



Congressional Record

PLENARY PROCEEDINGS OF THE 18th CONGRESS, FIRST REGULAR SESSION
House of Representatives

Vol. 4

Wednesday, February 5, 2020

No. 40

CALL TO ORDER

At 3:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Raneo "Ranie" E. Abu called the session to order.

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

PRAYER

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Please rise for a minute of silent prayer and meditation.

Everybody rose for the silent prayer.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Please remain standing for the singing of the Philippine National Anthem.

Everybody remained standing for the singing of the Philippine National Anthem.

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

REP. BOLILIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we defer the calling of the roll of Members.
I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. BOLILIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve Journal No. 38, dated February 3, 2020.
I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Is there any

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

Journal No. 38, dated February 3, 2020, is hereby approved.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. BOLILIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we proceed with the Reference of Business and for this purpose, may we request that the Secretary General be directed to read the same.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

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

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read the following House Bills and Resolutions on First Reading, Communications and Committee Reports, which were referred to the appropriate Committees hereunder indicated:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 6122, entitled:

“AN ACT PROTECTING CONSUMERS AND MERCHANTS ENGAGED IN INTERNET TRANSACTIONS, CREATING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE ECOMMERCE BUREAU AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Gatchalian
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 6124, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO KAISSAR BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC. (KBNI) UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8027, ENTITLED ‘AN

ACT GRANTING A FRANCHISE TO THE KAISSAR BROADCASTING NETWORK, INC. (KBNI), TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE, MANAGE AND MAINTAIN A NETWORK OF RADIO AND TELEVISION STATIONS ANYWHERE IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES', FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT"

By Representative Enverga
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 6125, entitled:

"AN ACT SUSPENDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE USE OF MOTHER TONGUE AS THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTIONS FOR KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 3"

By Representative Romulo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 6126, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE BASILAN SPORTS ACADEMY IN THE CITY OF ISABELA, PROVINCE OF BASILAN AND PROVIDING THE STRUCTURE, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS THEREOF"

By Representatives Hataman and Sangcopan
TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 6127, entitled:

"AN ACT INCREASING THE TAX ON IDLE LANDS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 236 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991"

By Representative Yap (Victor)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 6128, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR INTERNS' RIGHTS AND WELFARE"

By Representative Yap (Victor)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 6129, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NURSING HOME FOR HOMELESS AND ABANDONED SENIOR CITIZENS IN EVERY CITY OR

MUNICIPALITY IN THE PHILIPPINES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Yap (Victor)
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS

House Bill No. 6130, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE BARANGAY INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT APPROACH FOR NUTRITION IMPROVEMENT (BIDANI) OF THE RURAL POOR AS A NETWORK PROGRAM OF THE PARTICIPATING STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Yap (Victor)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 6131, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES IN THE COUNTRY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Yap (Victor)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 6132, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING PROTECTION TO FREELANCERS, PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Yap (Victor)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 6133, entitled:

"AN ACT TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE STANDARD OF PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE WELFARE OF SELF-EMPLOYED WORKERS AND CRAFTSMEN AND THE PROMOTION OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 8 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8282, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT OF 1997"

By Representative Yap (Victor)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 6138, entitled:

"AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO ABS-CBN CORPORATION

(FORMERLY ABS-CBN BROADCASTING CORPORATION) UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7966 OR ‘AN ACT GRANTING THE ABS-CBN BROADCASTING CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN TELEVISION AND RADIO BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES’ ”

By Representative Go (Mark)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 6140, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE CHILDREN’S MEDICAL CENTER FOR VISAYAS AND PHILIPPINE CHILDREN’S MEDICAL CENTER FOR MINDANAO AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Defensor (Lorenz), Tupas and Gorriceta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 6141, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE DISIPLINA VILLAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AS A SEPARATE AND INDEPENDENT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Gatchalian
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 6142, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MALINTA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PINALAGAD ANNEX AS A SEPARATE AND INDEPENDENT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Gatchalian
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 6143, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PROTECTION OF FINANCIAL CONSUMERS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Cua
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

House Bill No. 6145, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE IN ORMOC CITY, PROVINCE OF LEYTE TO BE KNOWN

AS THE ‘EASTERN VISAYAS SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE,’ AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Torres-Gomez and Noel
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 6146, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS (OFW) SOVEREIGN FUND”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 6147, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING FURTHER THE PRE-DEPARTURE ORIENTATION PROGRAM FOR OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS TO INCLUDE FINANCIAL AND ENTREPRENEURIAL EDUCATION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8042, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MIGRANT WORKERS AND OVERSEAS FILIPINOS ACT OF 1995”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 6148, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING ADDITIONAL BENEFITS AND PRIVILEGES TO SENIOR CITIZENS WITH DISABILITIES (SCWD)”

By Representative Datol
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS AND THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

House Bill No. 6149, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF CATANDUANES AS THE ABACA CAPITAL OF THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Teves (Jose)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 6150, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING NOVEMBER 15 OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF ORIENTAL MINDORO TO BE KNOWN AS ‘ARAW NG ORIENTAL MINDORO’ ”

By Representative Umali (Alfonso)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 6151, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A SYSTEM OF PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PEOPLE’S COUNCIL IN EVERY LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT, PRESCRIBING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Umali (Alfonso)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PEOPLE’S PARTICIPATION

JURISDICTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Rodriguez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 6152, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SATELLITE OFFICE OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PINAMALAYAN, ORIENTAL MINDORO AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Umali (Alfonso)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 6157, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR CREATIVE INDUSTRY WELFARE PROTECTION”

By Representative De Venecia
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 6158, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SEPARATE SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN MIGUEL, PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Babasa
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 6153, entitled:

“AN ACT CODIFYING THE ALTERNATIVE CHILD CARE LAWS, REORGANIZING THE INTER-COUNTRY ADOPTION BOARD INTO THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY FOR CHILD CARE, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Lim
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

House Bill No. 6159, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE EASTERN PANGASINAN REGIONAL MEDICAL AND TRAUMA CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ROSALES, PANGASINAN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Estrella
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 6154, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MAGNA CARTA FOR PUBLIC COUNSELORS”

By Representative Rodriguez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 6160, entitled:

“AN ACT CODIFYING THE ALTERNATIVE CHILD CARE LAWS, RE-ORGANIZING THE INTER-COUNTRY ADOPTION BOARD INTO THE NATIONAL AUTHORITY FOR CHILD CARE, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

House Bill No. 6155, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING AND MODERNIZING THE BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Rodriguez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

House Bill No. 6161, entitled:

“AN ACT FURTHER LIBERALIZING THE RICE AND CORN INDUSTRY, REPEALING FOR SUCH PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3018, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘AN ACT LIMITING THE RIGHT TO ENGAGE IN THE RICE AND CORN INDUSTRY TO CITIZENS OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES’ AND AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 194 AUTHORIZING ALIENS, AS WELL AS ASSOCIATIONS, CORPORATIONS OR

House Bill No. 6156, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING AND DEFINING THE MARITIME ZONES UNDER THE

PARTNERSHIPS OWNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY FOREIGNERS TO ENGAGE IN THE RICE AND CORN INDUSTRY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Garin (Sharon)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 6162, entitled:

“AN ACT REORGANIZING AND CONVERTING THE INSURANCE COMMISSION INTO A COLLEGIAL BODY, AMENDING SECTIONS 437, 438, AND 439 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10607, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘THE INSURANCE CODE’, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Garin (Sharon)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

House Bill No. 6163, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 3, 8, AND 9 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9856, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘THE REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST (REIT) ACT OF 2009’ ”

By Representative Garin (Sharon)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 6164, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE JUNCTION HIGHWAY PANABO POBLACION - PANABO WHARF ROAD AND SAN PEDRO - CAGANGOAN COASTAL ROAD UP TO KM. 29, BARANGAY J.P. LAUREL JUNCTION, MAHARLIKA NATIONAL HIGHWAY FROM LOCAL ROADS TO NATIONAL ROADS”

By Representative Dujali
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 6165, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTING THE MAGNA CARTA OF DAY CARE WORKERS AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Nieto
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

House Bill No. 6166, entitled:

“AN ACT APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF TWO BILLION AND FORTY MILLION PESOS

(P2,040,000,000.00) AS SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FY 2020 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Tan (Angelina)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 6168, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING RA 10303, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘AN ACT CREATING A REGIONAL TRIAL COURT BRANCH IN THE PROVINCE OF AURORA TO BE STATIONED AT THE MUNICIPALITY OF CASIGURAN’ ”

By Representative Angara
TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 6169, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE GUIMBAL, ILOILO EXTENSION OFFICE OF THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO) INTO A REGULAR LTO CLASS ‘D’ DISTRICT OFFICE TO BE LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF GUIMBAL, PROVINCE OF ILOILO”

By Representative Garin (Janette)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 6170, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING PERMANENT EVACUATION CENTERS IN NORTHERN CEBU IN DAANBANTAYAN AND THE ISLANDS OF BANTAYAN, MALAPASCUA, KINATARCAN, AND CARNAZA IN CEBU PROVINCE”

By Representative Salimbangon
TO THE COMMITTEE ON DISASTER MANAGEMENT

House Bill No. 6171, entitled:

“AN ACT RE-NATIONALIZING THE BENGUET GENERAL HOSPITAL LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LA TRINIDAD, PROVINCE OF BENGUET, PLACING UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISION AND CONTROL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY TO FOUR HUNDRED (400) BEDS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Yap (Eric)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 6172, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO IRIGA TELEPHONE

COMPANY, INC., UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 5974 AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8962 ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING THE IRIGA TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN LOCAL EXCHANGE NETWORK IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR AND ALL CITIES THEREIN’ ”

By Representative Fortuno
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 6173, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING BANKING INSTITUTIONS TO STRENGTHEN THE FINANCING SYSTEM FOR AGRICULTURAL, FISHERIES AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

House Bill No. 6174, entitled:

“AN ACT TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING LAW, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING ACT OF 2001, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Cua
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

House Bill No. 6175, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE DULOP NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – BAG-ONG VALENCIA EXTENSION IN BARANGAY BAG-ONG VALENCIA, MUNICIPALITY OF DUMINGAG, PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR FROM THE DULOP NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS BAG-ONG VALENCIA AGRICULTURAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Yu
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 6176, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING AN ADDITIONAL LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT IN THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL

TO BE KNOWN AS THE FOURTH (4TH) LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT”

By Representative Sagarbarria
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 6177, entitled:

“AN ACT APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF TWO BILLION AND SIXTY MILLION PESOS (P2,060,000,000.00) AS SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET TO ADDRESS THE RISKS OF THE 2019-NCOV TO PUBLIC HEALTH”

By Representative Salceda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 682, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THROUGH THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS, TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE KILLING OF FARMER PELAGIO COMPOC OF BILAR, BOHOL”

By Representatives Cullamat, Zarate, Gaité, Castro (France), Brosas and Elago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 683, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THROUGH THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS, TO CONDEMN AND INVESTIGATE THE ILLEGAL ARREST OF FOUR PEASANT LEADERS IN BUKIDNON LAST JANUARY 23, 2020”

By Representatives Cullamat, Zarate, Gaité, Castro (France), Brosas and Elago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 684, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE NATURE, FUNCTION, AND MISSION OF THE JOINT INDUSTRIAL PEACE AND CONCERNS OFFICE (JIPCO)”

By Representative Mendoza
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 685, entitled:

“RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONDUCT

AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE ONLINE COMPANIES SUCH AS GRAB, LAZADA, SURPLUS, SHOPEE, AIR BNB, ANGKAS AND SUCH OTHER SIMILAR COMPANIES, AS TO WHETHER THEY ARE CORRECTLY PAYING THEIR TAXES AND TO DETERMINE HOW MUCH”

By Representative Savellano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 686, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND HEALTH TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE FACILITIES, CAPACITY, CAPABILITIES, AND PERFORMANCE REPORT, OF ALL PROVINCIAL, DISTRICT, REGIONAL AND SPECIALTY HOSPITALS AND COME UP WITH A NATIONWIDE DATABASE IN ORDER TO ENCOURAGE THE EFFICIENT USE OF GOVERNMENT RESOURCES AND DELIVERY OF BASIC MEDICAL SERVICES”

By Representative Defensor (Michael)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 687, entitled:

“RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE HONORABLE DEPUTY SPEAKER MICHAEL ODYLON L. ROMERO, PhD, FOR HIS MEDAL-CLINCHING PERFORMANCE IN THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED 30TH SOUTHEAST ASIAN GAMES”

By Representative Singson
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 688, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO ISSUE AN APOLOGY FOR THE ATROCITIES COMMITTED BY ITS MILITARY FORCES AGAINST THE FILIPINO PEOPLE DURING THE PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN WAR AND THE IMPOSITION OF U.S. COLONIAL RULE”

By Representatives Castro (France), Zarate, Gaité, Cullamat, Brosas and Elago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

House Resolution No. 689, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING AIRLINE COMPANIES TO GIVE DUE

CONSIDERATION TO ALL PASSENGERS WHO BOOKED FLIGHTS TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES WITH CONFIRMED CASES OF NOVEL CORONA VIRUS (2019-nCoV)”

By Representative Reyes
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Resolution No. 690, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING DEXLER BOLAMBAO FOR WINNING THE PHILIPPINES’ FIRST GOLD MEDAL IN ARNIS AT THE 30TH SOUTHEAST ASIAN GAMES”

By Representatives Romualdez (Yedda) and Romualdez (Ferdinand)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNICATIONS

Letters dated September 17, 2019 of Engr. Rosalinda B. Bote, Acting Department Manager, Upper Pampanga River Integrated Irrigation Systems (UPRIIS), National Irrigation Administration, submitting to the House of Representatives the approved CY 2020 Program of Works for the Improvement of Canal Service Road of UPRIIS-Division I:

1. Lateral G-3, LTRIS, Talavera, Nueva Ecija;
 2. Lateral J, SDA, Licab, Nueva Ecija;
 3. Lateral G-1, LTRIS, Talavera, Nueva Ecija; and
 4. Lateral G and G-1, SDA, Licab, Nueva Ecija.
- TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

Letter dated January 9, 2020 of Dr. Tirso A. Ronquillo, University President, Batangas State University, presenting to the House of Representatives the BatStateU President’s Report July 2014 – July 2018 and institutional catalog.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Letter dated January 20, 2020 of Minerva I. Morales, Ed. D., SUC President III, Catanduanes State University, submitting their Budget Accountability Report (BAR-1) as of December 31, 2019 of the CSU, generated from the DBM – Unified Reporting System.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated January 21, 2020 of Maria Gleda E. Lim, State Auditor V, Supervising Auditor, Audit Groups CGS I and II-Water Districts and Other CGS Stand Alone Agencies, Regional Office No. VI, Commission on Audit, furnishing the House of Representatives with a copy of the Annual Audit Report on the Tobias Fornier Water District of the Province of Antique for the years ended December 31, 2016, 2017, and 2018.
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated January 22, 2020 of Gen. Ricardo R. Visaya (Ret), Administrator, National Irrigation Administration (NIA), submitting the Fourth Quarter Report of NIA CARP-Irrigation Component for CY 2019.
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

