



# Congressional Record

PLENARY PROCEEDINGS OF THE 18<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, FIRST REGULAR SESSION

## House of Representatives

Vol. 3

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

No. 33a

### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 3:00 p.m., the session was resumed with Deputy Speaker Johnny Ty Pimentel presiding.*

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

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

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

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

### ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

### BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 5926, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE SOCIAL PENSION OF SENIOR CITIZENS AND EXPANDING THE COVERAGE THEREOF, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT 9994”

By Representative Lim  
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS

House Bill No. 5927, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING SUPPORT MECHANISMS ON MATTERS OF STUDENT DISCIPLINE AND CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT FOR TEACHERS AND PERSONNEL IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM”

By Representative Olivarez  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 5928, entitled:

“AN ACT TO FURTHER DEVELOP CAPABILITY AND ESTABLISH EXPEDITIOUS TRANSFORMATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AND ITS BUREAUS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Olivarez  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 5929, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO SULTAN KUDARAT TELEPHONE SYSTEM, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8637, ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING THE SULTAN KUDARAT TELEPHONE SYSTEM, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, ESTABLISH, INSTALL, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE LOCAL EXCHANGE NETWORK IN THE PROVINCE OF SULTAN KUDARAT’ ”

By Representative Sakaluran  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 5930, entitled:

“AN ACT DELINEATING THE TERRITORIAL BOUNDARIES OF TAGAYTAY CITY, AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1418 AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9024”

By Representative Tolentino  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 5931, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE DISPLAY OF NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE

## MENU OF FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS”

By Representative Bagatsing  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 5932, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION, TREATMENT, AND REHABILITATION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9165, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘COMPREHENSIVE DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT OF 2002’ AS AMENDED, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Cabochan  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON DANGEROUS DRUGS

House Bill No. 5933, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE BUREAU OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS (BSI), PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF, AND AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8551 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE REFORM AND REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1998’ ”

By Representative Mangudadatu  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

House Bill No. 5934, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE BARANGAY ROAD FROM BARANGAY ASUNCION IN MAASIN CITY TO BARANGAY PAKU, BONTOC, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Mercado  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 5935, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A RADIO STATION OF THE BUREAU OF BROADCAST SERVICES IN MAASIN CITY, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Mercado  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

House Bill No. 5936, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING GUINSAUGON ECO-ADVENTURE PARK IN GUINSAUGON, ST. BERNARD, SOUTHERN LEYTE AS THE GUINSAUGON ECO-ADVENTURE NATIONAL PARK”

By Representative Mercado  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 5937, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING CAGNITUAL FALLS LOCATED IN MAASIN CITY, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE AN ECOTOURISM SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Mercado  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 5938, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING FEBRUARY 17 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE TO BE KNOWN AS THE ‘GUINSAUGON DAY’ IN MEMORY OF THE VICTIMS OF THE 2006 LANDSLIDE IN BARANGAY GUINSAUGON, MUNICIPALITY OF ST. BERNARD, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE”

By Representative Mercado  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 5939, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SOUTHERN LEYTE SPORTS ACADEMY AND TRAINING CENTER IN THE CAPITAL CITY OF MAASIN, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Mercado  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 5940, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING SOGOD ZIPLINE ALONG THE VICINITY OF AGAS-AGAS BRIDGE, MUNICIPALITY OF SOGOD, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE AS A TOURIST SITE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Mercado  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 5941, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A BRANCH OFFICE OF THE HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND ‘PAG-IBIG’ IN MAASIN CITY, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE”

By Representative Mercado  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 5942, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TECHNICAL

EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LAOANG, PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR TO BE KNOWN AS THE LAOANG TESDA TRAINING AND ACCREDITATION CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Ong (Jose)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 5943, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE HEAD OF OFFICE OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS AFFAIRS (OSCA) AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 6, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9994, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS ACT OF 2010’ ”

By Representative Datol  
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS

House Bill No. 5946, entitled:

“AN ACT INTEGRATING SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY STUDIES IN THE K TO 12 CURRICULUM”

By Representative Fortun  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 5947, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE SITUBO FALLS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TAMPILISAN, PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE A TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Amatong  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 5948, entitled:

“AN ACT CHANGING THE NAME OF PARACELIS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY POBLACION, MUNICIPALITY OF PARACELIS, PROVINCE OF MOUNTAIN PROVINCE”

By Representative Dalog  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 5949, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE INCLUSION OF SUBJECTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND PEACE EDUCATION IN THE JUNIOR AND SENIOR CURRICULA OF ALL PUBLIC AND

PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Hataman and Sangcopan  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 5950, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER TO BE LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BANNA, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Barba  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 5951, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO ANGELO KOUAME”

By Representative Puno  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

#### COMMUNICATIONS

Letter dated October 16, 2019 of Michael Angelo S. Sestoso, Municipal Mayor, Municipality of Alcoy, Province of Cebu, submitting the Report on Fund Utilization of Program/Project Implementation for the Quarter Ended September 30, 2019 on the Local Government Support Fund.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated December 4, 2019 of Ma. Luna E. Cacanando, President and CEO, Small Business Corporation, furnishing the House of Representatives with a copy of the SB Corp’s 2018 Annual Report.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Letter dated December 10, 2019 of Mario G. Lipana, Director III, Officer-in-Charge, Regional Office No. IV-A, Commission on Audit, furnishing the House of Representatives with copies of the CYs 2015 to 2018 Annual Audit Reports (AARs) on the Mabini Water District, Mabini, Batangas and Siniloan Water District, Siniloan, Laguna.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated 11 December 2019 of Benjamin E. Diokno, Governor, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, submitting to the House of Representatives the Report on Economic and Financial Developments in the Philippines, Third Quarter 2019.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated December 20, 2019 of Susan C. Ramirez, Director III, OIC-Regional Director, Regional Office No. II, Commission on Audit, furnishing the House of Representatives with copies of Biennial Audit Report on the Calayan Water District, Calayan, Cagayan, for the Biennium Period January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2018 and Annual Audit Report on the Luna Water District, Luna, Isabela for the year ended December 31, 2018.  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letters dated 23 December 2019 of Donaldo B. Robles, Acting Deputy Director, Office of the General Counsel and Legal Services, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), furnishing the House of Representatives with duly certified and authenticated BSP issuances, to wit:

1. Memorandum No. M-2019-029 dated 12 December 2019; and
2. Memorandum No. M-2019-030 dated 18 December 2019.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

Letters dated 2 January 2020 of Janice G. Ayson-Zales, Deputy Director, Office of the General Counsel and Legal Services, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), furnishing the House of Representatives with duly certified and authenticated BSP issuances, to wit:

1. Circular No. 1068 dated 26 December 2019;
2. Circular Letter No. CL-2019-087 dated 19 December 2019;
3. Circular Letter No. CL-2019-088 dated 23 December 2019;
4. Circular No. 1069 dated 27 December 2019; and
5. Circular No. 1070 dated 27 December 2019.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Committee on Agrarian Reform and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 196), re H.B. No. 5955, entitled:

“AN ACT TRANSFERRING THE PROVINCIAL AGRARIAN REFORM OFFICE OF LANA DEL NORTE FROM ILIGAN CITY TO THE MUNICIPALITY OF TUBOD, LANA DEL NORTE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 4735

