP. MARCOLETA. ... of the motion to close ...

REP. TINIO. ... a point of order.

REP. MARCOLETA. ... the debate, please say *Aye* ...

REP. TINIO. My motion takes ...

REP. MARCOLETA. ... and those who are against will say *Nay*.

REP. TINIO. ... precedence over the ...

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

REP. TINIO. ... motion of the Majority Leader.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). There is a motion to approve ...

REP. TINIO. Mr. Speaker, I am raising a point of order.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). The aforementioned House Bill ...

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, I have the Rules ...

REP. TINIO. Mr. Speaker, I am raising a point of order which takes precedence ...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). All those in favor, please say *Aye*.

REP. TINIO. ... over the motion.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). All those against, please say *Nay*.

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

REP. TINIO. Ano naman ito eh, may Rules tayo eh.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). The *ayes* have it; the House bill is now approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. MARCOLETA. There is a motion to suspend the session, Mr. Speaker.

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

It was 4:50 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:52 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). What is the parliamentary status of the Bill?

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, to clarify, what we had is a motion to close the debate, and so, as already ruled by the Speaker, those who said *Aye* were in favor of closing the debate. That was the ruling, Mr. Speaker, only to close the debate. We are not yet beginning with the amendments, Mr. Speaker, because we are still waiting for the copies to be distributed on the floor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). Okay. Please proceed, Majority Leader.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION
OF H.B. NO. 8858

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the consideration of House Bill No. 8858.

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

Please proceed, Majority Leader.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 6517
Continuation

REP. MARCOLETA. I move that we resume the consideration of House Bill No. 6517, providing compassionate and right of access to medical cannabis and expanding research into medical properties, and that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). Is there

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

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

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 6517, entitled: AN ACT PROVIDING COMPASSIONATE AND RIGHT OF ACCESS TO MEDICAL CANNABIS, EXPANDING RESEARCH INTO ITS MEDICINAL PROPERTIES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, the parliamentary status of this Bill is that we are in the period of amendments. I move that we recognize the honorable Representative from the First District of Isabela, Hon. Rodolfo T. Albano III, the principal author of House Bill No. 6517, to sponsor the measure.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the Honorable Albano is recognized.

REP. ALBANO. Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Are there any amendments? There is no amendment. There being no amendment, I move that we close the period of amendments, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, considering that there are no amendments, I move that we vote on the said Bill—Mr. Speaker, may I reframe that.

Mr. Speaker, last Tuesday, January 15, 2019, we have distributed to all Members copies of the substitute version of House Bill No. 6517, and pursuant to Section 104 of our Rules, I move to amend by substitution the entire Bill as contained in Committee Report 402, with the contents of the substitute version earlier distributed to all Members.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we now proceed to consider the individual amendments, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who has registered to propose individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we now approve House Bill No. 6517, as amended, on Second Reading.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). There is a motion for the approval of House Bill No. 6517, as amended, on Second Reading.

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

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). As many as are against, please say *Nay*. (*Silence*)

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 6517, AS AMENDED, ON SECOND READING

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

House Bill No. 6517, as amended, is approved on Second Reading. (*Applause*)

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8858 *Continuation*

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we resume the consideration of House Bill No. 8858, and request that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). Is there

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

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

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8858, entitled: AN ACT EXPANDING THE SCOPE OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE AND WELFARE SYSTEM AND STRENGTHENING THE SOCIAL REINTEGRATION PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN IN CONFLICT WITH THE LAW, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9344, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "JUVENILE JUSTICE AND WELFARE ACT OF 2006."

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

PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, the parliamentary status is that we have already terminated the period of sponsorship and debate. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

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

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, just earlier, we have distributed to all Members copies of the substitute version of House Bill No. 8858. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Section 104 of our Rules, particularly second paragraph thereof, I move to amend by substitution the entire Bill as contained in Committee Report No. 1071, with the contents of the substitute version earlier distributed to all Members.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). Is there any objection?

REP. LEACHON. Mr. Speaker, for...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). Majority Leader. Majority Leader.

REP. LEACHON. May this Representation be recognized, Mr. Speaker, before we go on.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). The honorable Chairman is recognized.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, may we recognize the Sponsor of the measure, the Hon. Doy C. Leachon.

REP. LEACHON. I think I was furnished a copy of the substitute Bill and, of course, this is actually vital or a milestone departure from the original Bill that was filed. So, if I may say for the information of everyone, I would like to verify it, Mr. Speaker, if this is about the age. May we request the Majority Leader to read first the change of the age from 9 to 12.

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

REP. LEACHON. Just for the clear information of everyone. Every...

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, may I reiterate the previous motion. Pursuant to Section 104 of our Rules, particularly second paragraph, thereof, I move to amend by substitution the entire Bill as contained in Committee Report No. 1071, where the contents of the substitute version earlier distributed to all Members.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, to continue with the individual amendments, I move that we delete the word "social" in Sections 2 and 3 of House Bill No. 8858, found in page 2, line 16 and line 42, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, there being no other Member who has registered to propose any individual amendment, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. MARCOLETA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve House Bill No. 8858, as amended, on Second Reading.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). There is a motion for the approval of House Bill No. 8858, as amended, on Second Reading.