Letter dated 27 January 2020 of Jaime H. Morente, Commissioner, Bureau of Immigration, submitting the Bureau's Fourth Quarter Collection Report of the Express Lane Fee.
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Quarterly Financial and Physical Report of Operations for the Quarter ending December 31, 2019 of the Province of Ilocos Norte, on the Local Government Support Fund – Conditional Matching Grant to Provinces for Road Repair, Rehabilitation and Improvement (CMGP), attested by Matthew J. Marcos Manotoc, Provincial Governor.
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 216), re H.B. No. 6167, entitled:
“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TUBOD, PROVINCE OF LANA DEL NORTE, TO BE KNOWN AS THE TUBOD TESDA TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”
recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 2288
Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark), Ungab and Dimaporo (Khalid)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Civil Service and Professional Regulation and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 217), re H.B. No. 6181, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION (PRC) OFFICE IN THE CITY OF BACOLOD, PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 575

Sponsors: Representatives Siao and Ungab
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read the following Committee Reports, which were referred to the appropriate Committees hereunder indicated:

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Committee on Youth and Sports Development (Committee Report No. 218), re H.B. No. 6192, entitled:

“AN ACT PRESERVING THE INDIGENOUS GAMES OF THE PHILIPPINES”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 3860

Sponsors: Representatives Martinez, Agabas and Barba
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Youth and Sports Development (Committee Report No. 219), re H.R. No. 697, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING FILIPINO BOXER NESTHY ALCAYDE PETECIO FOR WINNING THE GOLD MEDAL IN THE 2019 ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DE BOXE AMATEUR (AIBA) WOMEN'S WORLD BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS HELD IN ULAN-UDE, RUSSIA ON OCTOBER 3 TO 13, 2019”

recommending its adoption in substitution of House Resolutions Numbered 426, 433, 434, 438, 450, 460, 465, 479 and 515

Sponsors: Representatives Martinez, Elago, Estrella, Tolentino, Velasco, Cabochan, Albano, Nieto, Bautista and Delos Santos
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Natural Resources and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 220), re H.B. No. 6194, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE DELINEATION OF THE SPECIFIC FOREST LIMITS OF THE PUBLIC DOMAIN AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 98 and 4540

Sponsors: Representatives Barzaga, Ungab, Acosta-Alba and Santos-Recto

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

REP. BOLILIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we acknowledge the presence of the guests of Hon. Eric L. Olivarez, Representative of the First District of Parañaque City. They are teachers and senior high school students from the Olivarez College of Parañaque.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). To the guests of Rep. Eric Olivarez from First District of Parañaque, please rise. Welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

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

It was 3:20 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:20 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. BOLILIA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we acknowledge the presence of the guests of Hon. Estrellita B. Suansing of the First District of Nueva Ecija who are her constituents, namely: Mr. Mackoy Alfonso and Mr. King Bigcas.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). To the guests of the birthday girl, Hon. Ging Suansing from

the First District of Nueva Ecija, please rise. Welcome to the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

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

It was 3:20 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:28 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

ROLL CALL

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). 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. 40, dated February 5, 2020.**

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. Mr. Speaker, the roll call shows that 215 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). With 215 Members responding to the call, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). What is the pleasure of the Gentleman from BUHAY Party-List?

REP. ATIENZA. We are constrained to take note that we do not have 215 Members on the floor. There are only 107 and that is too far from the truth. I would like the Majority Leader to please explain the distortion in the count of the Secretariat.

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Majority Leader will please respond.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, our esteemed colleague, Honorable Atienza is once again correct because we have many Members, 75 of them, who are still attending ongoing committee hearings and whose attendance is counted on the floor as they are in the different committees. With the indulgence of Honorable Atienza, may I read: 3 are on official business, 12 are in the Commission on Appointments, 17 are in the Trade and Industry Committee along with the Committee on Health, 30 are in the Committee on Transportation, 8 are in the Agrarian Reform Committee and 5 are in the Labor and Employment Committee. So, that explains the discrepancy between those on the floor and those counted as present, as 75 Members, Mr. Speaker, are in the various committee hearings. We thank Honorable Atienza for keeping the majority active in its attendance in the plenary.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker, the Majority Leader said we have 75 Members attending committee meetings. We will not question this as this comes from the Majority Leader himself, but 75 plus 107 is not 215. Still, there is a discrepancy between 215 and 182 if we add 75 to 107.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, we note very well the manifestation of Honorable Atienza but as far as this Representation is concerned, his presence alone constitutes a quorum.

REP. ATIENZA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The remarks of Honorable Atienza and the remarks of the Majority Leader are properly and duly noted.

REP. ATIENZA. Yes.

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

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Majority Leader.

REP. BONDOC. Mr. Speaker, I move that we continue to recognize Honorable Atienza.

REP. ATIENZA. Allow me to explain and conclude my point which I have raised. We are willing to accept the fact that the Members are attending committee meetings right now. Well, I am acceptable to the idea that we can add that up to constitute a quorum but

we would like to remind the Majority Leader and the Speaker himself that we cannot vote on a measure with an assumed presence when there is none. As long as we just go through the exercise of legislative processes without voting, this Representation will cooperate with you. Otherwise, we will question the validity of the vote of anyone who is not present but is allowed to vote on any measure.

Thank you.

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

REP. BONDOC. Very well noted, Mr. Speaker. We thank Honorable Atienza.