Sponsor: Representatives Chungalao, Ungab and Dimaporo (Khalid)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Agrarian Reform (Committee Report No. 197), re H.B. No. 3029, entitled:

“AN ACT PENALIZING THE CONVERSION OR CAUSING THE CONVERSION OF IRRIGATED AND IRRIGABLE LANDS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6657, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM LAW OF 1998”

recommending its approval without amendment

Sponsor: Representatives Chungalao, Palma and Agabas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Agrarian Reform (Committee Report No. 198), re H.B. No. 5083, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE RESTRUCTURING AND CONDONATION OF UNPAID INTERESTS, PENALTIES, AND SURCHARGES ON LOANS SECURED BY FARMERS, FISHERFOLK AND AGRARIAN REFORM BENEFICIARIES FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM (DAR), THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA), THE PEOPLE’S CREDIT AND FINANCE CORPORATION (PCFC), THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CDA), THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY (NFA) AND THE QUEDAN AND RURAL CREDIT GUARANTEE CORPORATION (QUEDANCOR)”

recommending its approval without amendment

Sponsor: Representatives Chungalao, Canama and Agabas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the session.

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

*It was 3:08 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 3:21 p.m., the session was resumed.*

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we proceed to the Additional Reference of Business.

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

The Secretary General is hereby directed to read Additional Reference of Business.

#### ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

*The Secretary General read the following House Bills and Resolutions, and the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding references:*

#### BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 5952, entitled:

“AN ACT TRANSFERRING AND TURNING OVER TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS THE ADMINISTRATION, MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL OF PARKS OF NATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE AND HISTORIC LANDMARKS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSE”

By Representative Abante

TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 5953, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF COCKPITS AND OTHER STRUCTURES OR FACILITIES FOR HOLDING COCKFIGHTS NEAR SCHOOLS AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, CHURCH BUILDINGS AND OTHER PLACES OF WORSHIP, AND HOSPITALS, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSE”

By Representative Abante

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GAMES AND AMUSEMENTS

House Bill No. 5954, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO MINIMUM WAGE EARNERS BY WAIVING GOVERNMENT FEES AND CHARGES COLLECTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE OF DOCUMENTS REQUIRED IN THEIR APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT”

By Representative Saulog

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 5956, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING APRIL 7 EVERY YEAR AS BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS DAY”

By Representative Co (Angelica)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 5957, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE DAVAO DEL NORTE STATE COLLEGE ACADEMIC EXTENSION CAMPUS IN THE ISLAND GARDEN CITY OF SAMAL (IGACOS), PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL NORTE”

By Representative Dujali

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 5958, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE DAVAO DEL NORTE STATE COLLEGE ACADEMIC EXTENSION CAMPUS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL NORTE”

By Representative Dujali

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 5959, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE DAVAO DEL NORTE STATE COLLEGE ACADEMIC EXTENSION CAMPUS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF STO. TOMAS, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL NORTE”

By Representative Dujali

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 5960, entitled:

“AN ACT INTEGRATING THE ARTS (A) INTO SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM) ESTABLISHING STEAM IN BASIC AND HIGHER EDUCATION, PROMOTING CAPACITY BUILDING FOR EDUCATORS, PROVIDING FOR ITS FINANCING, AND MANDATING SCHOOLS TO INSTITUTIONALIZE STEAM EDUCATION TO CONTRIBUTE TO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (S&T), INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, AND TO ENHANCE THE CREATIVE POTENTIALS AND

HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT OF FILIPINO STUDENTS IN THE 4<sup>TH</sup> INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION”

By Representative Fortun  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 5961, entitled:  
“AN ACT REAPPORTIONING THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF CALOOCAN”

By Representative Malapitan  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 5962, entitled:  
“THE REVISED CHARTER OF THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM”

By Representative Pimentel  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 5963, entitled:  
“AN ACT CREATING NEW POSITIONS FOR THE TEACHING PERSONNEL IN THE PUBLIC BASIC EDUCATION SYSTEM, REVISING THE QUALIFICATION STANDARDS THEREOF AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Revilla  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 5964, entitled:  
“AN ACT EXPANDING THE PHILIPPINE SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8496 AS AMENDED BY 9036”

By Representative Aumentado  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 5965, entitled:  
“AN ACT ALLOWING AND REGULATING THE USE OF MOTORCYCLES AS PUBLIC UTILITY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4136 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LAND TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC CODE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Yap (Eric) and Duterte  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 5966, entitled:  
“AN ACT CREATING THE TAAL VOLCANO REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, ESTABLISHING THE TAAL VOLCANO REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXTENDING AID, RELIEF, RESETTLEMENT, REHABILITATION, LIVELIHOOD, AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO COMMUNITIES ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THE TAAL VOLCANO ERUPTION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Santos-Recto, Bolilia, Collantes and Mariño  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT

House Bill No. 5967, entitled:  
“AN ACT ALLOWING AND REGULATING THE USE OF MOTORCYCLES AS PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4136, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘LAND TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC CODE’”

By Representative Tambunting  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 5968, entitled:  
“AN ACT GRANTING LIFETIME VALIDITY OF PHILIPPINE PASSPORTS ISSUED TO SENIOR CITIZENS/ELDERLY, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239 AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT 10928 (R.A. 10928), OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996’, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Datol  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 5969, entitled:  
“AN ACT PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF ETHNICITY, RACE, RELIGION OR BELIEF, SEX OR GENDER OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION, LANGUAGE, DISABILITY, EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT, AND OTHER FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION, PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Abante  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

House Bill No. 5970, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE MUNICIPALITY OF ECHAGUE IN THE PROVINCE OF ISABELA INTO A COMPONENT CITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE CITY OF ECHAGUE”

By Representative Dy (Faustino Inno)  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 5971, entitled:

“AN ACT APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF FIFTY BILLION PESOS FOR THE AID, RELIEF, RESETTLEMENT, REHABILITATION AND LIVELIHOOD SERVICES AS WELL AS AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE ERUPTION OF TAAL VOLCANO, CREATING THE TAAL VOLCANO ASSISTANCE, RESETTLEMENT, REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Deloso-Montalla  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT

House Bill No. 5972, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FREE LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO ANY OFFICER ENLISTED PERSONNEL OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE ON ANY CHARGE BEFORE THE PROSECUTOR’S OFFICE, COURT OR ANY COMPETENT BODY ARISING FROM AN INCIDENT RELATED TO THE PERFORMANCE OF OFFICIAL DUTY”

By Representative Olivarez  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 5973, entitled:

“AN ACT EXPANDING THE COVERAGE AND STRENGTHENING THE POWERS OF THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (NTC) AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7925 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY ACT OF THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Olivarez  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 5974, entitled:

“AN ACT REDUCING FOOD WASTE THROUGH FOOD DONATIONS AND FOOD WASTE RECYCLING”

By Representative Suntay  
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD SECURITY