REP. TINIO. Objection.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). As many as are in favor, please say *Aye*.

REP. TINIO. Objection.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). As many as are against, please say *Nay*.

FEW MEMBERS. *Nay*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8858, AS AMENDED ON SECOND READING

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

House Bill No. 8858, as amended, is approved on Second Reading. (*Applause*)

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

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

It was 5:01 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

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

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8833 ON SECOND READING

REP. PIMENTEL. Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 8833, contained in Committee Report No. 1055, as reported out by the Committees on Transportation and Appropriations.

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

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

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

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

THE SECRETARY GENERAL.
House Bill No. 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.

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

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move to recognize the Sponsor of the said measure, the Hon. Federico “Ricky” S. Sandoval II from the Lone District of Malabon.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). The Honorable Sandoval is recognized.

REP. SANDOVAL. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am pleased to sponsor House Bill No. 8833, creating the Philippine Coast Guard General Hospital for the consideration of our Members.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. SANDOVAL. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). Please proceed.

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

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move to open the period of amendments.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes ...

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Mr. Speaker.

REP. SANDOVAL. Mr. Speaker, excuse me.

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Mr. Speaker, Mr. Majority Leader.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move to recognize the Hon. Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento for his amendment, Mr. Speaker.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). The Honorable Sarmiento (E.) is recognized.

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Mr. Speaker, I have some individual amendments, that is, if the author will accept some amendments to the proposed House Bill.

REP. SANDOVAL. Certainly will, Mr. Speaker.

INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENT

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce some amendments. This is on page 2, Section 5, lines 19 and 20. To have an efficient administration, may I propose some amendments. On lines 19, may I request the author if we can delete “Secretary of Health, as an ex-officio chairperson.”

REP. SANDOVAL. I agree, Mr. Speaker.

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). And, of course, the “Secretary of Transportation, as an ex-officio vice-chairperson.”

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). What does the ...

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Can we delete?

REP. SANDOVAL. Agree, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). What does the Sponsor say?

REP. SANDOVAL. I agree, Mr. Speaker.

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Rather than the Secretary of Health and the Secretary of Transportation as chairperson and vice-chairperson, may I introduce that the COMMANDANT OF THE PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD SHOULD SERVE AS THE CHAIRPERSON. Are you acceptable of the amendment, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SANDOVAL. I agree, Mr. Speaker.

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). And, further, Mr. Speaker, can we designate the DEPUTY COMMANDANT OF THE PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD AS THE VICE CHAIRPERSON.

REP. SANDOVAL. Agree, Mr. Speaker.

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). Can I introduce, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, new members, over and above, the COMMAND SURGEON OF THE PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD AS MEMBER?

May I introduce the following, as member as well, that the COMMANDER OF THE PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD MEDICAL SERVICE will become a member;

The COMMANDER OF THE PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD NURSE CORPS should become a member as well;

The COMMANDER OF THE PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD LEGAL SERVICE as an additional member; and

Finally, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor, the DEPUTY CHIEF OF COAST GUARD STAFF FOR HUMAN RESOURCE AND MANAGEMENT AS MEMBER AS WELL.

REP. SANDOVAL. Mr. Speaker, I agree to all the amendments as introduced by the Honorable Sarmiento (E.).

REP. SARMIENTO (E.). That is all, Mr. Speaker. Thank you so much, Mr. Sponsor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). What does the Majority say about the amendments?

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I join the Sponsor and accept all the amendments.

Mr. Speaker, there being no other individual amendment, I move that we close the period of amendments. I so move.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, may I move that we approve House Bill No. 8833, as amended, on Second Reading.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). There is a motion for the approval of House Bill No. 8833, as amended, on Second Reading

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

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye.*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). As many as are against, please say *Nay.* (*Silence*)

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8833, AS AMENDED,
ON SECOND READING

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

House Bill No. 8833, as amended, is approved on Second Reading.

REP. SANDOVAL. Mr. Speaker, thank you very much. The Philippine Coast Guard is now a step closer to having their own hospital.

Maraming salamat po.

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

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8861
ON SECOND READING

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 8861 on Second Reading, contained in Committee Report No. 1072, as reported out by the Committees on Tourism, and Ways and Means.

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

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

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

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

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8861, entitled: AN ACT EXTENDING THE PERIOD FOR THE GRANT OF INCENTIVES TO TOURISM ENTERPRISE ZONES AND REGISTERED TOURISM ENTERPRISES AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9593, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "TOURISM ACT OF 2009."

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

REP. LIMKAICHONG. Mr. Speaker.

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move to open the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move to recognize the author of or the Sponsor of the said Bill, the Hon. Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). Honorable Limkaichong is recognized.

REP. LIMKAICHONG. Yes, Mr. Speaker. I move to adopt the Explanatory Note as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move to open the period of amendments.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, there being no individual Member who wishes to introduce amendments, I move to close the period of amendments.