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

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 5989

Continuation

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. AGLIPAY. Mr. Speaker, under the Calendar of Unfinished Business, I move that we resume the consideration of House Bill No. 5989, as contained in Committee Report No. 200, and submitted by the Committees on Government Reorganization, Disaster Management, Ways and Means, and Appropriations. For this purpose, may I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read the title of the Bill.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Secretary General is hereby directed to read the title of House Bill No. 5989 under Committee Report No. 200 for consideration on Second Reading.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 5989, entitled: AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF DISASTER RESILIENCE, DEFINING ITS MANDATE, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

REP. AGLIPAY. Mr. Speaker, the parliamentary status of the Bill is that it is in the period of sponsorship and debate. I move that we recognize Hon. Yedda Marie K. Romualdez to sponsor the said measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Rep. Yedda Romualdez is recognized to sponsor House Bill No. 5989.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF
REP. ROMUALDEZ (Y.)

REP. ROMUALDEZ (Y). Mr. Speaker, esteemed colleagues, I am honored to sponsor on the floor House Bill No. 5989, entitled: AN ACT CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF DISASTER RESILIENCE, DEFINING ITS MANDATE, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR. Disaster resilience is an advocacy that is very close to my heart. I earlier introduced this Bill during my first year in the House of Representatives, championing its passage for the next three years as Representative of the First District of Leyte. As a neophyte Member of Congress in 2016, I wrote to the newly elected Pres. Rodrigo Roa Duterte to include in his first State of the Nation Address and in his priority legislative agenda the creation of a Cabinet-level department fully dedicated to disaster management and disaster resilience. The President did not disappoint this Representation as not only did he mention it in his SONA in 2016, but he likewise repeated it in his succeeding SONAs in 2018 and 2019.

Three years had gone by and we have yet to realize the long overdue plea of the President for Congress to pass the measure creating the Department of Disaster Resilience. The need to guarantee disaster resilience has become even more urgent. We cannot delay it any further. In the last six months, our country has experienced a series of strong earthquakes in Mindanao, at least two destructive typhoons that hit Bicol and Leyte, and the recent eruption of Taal Volcano, which has effectively displaced tens of thousands of fellow Filipinos, destroying their homes and sources of livelihood. More than six years ago, super typhoon Haiyan ravaged and devastated our home provinces of Leyte and Samar, but it also taught us how to be better equipped and understand and respond to typhoons and other natural hazards. That is why we continue to be strong in our resolve to continue working for the creation of a Department of Disaster Resilience which will primarily be responsible for leading, managing and organizing the national effort to reduce disaster risks, prepare for and respond to disasters, and recover, rehabilitate and build forward better after the occurrence of disasters.

With natural disasters happening with increasing frequency and intensity, it is high time that we create a Department of Disaster Resilience that will effectively reduce our vulnerability to natural hazards and bolster our resilience to the impact of national disasters. As the country's primary disaster management agency, the

Department of Disaster Resilience shall integrate and refine what needs to be done and where it needs to be done based on what standards, how it should be done, and how well it should be done. We need a Department of Disaster Resilience that will consolidate and support local disaster risk reduction efforts and has the full responsibility to take the lead in undertaking disaster preparedness and response in areas that are severely affected by natural disasters. A new Department of Disaster Resilience will effectively improve the institutional capacity of the government for disaster risk reduction and management, reduce the vulnerability surrounding the affected local population as well as build the resilience of local communities to both natural disasters and climate change.

It is important that we do so now with utmost urgency for what is at stake is the safety and the lives of our people. With the creation of the Department of Disaster Resilience, we can look forward to the future with hope, knowing that the government is ready, better equipped and committed to exert its best efforts to protect lives and properties, and to ensure that such tragedies will never happen again.

Thank you very much.

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

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move to recognize Hon. Joey Sarte Salceda of the Second District of Albay for his sponsorship speech.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Representative of the Second District of Albay, Hon. Joey Salceda, is recognized to sponsor House Bill No. 5989.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REP. SALCEDA

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

Nagsimula po ang journey ng Department of Disaster Resilience sa dalawang bagay: Unang-una po, noong 2013, kailangan nating harapin bakit maraming namatay sa Yolanda? Kahit na mayroon pa tayong Republic Act No. 10121, maraming namatay dahil sa Yolanda and so, ano ang kulang? Iyon ang kailangang punuan ng atin pong proposed na batas. Ang pangalawa na pinagsimulan nito ay nakapaloob mismo sa Republic Act No. 10121 na dapat simula Mayo or after five years ng approval nito ay magkaroon po ng sunset review. Halos 95 percent ng proposal o ng committee report na nakahain sa harap po natin ngayon, maliban naman po sa mga salita, kahit gaano po ka-substantial, ang mga prinsipyo nito ay nanggagaling po doon sa proposed po o output noong sunset review. Kaya minabuti po ng

atin pong Kongreso noong Seventeenth Congress na aprubahan po ang DDR Bill subalit hindi po ito mapalad na aprubahan po sa Senado.

Samakatuwid, ngayon po, maaga na hinihingi po ng atin pong mga proponent, lalong-lalo na ng atin pong Leyte Representative na si Yedda Romualdez na kumakatawan po doon sa kung bakit po tayo dapat mayroong Department of Disaster Resilience, kung bakit 10,000 ang namatay sa Leyte, at ano dapat ang gawin ng gobyerno?