House Bill No. 5976, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION, INSTITUTIONALIZING THE FINANCIAL CONSUMER PROTECTION DEPARTMENT, GRANTING FINANCIAL REGULATORY AGENCIES ENHANCED OVERSIGHT POWER, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Salceda  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 5977, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE TAAL COMMISSION AS PRIMARY AGENCY OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT FOR RELIEF, RESETTLEMENT, REHABILITATION AND LIVELIHOOD SERVICES, FOR STRATEGIC ADVANCED COMPREHENSIVE INTEGRATED RECONSTRUCTION OF TAAL ERUPTION-VULNERABLE AREAS, ADOPTING THE TAAL ERUPTION RECOVERY, REHABILITATION, AND ADAPTATION (TERRA) PLAN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Salceda  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT

## RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 652, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON GOOD GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ABRUPT CANCELLATION OF THE PSA HELPLINE BY THE PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY (PSA) WHICH ADVERSELY AFFECTED THE PUBLIC PSA-DATA REQUESTS”

By Representative Pimentel  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 653, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE NEW CORONAVIRUS DISCOVERED IN CHINA AND THE POSSIBILITY OF ENTRY OF SAID VIRUS IN THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Castelo  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 654, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION COMMENDING ALL THE DIFFERENT, DISTINCT, AUTONOMOUS AND INDEPENDENT FILIPINO BAPTIST CHURCHES IN THE CELEBRATION OF THE 120<sup>TH</sup> YEAR SINCE THE FOUNDING AND ESTABLISHMENT OF BAPTIST CHURCHES IN THE COUNTRY AND RECOGNIZING THEIR VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO GOOD GOVERNANCE AND NATION-BUILDING”

By Representatives Villanueva (Eduardo) and Rivera  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 655, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE IMMEDIATE RELEASE OF FUNDS FOR THE AID, RELIEF, RESETTLEMENT, REHABILITATION, LIVELIHOOD, DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES TO COMMUNITIES ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THE TAAL VOLCANO ERUPTION, AND DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE TO IMMEDIATELY CALL THE NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NDRRMC) FOR A HOUSE COMMITTEE BRIEFING TO ASSESS THE SITUATION AND DETERMINE THE NEEDS OF THE AFFECTED LOCALITIES AND THE TOTAL BUDGET REQUIREMENTS TO ADDRESS THE CALAMITY”

By Representatives Santos-Recto, Collantes, Bolilia and Mariño  
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

CHANGE OF REFERRAL  
OF CERTAIN MEASURES

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, I move for the change of referral of the following

measures: House Bills No. 1039, 1092, 1240, 1393, 1736, 2017, 2224, 2708, 2710, 2806, 3489, 3503, 3682, 3796, 4007, 4021, 4187, 4302, 4322, 4489, 4596, 4757, 5129 and 5272, and House Resolution No. 454, from the Committee on Social Services to the Special Committee on Persons with Disabilities.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, furthermore, I move for the change of referral of the following measures: House Bills No. 1629, 2900 and 4973, from the Special Committee on Senior Citizens and Committee on Social Services to the Special Committees on Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. I also move, Mr. Speaker, for the change of referral of the following measures: House Bills No. 4636, 4920 and 5036, from the Committee on Social Services and Special Committee on Senior Citizens to the Special Committees on Persons with Disabilities and Senior Citizens.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Also, Mr. Speaker, I move for the change of referral of the following measures: House Bills No. 210, 1689, 2707, 4160, 4449 and 5795, from the Committee on Revision of Laws to the Committees on Revision of Laws and Welfare of Children.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I also move for the change of referral of House Resolution No. 481, from the Committee on Trade and Industry to the Committee on Transportation.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.



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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, on the part of the Majority, may I move for the election of the following Members to various Committees:

*Rep. De Venecia read the names of the House Members elected to the various Committees, per Journal No. 33, dated January 21, 2020.*

#### COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

As member:

Rep. Eric Go Yap

#### COMMITTEE ON GOOD GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY

As member:

Rep. Maricel G. Natividad-Nagaño, MD

#### COMMITTEE ON GAMES AND AMUSEMENTS

As member:

Rep. Maricel G. Natividad-Nagaño, MD

#### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

As member:

Rep. Maricel G. Natividad-Nagaño, MD

#### COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

As member:

Rep. Alfred C. Delos Santos

#### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

As member:

Rep. Alfred C. Delos Santos

#### COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS

As member:

Rep. Macnell M. Lusotan

#### COMMITTEE ON DANGEROUS DRUGS

As member:

Rep. Macnell M. Lusotan

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. TADURAN. Mr. Speaker, may we acknowledge the presence of the guests of Hon. Alfel M. Bascug of the First District, Agusan del Sur. They are from the provincial government of Agusan del Sur, namely: Carlosita L. Plaza, Vilma R. Makilan and Joan L. Al-aro.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pimentel). To the guests of Rep. Alfel Bascug, please rise. You are welcome to the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. DE VENECIA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the session.

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

*It was 3:36 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pimentel). The session was resumed.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

#### CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 5832

*Continuation*

#### PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we resume the consideration of House Bill No. 5832, and that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pimentel). 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. 5832, entitled: AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF FILIPINOS OVERSEAS AND FOREIGN EMPLOYMENT, DEFINING ITS MANDATE, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the parliamentary situation is that the measure is still in the period of sponsorship and debate. I move that we recognize the Chairman of the Committee on Government Reorganization, Hon. Mario Vittorio “Marvey” A. Mariño, to continue his sponsorship of the measure.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pimentel). The Chairman of the Committee on Government Reorganization is recognized to continue his sponsorship of the measure.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, to continue the interpellation on this Bill, I move that we recognize Hon. France L. Castro from the ACT TEACHERS Party-List.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pimentel). Hon. France L. Castro is recognized.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Maraming salamat, Mr. Speaker.

So, would the distinguished Sponsor yield to some questions from this Representation?

REP. MARIÑO. Yes, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Thank you, Mr. Sponsor.

Ito pong Department of Filipinos Overseas and Foreign Employment, so siguro iyong inisyal na tanong ko po, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor, bakit po naging foreign employment at Filipinos overseas na? So, hindi po ba parang ipinalit ito mula doon sa Department of OFWs? Bakit po naging foreign employment na po?

REP. MARIÑO. Mr. Speaker, by the very nature, this was discussed during the Committee hearings and it refers to foreign employment of Filipinos. So, it has been discussed during the Committee hearings, and that was what has been agreed upon as far as the name of the Department is concerned.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Okay po. Kasi nagsimula po tayo, Mr. Speaker, doon sa OCW o iyong overseas contract workers, tapos binago po natin ito, para ito ba ay dahil para ma-emphasize or hindi ma-emphasize iyong contract workers? Tapos iyong foreign employment kasi, Mr. Chair, sa pagbabasa ko ng Bill na ito on the Declaration of Policy, though hindi naman po obvious iyong tinatawag nating labor export policy ng ating

gobyerno na nakapaloob po doon sa Declaration of Policy, pero malinaw po kung babasahin natin ay talagang naririto nakapaloob iyong main principle ng ating gobyerno kaugnay noong labor export policy. So, ibig sabihin po ba, Mr. Speaker, and Mr. Sponsor, itong batas na ito ay talagang pagpapatindi ng labor export policy ng ating gobyerno?