I so move.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve House Bill No. 8861 on Second Reading.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). There is a motion for the approval of House Bill No. 8861 on Second Reading.

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

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). As many as are against, please say *Nay*. (*Silence*)

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8861 ON SECOND READING

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

House Bill No. 8861 is approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8837 ON SECOND READING

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 8837 on Second Reading, contained in Committee Report No. 1057, as reported out by the Committees on Government Reorganization, Population and Family Relations, and Appropriations.

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

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

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

With the permission of the Body, and since copies

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

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 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.

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

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move to recognize the honorable Rep. Mariano Michael M. Velarde Jr., the Chairman of the Government Reorganization Committee and Sponsor of the said measure.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). The Honorable Velarde is recognized.

REP. VELARDE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

I move to adopt the Explanatory Note as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

I so move.

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

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

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve House Bill No. 8837 on Second Reading.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). There is a motion to approve House Bill No. 8837 on Second Reading. As many as are in favor, please say *Aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). As many as are against, please say *Nay*. (*Silence*)

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8837 ON SECOND READING

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

House Bill No. 8837 is approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 8862 ON SECOND READING

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

consider House Bill No. 8862, contained in Committee Report No. 1073, as reported out by the Committee on Trade and Industry.

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

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

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

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

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 8862, entitled: AN ACT PROVIDING BENEFITS AND PROGRAMS TO STRENGTHEN, PROMOTE, AND DEVELOP THE PHILIPPINE STARTUP ECOSYSTEM.

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

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto from the Third District of Manila to sponsor the said measure.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). The Hon. John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto is recognized.

REP. NIETO. Mr. Speaker, nais ko lang pong i-manifest na maging sponsorship speech po iyong Explanatory Note ng Bill pong ito.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve House Bill No. 8862 on Second Reading.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). There is a motion to approve House Bill No. 8862 on Second Reading.

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

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). As many as are against, please say *Nay*. (*Silence*)

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 8862 ON SECOND READING

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

House Bill No. 8862 is approved on Second Reading.

The Majority Leader is recognized

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we take up Business for Thursday and Friday.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

OMNIBUS CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILLS ON SECOND READING

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move for the omnibus consideration of the following local bills:

1. House Bill No. 8835, contained in Committee Report No. 1056;

2. House Bill No. 8846, contained in Committee Report No. 1061;

3. House Bill No. 8847, contained in Committee Report No. 1062;

4. House Bill No. 8848, contained in Committee Report No. 1063;

5. House Bill No. 8149, contained in Committee Report No. 1064; and

6. House Bill No. 8854, contained in Committee Report No. 1069.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider the respective Explanatory Notes as the sponsorship speeches on the said measures.

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

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate on the said local bills, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments, and approve the Committee

amendments, if any, as contained in the respective Committee reports of the aforementioned bills.

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

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of amendments is hereby terminated.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve on Second Reading the aforementioned House bills.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). There is a motion to approve on Second Reading the aforementioned bills.

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

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). As many as are against, please say *Nay*. (*Silence*)

OMNIBUS APPROVAL OF HOUSE BILLS ON SECOND READING

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

The aforementioned measures are approved on Second Reading. *

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, we would like to acknowledge the presence of the guests of the Hon. Tom S. Villarín from the AKBAYAN Party-List, the members of the Child Rights Network, who are in the gallery with us today.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). The guests of the Honorable Villarín, welcome to the House of Representatives.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ROA-PUNO. I move that we suspend the session, Mr. Speaker. (*Applause*)

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

It was 5:17 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:23 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

RATIFICATION OF CONF. CTTEE. RPT. ON H.B. NO. 8628 AND S.B. NO. 1898

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, we are in receipt of the Conference Committee Report reconciling the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 8628 and Senate Bill No. 1898.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). 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. 8628, entitled: AN ACT TRANSFERRING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE ACADEMY (PNPA) AND THE NATIONAL POLICE TRAINING INSTITUTE (NPTI) FROM THE PHILIPPINE PUBLIC SAFETY COLLEGE (PPSC) TO THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 24, 35, 66 AND 67 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6975, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT OF 1990", AS AMENDED; and Senate Bill No. 1898, entitled: AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 66 AND 67 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6975, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT OF 1990", APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, in accordance with our rules, I move that we ratify the said Conference Committee Report.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Conference Committee Report is ratified.

ELECTION OF REP. GARCES TO SEVERAL COMMITTEES

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move for the election of Rep. Ulysses G. Garces as additional member of the following committees: the Committee on Agriculture and Food, the Committee on Economic Affairs, the Committee on Games and Amusements vice Rep. Rodel Batocabe, the Committee on Legislative Franchises vice Rep. Rodel Batocabe, and the Committee on Trade and Industry.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

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

It was 5:24 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

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

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. ROA-PUNO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adjourn the session until Monday, January 28, 2019, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abueg). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The session is adjourned until Monday, January 28, 2019, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

It was 5:25 p.m.