Sa puntong ito, Your Honor, Mr. Speaker, I would just like to submit my five-page sponsorship speech in order to allow other speakers, and in order to allow this Congress to proceed with other matters that are just as important. So, may I just ask the leave of the Speaker if I could just give my written sponsorship speech to the Secretariat for its proper recording.

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Before that, Majority Leader, is there any objection to the motion of the Sponsor to insert his five-page sponsorship speech in the Record of the House of Representatives? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.*

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ATIENZA. Mr. Speaker.

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move to recognize Hon. Joselito L. Atienza Jr. of the BUHAY Party-List for his interpellation.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Hon. Lito Atienza, Representative from BUHAY Party-List, is recognized.

REP. ATIENZA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. With the kind cooperation and acceptance of the Gentleman, this Representation would like to ask questions about the measure that he has offered to the Body—a Disaster Resiliency and Reduction Office or Department. Am I right in my appreciation?

REP. SALCEDA. Tama po, yes, tama po.

REP. ATIENZA. Naniniwala po ba kayo na ang ating bansa ay maliligtas na sa mga disgrasya dulot ng

kalikasan kapagka bumuo tayo ng isang kagawaran o department na mangangalaga sa ating kapakanan?

REP. SALCEDA. Nandiyan na po iyan e, mga given po iyan. Marami tayong aktibong bulkan na bigla na lang pumuputok. Taon-taon binibisita tayo ng 20 bagyo, mga lima diyan ay malalakas. Ang ating mga kalupaan ay napag-aralan na sa ibang parte ay may kalambutan. Mayroon po tayo na mga lugar na puwede pong bahain dahil po sa mabilis na urbanisasyon ng atin pong lipunan. Ito pong pinapanukala ang siya pong magliligtas sa buhay ng mga tao na nahaharap po sa peligro tulad ng mga ito.

So, in simple language, I could not transfer Mayon Volcano to Masbate, but the province of Albay has always had zero casualties no matter what kind of eruption na nagkaroon na po. Noong 2006, 2009, 2014 and 2018, Your Honor, wala pong namatay sanhi po ng eruption ng bulkan. Iyon po ang gagawin po nitong Department of Disaster Resilience.

REP. ATIENZA. Ang kagalang-galang na Kongresista ng Albay ay dating Gobernador, hindi po ba?

REP. SALCEDA. Tama po.

REP. ATIENZA. Kayo ay naging masipag, masinop, maagap at gumanap ng inyong tungkulin kaya ang Albay, ang distrito ninyo lalong-lalo na, ay hindi masyadong naapektuhan ng anumang sakuna ng kalikasan. Saksi po ang inyong lingkod sapagkat ako ay local government official din po noong mga panahong iyon at nakita ko ang inyong ginawa na ginawa rin naman namin sa Maynila kaya nagkaroon ng kaligtasan ang ating mga pinaglilingkuran.

REP. SALCEDA. Opo.

REP. ATIENZA. Ngayon, sa inyong paliwanag, para bagang humahanap pa rin kayo ng paraan upang lalo pang maligtas ang ating mga kababayan. Iyan ba ay isang pag-amin na ang national government ay hindi gaanong epektibo kung walang department na bubuuin?

REP. SALCEDA. Inaamin ko po na dahil po 10,000 ang namatay sa typhoon Yolanda kahit mayroon na po tayong Republic Act No. 10121, iyon po ang butas na pinupunuan nito pong Department of Disaster Resilience.

REP. ATIENZA. Hindi po ba ninyo matatanggap na ang solusyon sa mga problema ay hindi bumuo ng kagawaran kung hindi ang tiyakin ang pagganap ng

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

tungkulin ng mga kinauukulan? Ano man ang ating kagawaran na buuin, kung hindi po naman gagawin iyong trabaho, ay ganoon din po ang magiging perwisyo sa ating mga mamamayan, sapagkat ang ating nakikitang pagkukulang ay pagkakamali ng mga namamahala at pagkukulang ng mga inaasahan.

REP. SALCEDA. Hindi rin po natin mahihindian na may mga bagong kaalaman. Ang atin pong mga karanasan ay una, mainam pong gamitin upang ang gobyerno ay maorganisa para po mas epektibo ito sa pagtugon dito po sa peligro at masiguro po na lahat ay ligtas; pangalawa, para mabilis po makapanumbalik sa normalcy ang lahat; at pangatlo, dapat magpatuloy po ang paglago ng ating lipunan sa gitna po ng lahat ng mga peligro.

Samakatuwid, Your Honor, hindi lang po iyong pagliligtas kung hindi ang pagsisiguro na mabawas-bawasan po natin ang peligro. Kaya nga po ito po ay “Department of Disaster Resilience” at hindi po ito “Department of Disaster Response” kasi nga po ay may kakayahan ang ating Estado sa paggamit ng kaniyang poder, sa paggamit po ng kaniya pong resources, at paggamit po ng teknolohiya upang pong mabawasan ang peligro na puwedeng harapin ng mga ordinaryong pamilya sa atin pong lipunan.

REP. ATIENZA. Sa pananaw po ng inyong lingkod, ang ating mga batas ay nakaumang na, nakatalaga na. Ang ating mga mamamayan ay nakaaalam na rin ng mga panganib. Kung mayroong nadidisgrasya ay marahil puwede nating tiyakin na ito ay hindi dahil sa nagkulang ang dapat na tumugon, kung hindi nagkulang ang mga desisyon ng mga kinauukulan.