REP. MARIÑO. Mr. Speaker, wala po sa batas na ito, sa Bill na ito ang policy na pagpapaigting ng foreign employment. Nagkataon lamang po na madami tayong Filipinos overseas working abroad, at iyan naman po ay tinutugunan lamang natin. At sa panahon ngayon, marami sila. Ito naman ay isang karapatan nila na pumili upang sila ay magtrabaho abroad. Hindi naman po natin sila pinipilit na ipadala sa ibang bansa. Kung mayroon nga lamang pong trabaho dito ay bakit po hindi. Kaya nga lang po, ang sitwasyon po ngayon ay marami po ang kailangan nating alagaan ang kanilang mga karapatan. Kailangan po natin silang bigyan ng pansin, at iyon po ang kasalukuyang sitwasyon ng ating mga Filipino overseas workers.

Kung sakali naman pong magbago sa loob ng 10 taon, iyan naman po ay tinitingnan din natin kung sila ay mabibigyan o magkakaroon ng mas magandang pagkakataon na magkaroon ng trabaho dito sa atin. Pero tinitingnan po natin na ito po ay isang opportunity sa ating mga kababayan na matuto, magkaroon ng skills—different types of skills abroad at kapag sila ay bumalik dito sa atin ay siguradong mapapakinabangan po natin ang ating mga kababayan na natuto at nagtrabaho abroad.

In this case po, napakarami po ng ating nagtatrabaho sa abroad, nasa humigit kumulang 10 million overseas Filipino workers. Kung nandito po sila sa ating bansa at siyempre wala naman po tayong sapat na trabaho sa ngayon, pero hindi naman po nila gusto magtrabaho abroad, talaga lamang pong kinakailangan. Wala po akong nakausap na overseas workers na gustong magtrabaho abroad. Ang lahat po ay gustong bumalik dito sa atin. Pero in due time, kapag sila ay nagkaroon ng sapat na training, babalik po sila rito at iyan naman po ay hindi polisiya natin ngayon sa pag-create din ng Departmentong ito.

In fact, this Department will make sure that we can match the jobs here for those overseas workers abroad. So, hindi po natin ito talaga polisiya, nagkataon lamang po na ganoon ang sitwasyon sa panahon ngayon.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Thank you, Mr. Sponsor. So, kahapon po, Mr. Speaker, idiniin ni Representative Gaithe iyong tungkol doon sa labor export policy. So gusto ko lang idagdag na kahit dumaan na sa ilang beses na repackaging ang OCWs, OFW at kahit ilang ahensiya na ang ginawa like DOLE, POEA, OWWA, et cetera, hindi naman bumaba ang bilang ng mga kababayan

nating napipilitang lumayo sa kanilang mga pamilya para lang makapagtrabaho.

Tama po kayo, Mr. Sponsor, ang root cause kung bakit nag-a-abroad o napipilitang mag-abroad at nakipagsapalaran ang ating mga kababayan sa ibang bansa ay dahil sa trabaho. Nananatiling isa sa pinakamalaking source ng perang pumapasok sa bansa ang remittances ng mga OFW. Nananiwala ba kayo dito, Mr. Sponsor, na nananatiling napakalaking remittances ang pumapasok dito? In fact, sinasabi nga sa isang pag-aaral na kung wala iyong mga OFW na ito ay babagsak iyong ating ekonomiya dahil sa Pilipinas hindi naman talaga tayo nakakapag-create ng substantial na bilang ng mga trabaho na kailangan natin dito sa ating mga mamamayan.

Kaya po sinasabi natin na, although sinasabi ninyo kanina na hindi policy ng ating kasalukuyang gobyerno at iyong mga nakaraan pa iyong labor export policy, pero hanggat nananatili, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor, iyong patakaran na nakapaloob diyan, habang sinasabi ninyo nga kanina ang problema ay trabaho, ang problema ay suweldo, ang problema ay iyong opportunity kung mayroon sila dito ay hindi na mapipilitan, iyon iyong pinaka root cause ng problema ng ating mga kababayang nag-a-abroad or mga OFW kung bakit po sila pumupunta doon sa ibayong dagat. So, ...

REP. MARIÑO. Mr. Speaker, ang pagpunta po ng ating mga kababayan abroad ay isang karapatan na sila ay maghanap ng greener pastures o mas magandang kinabukasan. So, hindi naman po natin sila puwedeng pigilan na sila ay pumunta sa ibang bansa upang magtrabaho. Totoo po na malaki ang kontribusyon ng ating mga OFW sa ating bansa. Ito po ay sa foreign remittances pa lamang po nasa \$30 billion na. So, malaki po ang contribution sa ekonomiya at sa GDP is around 10 percent sa kabuuan ang kontribusyon ng ating mga overseas Filipino workers.

Ngayon po, ito po ay isang halimbawa. Halimbawa po sa ibang bansa, ang iba pong bansa katulad ng Amerika, pinapadala po nila sa ibang bansa ang kanilang mga tao upang matuto at magtrabaho, at sa China naman po, ganoon din ang ginagawa nila, ang kanilang mga tao ay pina-e-explore nila sa iba't ibang bahagi ng mundo upang matuto at magkaroon ng skills at ito naman ay tinatawag din nila pagdating ng panahong may pangangailangan na ang kanilang bansa.

Ang problema po ngayon ng bansang Japan ay kakaunti ang kanilang populasyon kaya't wala silang sapat na workers. Hindi po katulad natin na napakarami nating skilled workers. Ang Japan po ay naghahanap ngayon ng foreign workers. In fact, nagpunta po sila rito upang maghanap ng mga magtatrabaho sa Japan.

Ano po ang aking ibig sabihin? Ang ibig sabihin ay hindi naman pabigat itong ating maraming sinasabi na

nagtatrabaho sa ibang bansa. Sila po ay nakatutulong, at sa ngayon po ay malaking tulong sila sa ating ekonomiya. Kaya lamang, hindi po natin ito polisiya. Nagkataon lamang na ito ang nangyayari sa ngayon, pero hindi rin naman masama na sa mga darating na panahon, ito ay tingnan natin na isang advantage para sa ating bansa na marami tayong skilled workers, marami tayong nagtatrabaho sa iba't ibang bansa. Ang iba po riyon ay maaaring nag-migrate na roon sa mga bansa katulad ng America at Canada. Ibig sabihin, malaki po itong kaluwagan sa ating limited resources dito sa Pilipinas.

Wala naman pong masama kung iyan ay magiging polisiya o hindi, pero ang sinasabi ko ay hindi po natin ito polisiya, at hindi natin sila pinipilit mag-abroad.

Iyan po ay isang karapatan ng bawat Pilipino. Pinoprotektahan lamang natin sila sa pag-create ng Departamentong ito, kaya po ihinain natin ang ganitong klaseng Bill, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Thank you, Mr. Sponsor.

Kahapon po at ngayon, idinidiin ninyo na iyong ating mga kababayan na nagpupunta o nagtatrabaho abroad ay karapatan o parang choice nila na pumunta. I beg to disagree, kasi kung mayroon po sila talagang oportunidad, ano ba iyong kailangan, oportunidad para makapagtrabaho dito, hindi sila makapag-iisip na pumunta abroad, lalung-lalo na ngayon, halimbawa sa Middle East, mayroong giyera ngayon doon na hindi nga sila ma-repatriate. Hindi nga natin sila maenganyong bumalik dahil sa ang katuwiran nila, kapag bumalik sila, ano ang magiging trabaho at oportunidad nila rito?