I will give you an example. Typhoon Yolanda hit Tacloban very, very disastrously. Tama po ba iyon? Naaalala po ba ninyo iyon?

REP. SALCEDA. There are other ways of interpreting it, Your Honor, but I heard about it.

REP. ATIENZA. Lumaki ang disgrasya at marami ang naperwisyo at hanggang ngayon ay hindi mabubuo ang mga dapat na binubuo sapagkat mali ang hinahanap na mga paraan at hindi tinutumbok ang dapat pag-ukulan ng pansin. Ang local government, tulad ng provincial government, ang siyang talagang nakapuwesto, at nasa loob ng ating mga batas at binibigyang diin ng ating Konstitusyon the principle of local autonomy, that local government units should be fully supported. The problem of Yolanda magnified and became almost out of control because the national government then played politics and did not go through the local government, the provincial government simply because they did not belong to the same party. Ang pagkukulang po kaya marami ang nadidisgrasya at

hindi mahanapan ng solusyon ang mga naapektuhan ng mga bagyo, lindol at baha ay ang pagkukulang ng mga namumuno at hindi dahil sa pagkukulang ng batas.

I sincerely believe that creating another department will only create an illusion that the problem will be reduced but in reality, it will worsen. Why? Because the provincial governments and the local governments will not be on their toes now to protect the interest of their constituencies simply because we created an illusion that the department is now in charge when in reality, wala pong masyadong ibubunga iyan at lalo lang lalaki ang perwisyo sa taumbayan. Can you now guarantee us that creating a department will make the efforts of the government more effective in helping the people, in getting the Social Welfare Department to move faster, in getting the other agencies to do their jobs? Sa ngayon, mayroon na po tayong tinatawag na geohazard mapping of the country.

REP. SALCEDA. Tama po.

REP. ATIENZA. Alam po ninyo iyon sapagkat isa kayo sa mga batikan na kinonsulta namin noong binubuo po iyan.

REP. SALCEDA. Opo.

REP. ATIENZA. Therefore, technically and truthfully, each local government or provincial government can prepare for whatever is coming their way. We ignored the fact that 21 typhoons passed through the country or in our areas of responsibility, earthquakes are bound to happen, landslides are bound to happen, pero ang problema po ay hindi yata naipapamahagi ang mapa na iyon at hindi nabibigyan ng impormasyon ang mga lokal na pamahalaan.

Naniniwala ba kayo na ang isang departamento managed by a Secretary—incidentally, pagpili pa lang ng Secretary diyari at ang pagbuo ng kagawaran will take two or three years, maybe even more—do you believe that creating a department will now improve the protection of our people’s lives and properties? Do you sincerely believe that, Mr. Governor, efficient Governor?

REP. SALCEDA. Yes, po. Yes, Your Honor.

REP. ATIENZA. I am quite disappointed.

REP. SALCEDA. Ayaw ko naman hanapan ng ...

REP. ATIENZA. I am quite disappointed with the answer of the Gentleman because he has proven that local autonomy is the solution to the many problems of our nation but up to now, the national government does not provide the avenue for local officials to function

as they should, and now that he is sponsoring this measure, I am appealing to him not to create an illusion that life will be better for us when we will create the department.

We just created the Department of Housing, but look what happened to the housing sector. Tumigil ang produksiyon, mas lumaki ang pagkukulang ng pabahay sa mga mamamayan. We are creating now a Department of Water (*laughing*). Kapag may problema, ang solusyon ay department creation.

Ngayon naman, dahil sa maraming mga hampas ng unos at ng kalikasan, we are creating a Department of Disaster Resiliency and whatever, kaya't ipagpaumanhin ninyo na lubos po ang aking paniniwala na hindi makakatulong ang department na ito. Magkakaroon lang ng alibis for failure where the local government officials will say, "We are no longer in charge. You know, it is the Department of Disaster Resiliency who should be blamed," and everybody will be pointing to each other. Meanwhile, our people will keep on suffering the consequences of anticipated national disasters.

Can I have your position on that, Mr. Governor, Congressman?

REP. SALCEDA. Madami kasi iyong tanong e. Unang-una, bakit? Naniniwala po ako na ini-enhance o iginagalang nito ang primacy ng local government sa pagtugon po sa mga peligro. Hindi po ito binubura ng Department of Disaster Resilience but tulad po ng isang mag-asawa na nagdesisyon na mamukod, kung minsan po ay nahaharap sila sa isang problema na hindi nila kinakaya kaya po kailangan po nila ang kanilang magulang. Ang nangyayari po ngayon kaya hindi sila natutulungan, halimbawa, sa example ninyo sa Yolanda, ito ay dahil po hindi magkasundo iyong mag-asawa at ang kanilang mga magulang. Ang ginagawa po ng Department of Disaster Resilience ay pinapasiguro na imbes na po isang cluster na kailangan mag-meeting, na may kaniya-kaniyang miyembro, at kung minsan ang nag-a-attend ay mga undersecretary lang, lahat po nang apat na kailangan tugunan simula po sa disaster resilience hanggang sa pagbawas ng mga nasa peligro tulad ng relocation, ay natutugunan.

Pangalawa ay disaster preparedness tulad po ng maagap na pag-warning at maagap po na pag-organisa ng local government.