Ang sinasabi ko lang po, Mr. Speaker, G. Sponsor, ang bottom line talaga rito ay iyong oportunidad, ang kanilang livelihood—makapagtrabaho para makapagbigay ng magandang kinabukasan para sa kanilang pamilya. Although sinasabi ninyong karapatan, pero more po sa kakulangan ng oportunidad kaya napipilitan iyong ating overseas contractual workers or OFWs, kasi sino bang tatay o nanay ang gustong mawalay sa kanilang mga anak o kamag-anak? Ang bottom line po rito ay oportunidad.

Mr. Speaker, sa hanay po ng mga guro, ramdam ang kakulangan sa suweldo. Ito iyong pagtatrabaho, at ngayon naman ay iyong sa suweldo.

Hindi mangilan-ngilan ang nakakaisip na maging teacher sa ibang bansa dahil mas malaki ang suweldo ng teacher sa US, sa Canada o sa Japan. Ilang pag-aaral na rin ang nagsasabi na ang Pilipinas ang isa sa mga bansang pinakamababa ang pasahod sa mga guro, public man o private school teachers. Kahit teachers na nga, ang ilan ay nagne-nurse o tutor or even domestic helper sa Middle East dahil Salary Grade 11 lang ang public school teachers dito. Mayroon pa nga, Mr. Speaker, contractual, P10,000 monthly lang sa private schools. Isa rin ito sa nagbubunsod sa ating mga mamamayan

na mag-abroad, ang kakulangan din sa sapat na trabaho. Naniniwala po ba ang ating kagalang-galang na Sponsor dito?

REP. MARIÑO. Naniniwala po ako na isa iyon sa mga rason, pero nasa changing times naman tayo. Iba naman po iyong sitwasyon noon sa ngayon. Marami naman po ngayong opportunities.

In fact, if I may give an example, Mr. Speaker, sa amin po sa Batangas City, mostly industrial po ang aming mga kumpanya na nandoroon, at naghahanap na sila ng engineers at skilled workers. Wala po silang makita.

Ano po ang ibig kong sabihin? Siguro po iyong mga nag-abroad ay hindi lamang natin nai-match iyong jobs na available na ngayon sa ating bansa, pero kung make-create po ang Departamentong ito, nakasaad dito iyong trabaho ng isang Departamento na ito upang magkaroon ng job matching. Siguro malaking oportunidad kung sila ay mapapabalik dito para magkaroon sila ng opportunity na makapag-apply. Siyempre, hindi naman po sila makapag-apply habang sila ay nasa abroad dahil may mga binabayaran silang mga utang, kagaya ng placement fees bago sila nakaalis, pero kapag po mayroon tayong job matching, makikita natin na marami rin ang opportunities na pupuwede rito, bagama't hindi po kapareho ang suweldo, pero kung tutuusin po ay halos sa standard of living dito, makasasapat na ito. Iyon naman sa mga pamilya, nagbabago rin po iyong mga panahon ngayon dahil mayroon tayong social media in terms of communicating, may Viber, may Facebook at live po nilang nakakausap ang kanilang mga kamag-anak. So, hindi po ganoon ka-stressful ngayon iyong magtrabaho abroad at iyon naman ay depende sa supply and demand. Kapag po kailangan dito ang mga trabaho, tataas iyong ibinibigay nilang suweldo dahil wala naman po silang makuha.

Nabanggit po iyong mga guro, sana nga maaprubahan na iyong pagtaas ng suweldo ng mga guro, at iyon naman ay sigurado ako na marami ang babalik na upang sa gayon ay magkaroon na rin o mabawasan iyong mga nag-a-abroad. Sa gobyerno po, matataas ang suweldo, for example, ng ating mga guro. Ang pulis po, ang mga sundalo, matataas na rin ang suweldo. Marami pong opportunity ngayon dito sa atin, kaya nga po sinasabi natin na itong nangyayari ngayon ay puwedeng mag-iba sa loob ng lima o hanggang 10 taon.

Kaya lamang po ang logic sa creation ng Departamentong ito ay para matulungan iyong pangangailangan sa ngayon. Alam ko po ang sinasabi ng ating kasama na ang ekonomiya ngayon, hindi tayo makapag-provide ng trabaho, pero sa mga darating na panahon, may "Build, Build, Build" Program po. Marami ang pondo ng gobyerno na inilalabas upang sa gayon ay magkaroon ng trabaho ang ating mamamayan. Sa tingin ko po, I am very hopeful that the number of overseas employment will decrease.

Nakikita naman po natin iyan. Depende rin iyan kung may pangyayari. For example, sa Middle East, kapag po nagkagiyera riyon, siguradong mababawasan ang ating overseas workers dahil halos more than 50 percent ay nasa Middle East. Kailangan nga po ng Departamentong ito na maghanda para sa mga ganoong sitwasyon na kapag ni-repatriate natin ang mga kababayan natin ay mayroon po silang opportunity na magkaroon ng hanapbuhay. So, lalo ko pong nakikita ang logic na mabuo ang Departamentong ito, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Siguro, para sa impormasyon ng ating distinguished Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, ang teachers po ay hindi nasiyahan sa Salary Standardization Law V na ipinasá natin, kasi sa Salary Grade 11, si teacher ay nananatiling kulelat among the professionals na kapantay nila na dapat na nakatatanggap ng supisyente, nakabubuhay at substansyal na suweldo. Sa P22,316, Salary Grade 11, iyong mga teacher na nakausap po natin, mayorya sa kanila ang nagsabi na hindi ito sapat. Ito rin iyong sinasabi natin dito na isa sa mga dahilan kung bakit nag-a-abroad ang ating mga kababayan dahil sa hindi nakabubuhay na suweldo, hindi sufficient na suweldo para sa ating mga mamamayan.

Mr. Speaker, ang puno't dulo, hindi sinasagot ang mga problema ng maliit na suweldo, underemployment at lack of employment dito sa Pilipinas. Bukod sa kulang ang oportunidad sa trabaho, mababa ang suweldo. Mayroon ding pangatlong dahilan na contractualization o iyong kasiguruhan sa trabaho. Hindi binabasura ang labor export policy na umaabot pa nga sa porma ng mga ahensiya mismo natin. Mismo ang ating DOLE ay mistulang manpower agency para maging OFW ang ating mga kababayan katulad ng job fairs, road shows abroad, et cetera.

Ang ating gobyerno, mga ahensiya ng ating gobyerno, at mismo nga sa Department of Education, sa programa ng K to 12, hindi ba pag-eengganyo na makapagtrabaho abroad, na dapat mayroon ka ng ganitong skills, ganitong mga kakayahan para sa pangangailangan sa iba't ibang mga bansa. Kaya question po, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, ay tungkol sa policy natin sa labor, sa employment, sa opportunity, sa contractualization, at siyempre sa tinatawag nating pagpapaunlad ng ating industrialization at pagpapaunlad ng ating agrikultura.

Lilipat na po ako sa ibang topic, Mr. Sponsor, G. Ispiker. On Section 3(d), it defines "Filipino overseas" as tourists, pilgrims, et cetera. Ang ibig po bang sabihin nito, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor, na hindi lang OFW ang subject ng ahensiyang ito, pati iyong mga tinutukoy nating Filipino nationals abroad na nasa mandato ng Department of Foreign Affairs sa kasalukuyan. Ito po ba ay sasakupin ng Departamentong ito, Mr. Speaker?

REP. MARIÑO. Lahat po ng Filipinos working abroad ang sakop ng Departamentong ito.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Halimbawa po iyong Filipino-American.

REP. MARIÑO. Hindi na po kasama iyon kasi they migrated na to that country.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Okay. Ang ibig sabihin po nito, ang sinasabi natin dito na Filipino overseas ay iyong mga nagtatrabaho abroad, contract workers natin abroad?

Ano na ngayon, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor, ang matitira sa Department of Labor and Employment? Ano na po ang mangyayari sa ating labor attachés, sa diplomatic function ng DOLE in relation to the representation of the Philippine government before foreign governments? Ito po ba ay sasakupin ng Departamentong ito?

REP. MARIÑO. Ang masasakop po ng Departamentong ito ay ang Filipino Overseas Filipino Labor Office or FOLO under the Department of Labor and Employment; ang ILAB o International Labor Affairs Bureau; ang POEA o Philippine Overseas Employment Administration; and also, the Social Welfare Attaché Office under the DSWD. They will be subsumed under this Department, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). How about iyong mga labor attaché, kasama rin po ba sa mga nabanggit ninyo, Mr. Sponsor?

REP. MARIÑO. It depends if they are related to overseas concerns. Iyong mga labor attaché po sa tingin ko kasama sa masa-subsume sa bagong Departamento, they will be absorbed under this Department.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Okay. Ang mga labor attaché ay maa-absorb nitong Department. How about the diplomatic functions of the DOLE?

REP. MARIÑO. Kasama po iyon.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Tatanggalin din iyon sa magiging function ng DOLE? Ano na po ang matitira? Bigyan nga po ninyo ako ng general view. Ano na ang magiging function ng DOLE kung matatanggal itong mga function na sinasabi natin?

REP. MARIÑO. Ang matitira lang po ay iyong anything related sa local employment, iyon ang matitira sa DOLE. Anything na foreign ay sakop na po ng bagong Departamento.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Under the public international law o iyong mga naggo-govern, how about iyong mga state-to-state relations? The DFA officials gaya ng Foreign Affairs Secretary, ang kino-consider na official or representative ng Presidente ng Philippine government, kaya sila ay may diplomatic immunity and privileges under the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations. Ano na po ang mangyayari dito? Kasi po under the Vienna Convention, kasama sa function ng DOLE iyong diplomatic, ano na po ang mangyayari, ano na ang magiging implication nito sa Vienna Convention?

REP. MARIÑO. Depende po kung sila ay under ng DFA, under pa rin sila ng DFA. Pero kung sila ay under sa Office of the Undersecretary for Migrant Workers Affairs o OMWA, kasama ito sa Departamento. Iyong ibang functions under the DFA, hindi po ito kasama.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor, hindi po ba ito redundant o nakakagulo, nakakalito? Sa sinasabi natin, sino na po ba ang, halimbawa, magiging head of the mission kung mayroon tayong concerns sa ating mga OFW? Malinaw naman dito na ang DFA, iyong head of the State, or its staff of the mission, or members of the diplomatic staff. Ano po iyong magiging implications nito sa Vienna Convention?

REP. MARIÑO. Mayroon pa rin naman po tayong one-country-team approach. Ang head po ng mission ay ang leadership ng Ambassador or Consul General. Makikipag-coordinate po ang Secretary ng bagong Departamento sa isang Ambassador at siyempre sa DFA. Kapag may concerns po regarding diplomatic relations or national security issues, siyempre ang head dito ay ang Ambassador at ang DFA. Ang Secretary ng Departamentong ito ay ang pinaka-worker na magbibigay ng datos, pag-aaral, polisiya para sa ating Ambassador.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). So ang magiging function ng ating Ambassador ay ang maghihintay na lang ng mga data, ng mga information dahil ang mangangasiwa na nito ay ang Department of Filipinos Overseas and Foreign Employment.

Hindi po ba ito redundant or hindi ba nito sinasakop ang ibang function or wala ng halaga ang Ambassadors natin kung ganoon? Dapat lahat na nasa Department of Filipinos Overseas and Foreign Employment.

REP. MARIÑO. Hindi po, Mr. Speaker. Ang Ambassador nga ang head ng one-country-team approach. Siyempre kukunin iyong mga information sa ating mga department. Ganoon din naman po ang nangyayari ngayon sa mga iba't ibang agencies. For example, iyong UMWA, doon din po sila kumukuha

ng datos o ng recommendations. Ganoon din naman. Ina-absorb lang po natin lahat ng iba't ibang ahensiya nito, na bureau, para iisa iyong communication ng isang Secretary pababa, hindi po iyong may coordination. Paano po kung nagkaroon ng hindi magandang coordination? Doon po tayo nagkakaproblema.

Mas maganda na nga po itong sitwasyon ngayon, na isang Secretary ang kausap ng lahat noong mga under sa kaniyang departamento at isa lang ang kausap ng Ambassador, kaysa po napakadaming ahensiya iyong nagre-report sa isang Ambassador, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Okay. Naitanong ko lang po ito kasi, Mr. Speaker, talagang nakakalito po iyong magiging trabaho noong Secretary at noong ating Ambassadors. Kung halimbawa po nagkaroon ng problema, kailangan nilang mag-coordinate. Iyong Department of Filipinos Overseas and Foreign Employment, sa tingin ninyo would be entertained ng ibang government o iyong foreign governments kung ito ang makikipag-usap instead of the DFA?

REP. MARIÑO. Mr. Speaker, ang makikipag-usap po doon ay ang Ambassador bilang head ng ating team. Ang Ambassador po ay makikipag-coordinate sa Secretary ng Departamentong ito. So, it is the Ambassador. Like I said, if it is a diplomatic relations concern, ang Ambassador po ang makikipag-usap.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Pero siyempre po iyong Secretary ng Department of Foreign Affairs, siya naman ang nagbibigay ng functions sa Ambassador natin. So tingin po ba ninyo, kung iyong Ambassador ang magiging head ng sinasabi nating delegation, kung magkakaroon ng problematic phase sa foreign policy or foreign relation, ang Ambassador ang makikipag-usap, hindi po ang Department of Filipinos Overseas and Foreign Employment?

REP. MARIÑO. Tingin ko po hindi dahil iyong Ambassador nga po ang nakalagay na team leader noong one-country-team approach para hindi po malito ang ating mga kausap na sa diplomatic community.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Iyon nga po ang ikinakabahala ng Representasyong ito, Mr. Speaker, iyong kalituhan nito later on sa magiging foreign relations natin kung sino at sino ba ang kakausapin kaugnay nito. Kasi alam naman natin iyong ating Ambassador ay ang kaniyang function ay depende doon sa Secretary ng Department of Foreign Affairs. At kung anuman po iyong pakikipag-usap o pakikipagrelasyon ay siyempre under the DFA. So, nakakalito po iyong ganitong set-up.

REP. MARIÑO. Mr. Speaker, wala naman pong nakakalito doon kasi ganoon din naman po ang

sitwasyon. For example, sa Department of Trade and Industry, kapag po mayroong mga agreement sa ibang bansa ay they sit in, they coordinate with each other, ganoon din naman po iyong communication. So, wala naman pong ipinagkaiba kung ito ay DTI or Department of Filipinos Overseas and Foreign Employment. May mga tamang protocol naman po na in place so hindi naman po ito kakaiba na set-up doon sa mga ibang departamento, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Okay. Babalik lang po tayo, Mr. Speaker, doon sa Vienna Convention. So, will the DFO or the Department of Filipinos Overseas and Foreign Employment officials be considered part of the mission within the Vienna Convention? So, mako-consider po ba iyong representative o iyong officials ng DFO under the mission? Kasi, alam po natin, Mr. Speaker, G. Isponsor, iyong diplomatic immunity ay hindi awtomatikong ibinibigay sa mga tao. So, hindi porke sinasabi natin na domestic law, international na batas natin, ay igagawad agad iyon sa ibang bansa lalo na kung may duplication. Gaya nga ng sinasabi ko kanina, magkakaroon ng duplication ang function, mangyayari between the officials, existing officials and mechanisms sa ilalim ng DFA at ng DOLE. So, hindi po ba duplication ito doon sa sinasabi nga natin kasi hindi naman lahat binibigyan ng diplomatic immunity under the Vienna Convention?

REP. MARIÑO. Well, Mr. Speaker, kung ano naman po iyong set-up ngayon, hindi naman po masyadong mababago iyong sa mga trabaho ng mga diplomat natin na kasama doon sa Vienna Convention. Ito naman po ay ire-reorganize lang po natin iyong iba't ibang ahensiya. So, mas mapupunta po sila dito sa Departamento na ito. Halos ganoon pa rin naman po iyong mga function kaya lamang po mas maganda ngayon iyong communication dahil iisa na iyong nagdi-direct ng mga gagawin at ng mga polisiya. So, hindi naman po magdu-duplicate iyong function. It is not like creating a new set of personnel, so single lang po iyong command na nanggagaling sa Secretary, pinagsama-sama lamang po. In fact, their budget is also included in this Department. So, kung ano man po iyong set-up noong mga diplomat natin, ganoon pa rin naman po ang maiiwan na set-up.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, pero hindi pa po nasasagot iyong tanong ko na iyon po bang mga DFO official na make-create natin, automatic po ba silang part of the mission based doon sa Vienna Convention? So, hindi sila kasali doon sa pakikipag-usap, halimbawa, on mission?

REP. MARIÑO. Siguro po kapag nabuo itong Departamentong ito, puwede hong i-discuss kung ano

po iyong magiging role nila kung sila ay magiging part or they have diplomatic roles, pero ang Ambassador nga po ang head noon, so depende na po iyan sa magiging set-up later on kung sila ay makakasama ulit doon being diplomats.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Okay. Tama po, Mr. Sponsor, iyong sinasabi ninyo na parang makitid na pagtingin lang iyon eh, kasi later on, kapag nagkaroon ng problema, halimbawa, iyong against doon sa, halimbawa, iyong immunity given to diplomats kasi ay pagbabawas ng sovereign powers sa isang—gaya ng criminal jurisdiction. So, halimbawa po, iyong ating mga overseas worker doon ay nasangkot sa kriminalidad, sino po dito iyong makikipag-usap? OFW kasi ito, overseas foreign workers, sino po ang makikipag-usap kaugnay ng problema na ito, iyong Department of Filipinos Overseas, iyong DFA o iyong DOLE?

REP. MARIÑO. Siyempre po, may coordination po itong Departamento na ito katulad po ng, for example, nagkaroon ng problema sa batas, ang may handle po niyan ay iyong OMWA, which, makakasama po sila bilang isang Undersecretary. So, ganoon din po iyong proseso, pero siyempre ang pagko-communicate po niyan ay through the Ambassador also, but the direction as far as what to do, siyempre manggagaling po iyan dito sa Departamento na—gayundin po iyong set-up ngayon, kapag po mayroong kailangang tulong ang ating mga OFWs ay ito pong OWWA ang magbibigay ng tulong, but it is communicated through the Ambassador.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Iyan po, nakikita na natin, Mr. Speaker, iyong duplication, iyong kalituhan natin, kasi nakapaloob din tayo sa Vienna Convention. So, hindi tiyak dito sa proposal na ito sa Bill, iyong DFO po ba ay magiging diplomatic agents under the Vienna Convention o iyong DFA pa rin? Kasi—so, DFA pa rin iyong may karapatan na mag-attend to doon sa magiging problema in terms of foreign relations, in terms of problems like criminal jurisdiction.

Iyong assistance-to-nationals o iyong ATN career officers corps lang ang tinutukoy sa Section 13 na covered ng Philippine Foreign Service Act. Paano na po iyong ibang mga opisyal at miyembro ng DFO? Mayroon pong limang undersecretaries kasi nasa ilalim ng DFO, Secretary at one Undersecretary lang ang may hawak sa ATN career officers corps, iyong Undersecretary for Policy, Treaties and International Agreements. So, ito po iyong isang sinasabi nating magiging problema natin dito, Mr. Speaker, G. Sponsor, in terms of doon sa assistance natin doon sa nationals kasi wala naman po under the DFO iyong sinasabi nating diplomatic immunity or as diplomatic agents. So, kaya ang tanong natin, bakit pa po tayo gagawa ng

hiwalay na ahensiya kung wala silang buo o kumpletong kapangyarihan? They will be useless sa pagharap sa mga problema ng Pilipino sa labas ng bansa.

REP. MARIÑO. Mr. Speaker, kung ano naman po iyong kapangyarihan ngayon na existing ay iyon pa rin naman po iyon. Isinama lang sila dito sa ahensiya na ito. So, kung anuman iyong, for example, Undersecretary for Policy, Treaties and International Agreements, ay iyan po iyong International Labor Affairs Bureau under the DOLE. So, wala naman pong pinagkaiba doon sa kanilang functions whether siguro magiging diplomat din sila kung saka-sakaling may kinakailangan, for example, i-rescue na kababayan. So, mare-rescue rin naman po natin sila. So, hindi po sinasabi na napasama sila sa Departamento na ito ay mawawala na iyong capability natin to rescue our overseas Filipino workers in distress. Mas lalo nga pong magkakaroon ng kapangyarihan dahil mayroon pong nakaabang na pondo para dito. Ang pinag-uusapan po parati ay kakulangan ng pondo. Sa ngayon po ay madadagdagan ang pondo para sa mga matutulungan natin. We are talking about P5 billion initially at madadagdagan pa ito kung isasama natin iyong documentary tax exemption doon sa foreign remittances. So, malaki po ang pondo at malaki po ang magiging kakayanan ng Departamento na ito na gampanan iyong mga pag-rescue o pagbigay ng tulong, for example, legal assistance at kung ano-ano for repatriation, kung ano-ano pang mga programa dahil na-create po itong Departamento na ito.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Okay. Nabanggit na ah—Mr. Speaker, iyong mga example noong mga sinasabi ko kanina, kung bakit mayroon tayong conflict ngayon doon sa pagkilala ng foreign countries doon sa sino ba iyong kikilalanin, DFA ba o iyong ah—definitely DFA kasi iyon ang nakalagay po doon sa Vienna Convention.

So, halimbawa, katulad ng sinabi ninyo kanina, Mr. Sponsor, mayroong distress na national o OFW na kailangang bisitahin sa kulungan o i-repatriate, malaking posibilidad na DFO officials will be shoed away by the foreign or host government dahil sasabihin nila, under the Vienna Convention, itong mga ito lang ang may obligasyon kaming pakinggan bilang opisyal na representative ng gobyerno, itong labor attaché, Ambassadors, Consul General, Foreign Secretary, et cetera. Kasi we did not grant any diplomatic power and immunity to the DFO Secretary or any of his or her subordinates. So, why should we entertain you? So, samantalang maiiwan na naman sa ere ang ating mga kababayan, kaya, Mr. Speaker, ito na iyong sinasabi nating duplication ng function in terms doon sa pagharap sa problema ng OFW at ang foreign relation sa ibang bansa.

Mayroon po, Mr. Speaker.

Nakalagay doon sa Section 14 iyong one-country-team approach. Ano po ba ang ibig sabihin nito, Mr. Speaker, G. Isponsor? Ano po ba itong concept na ito?

REP. MARIÑO. Iyon na nga po iyong konsepto na we will work together but ang magli-lead po ay iyong head ng, for example, the Ambassador or the Consul General. So, iisa po iyong magiging boses at ang magko-communicate po ay iyong Ambassador or iyong Consul General.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Okay. So, under the ano pa rin siya, under the DFA. So, ibig sabihin, Mr. Speaker, sa ilalim ng approach na ito, pinaka-bossing ang Philippine team na isang foreign country ay si Ambassador o Consul at dalawang diplomatic at ah—in duties, immunity and privileges ng DFO officials. So, iyong result po noong DFA and DFO secretaries, so ano po ang magiging pagkakaiba na nito in terms doon sa pagharap doon sa ibang bansa?

REP. MARIÑO. Well, Mr. Speaker, iyon pong Secretary ng Departamento na ito ay parating nakikipag-coordinate doon sa Ambassador. Communication ...

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Oo. Paano po, Mr. Sponsor, kung magkaiba iyong kanilang desisyon? Kunwari sa isang kaso gaya ng Pinoy natin na nasa death row pero hindi idinaan sa makatarungang proseso, hindi man lang pinabisita sa atin ang kababayan natin sa kulungan. So, titingnan po iyon ng DFO sa tindi ng ah—sa tingin, halimbawa, ng DFO ay matindi ang paglabag ng bansang ito sa karapatan ng ating mga kababayan na nasa death row na—at international law at kukundenahin ang foreign government before the international community, pero sa tingin ng DFA, idaan sa diplomasya, huwag antagonisahan ang foreign government. Kaninong desisyon, halimbawa, ang mananaig, Mr. Sponsor?

REP. MARIÑO. Siguro po kung mayroong pagkakaiba sila ng opinyon na ipapaabot po nila sa ating Presidente at iyong Presidente po ang masusunod, balancing, weighing the suggestions of both departments. Pero hindi naman po aaksiyon ang Departamento na ito na hindi sang-ayon ang DFA in terms of any diplomatic concerns. Parati naman pong mayroong isang ah—katulad ng end ng Presidente ang masusunod. Iyon po ang susundin.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Okay. Iyon nga po eh. Magkakaroon pa ng ano-ano, isa pa iyan sa tinitingnan nating magiging conflict. Kung mayroon pong one-country-team approach na ibinibigay

din lang naman sa opisyal ng DFA, ang pagiging pinakamataas na kapangyarihan, bakit kailangan pa ang mga opisyal sa labas ng DFA o iyong gaya ng DFO? Kasi hindi ba ito magagampanan ng DFA, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. MARIÑO. Mr. Speaker, ito naman pong mga diplomat natin sa ngayon under ng DFA ay puwede naman po silang ma-accredit ng receiving state under the Vienna Convention Consular Relations. As far as their status is concerned, puwede naman silang ma-accommodate kung saka-sakaling mailipat po sila sa Departamento na ito tulad ng nabanggit kanina ng ating Representative France. Sila po ay puwedeng maging labor attachés. They will keep their diplomatic positions as labor attachés. Hindi naman po magbabago iyong kanilang posisyon kung sakaling sila ay mapapasama sa Departamento na ito. Iyon naman po ay pareho din ang sitwasyon sa ngayon kung ano iyong nangyayari.

Alam ko pong maaaring may pagkakaiba ng opinion iyong isang Secretary at iyong Ambassador o iyong DFA. Pero iyon naman po ay nare-resolve sa tamang pag-uusap at sa proper coordination. Wala naman pong ipinagkaiba na sitwasyon kung kine-create natin ang Departamento na ito, Mr. Speaker.

REP. CASTRO (F.L.). Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Pero naniniwala po ang Kinatawang ito na ang ahensiyang ito na krine-create natin ay talagang duplication naman lang ng function ng mga ahensiya. Imbes na resolbahin ang problema at isyu ng mga mamamayan, makikita natin dito in terms of, halimbawa po, Mr. Speaker, doon sa na-create natin na D-H-S-U-D, DHSUD. May kapangyarihan bang harapin ang mga mismong krisis na pabahay gaya ng functions, budget for construction of socialized housing? Wala naman. So, ang mahalaga dito, Mr. Speaker, doon sa pagki-create natin, halimbawa, iyong talagang patakaran natin, halimbawa, paano ba natin mapoprotektahan iyong ating mga overseas contract worker o iyong OFWs? Tingin natin ay ito iyong pinakadapat na gawin. At siyempre iyong pagki-create natin ng employment opportunity, iyong tamang pasahod, iyong policy natin on security of tenure at iyong pagpapaunlad natin ng ating bansa, iyong agrikultura, at iba pa. So, ito iyong dapat na gawin para mas ma-prevent natin iyong ating mga mamamayan na mag-abroad o pumunta sa ibang bansa na nakita naman natin na karamihan ay nagiging second-class citizen. So, ito lang po, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor.

Thank you.

REP. MARIÑO. Maraming salamat po, Mr. Speaker.



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

REP. CRISOLOGO. Before we call the next interpellator, Mr. Speaker, with the indulgence of the good Sponsor, the House of Representatives would like to recognize the presence of the guests of Majority Leader Martin Romualdez. They are medalists from the recently concluded Southeast Asian Games: Mr. Kurt Pajuelas, 19 years old, the bronze medalist in Taekwondo, and first year Tourism student from NU Manila, from V & G Subdivision, Tacloban City; and Miss Aira Villegas, 24 years old, bronze medalist in Boxing, female division, and from downtown, Tacloban City, Mr. Speaker. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pimentel). To the guests of Majority Leader Martin Romualdez, welcome to the House of Representatives.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION  
OF H.B. NO. 5832

REP. CRISOLOGO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the consideration of the pending House Bill, House Bill No. 5832.

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

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

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

*It was 4:39 p.m.*

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 4:47 p.m., the session was resumed.*

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

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adjourn the session until tomorrow, January 22, at one o'clock in the afternoon at the Batangas City Convention Center, Rizal Avenue, Batangas City. The leadership would also like to remind our Members, Mr. Speaker, that attendance at tomorrow's session is strongly enjoined.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Pimentel). The session is adjourned until tomorrow at one o'clock in the afternoon at the Batangas City Convention Center.

*It was 4:47 p.m.*