Pangatlo, disaster response, rescue and relief na ngayon po ay ginagawa ng DSWD subalit po hindi naman sila nagre-rescue.

Pang-apat, ang rehabilitation ay naiatas po sa isang komitiba na ang head po ay ang NEDA na isa lamang pong planning staff. Samakatuwid, Your Honor, imbes na isang komitiba ang tumutugon, may isang permanenteng opisina na may tao, responsibilidad, isa lang ang kausap at isa lang ang magdedesisyon at isa lang po ang sisihin. Hindi tulad ngayon na marami

pong mga cluster na kung minsan isa lang representative ni Secretary so and so, kaya hindi po naba-bind o nako-commit sa isang estratehiya ang departamentong iyon pagdating po sa mga kailangan, halimbawa, sa disaster preparedness. So, importante po, Your Honor, ang departamentong ito.

Iyong Republic Act No. 10121, ino-organisa nito ang lahat ng local governments bilang isang permanenteng opisina para tumugon sa peligro, subalit iyong national government ay hindi po organisado as a permanent office kung hindi bilang isang council. Samakatuwid, ang ginagawa po ng Department of Disaster Resilience ay para magkaroon ng isang permanenteng disaster management office na tutugon sa apat, hindi na apat para tumugon, kundi isa para po sa disaster reduction, disaster preparedness, disaster response, rescue and relief, at disaster rehabilitation. So, iyon po talaga ang pinakabuod kung ano iyong structural na pagbabago ng balangkas ng ating gobyerno dahil po unpredictable po ang mga disaster. Bigla na lang pong pumuputok ang bulkan, nananahimik ng 70 taon pero biglaan na lang po, at mas malakas pa sa kasaysayan ng dumapo doon sa Leyte, bigla na lang, so, hindi ko po maitatitwa.

Sa Estados Unidos, ang pederalismo ay nakakatulong para po mas maagap makatugon ang mga states subalit, siguro may naririnig kang FEMA o Federal Emergency Management Agency, at kapag may kakulangan, because kung minsan, halimbawa sa Leyte, iyong epekto ng Yolanda ay umabot ng P105 billion pero magkano iyong disaster calamity fund ng Leyte? Ito ay P80 million lang kaya kailangan pong pumasok ang national government. Tulad po din dito, ito po ay isang pagsuporta at pagtaguyod ng primacy ng local government in addressing, confronting and responding to disaster risks, including climate change risks.

REP. ATIENZA. Allow us again to disagree with the position of the Gentleman. Yolanda is a good case in point where the national government failed.

REP. SALCEDA. Yes.

REP. ATIENZA. Although they had an oversupply or a surplus of cash or money and materials, tingnan ninyo ang nangyari—nabulok ang mga relief goods o hindi na umabot ito sa mga tao, ang pera ay hindi nagastos, at ang mga bahay ay hindi naitayo. Kung ibinigay ninyo iyong pera sa mga mayors katulad ni Mayor Gomez ng Ormoc, palagay ko ay maraming bahay ang magagawa noon. Kung ibinigay ninyo kay Governor Romualdez or Mayor Romualdez ang pera, madaling makakabuo ng bahay iyon pero nakialam ang gobyerno, ang national government, at sila ang humawak ng pera, sila ang humawak ng materials, sila ang nag-appoint ng mga tao. Ano ang nangyari? Wala at hanggang ngayon ay nakatiwangwang ang pabahay

at ang mga tao ay walang bubong sa kanilang mga ulunan. Why? Because centralization does not mean efficiency, and centralization only hinders action. The principle of local government autonomy is already in place, but we would not want to exercise it. We will create a department over and above the local officials but that will cause a bigger problem, especially if my good friend in the coming years, may decide to go back to Albay and seek a higher office.

REP. SALCEDA. Very Good.

REP. ATIENZA. I would expect him to promote local autonomy and not to buy the wrong notion that centralization is the solution. Centralization is stagnation. Decentralized governance, which is already in place, must be promoted, supported and done by the government and so, creating a department does not guarantee better public service as it will only hinder the quick reaction of those who should be on their toes when disasters hit. There is a department that is now in charge, there is a department secretary who will be parading up and down the avenues, saying, "I am here now. I am superman," but action will not be forthcoming simply because decentralization, local autonomy and respect for the capabilities of communities to give themselves better action and attention are actually the requirements of that time. So, I beg to disagree with the Gentleman that creating a department will solve the problem of the Filipinos. We should be prepared to even suffer more if that happens.

REP. SALCEDA. Thank you.

REP. ATIENZA. Thank you for your candid answers, but I know that deep in your heart, you agree with me.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. SALCEDA. Maraming salamat po, Mr. Speaker. Isa lang pong punto. Noong hinaharap ko ang lahat ng mga bagyo at mga pagputok ng bulkan sa Albay, ang dami ko pong kailangang kausapin sa national government, but under this Bill, isa na lang po ang kakausapin ko.

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

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize Hon. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate of BAYAN MUNA Party-List for his interpellation.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu.). Hon. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate from BAYAN MUNA Party-

List is recognized to interpellate the Sponsor of House Bill No. 5989.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. LACSON-NOEL. I move for a few minutes suspension of the session.

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

It was 4:11 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:11 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

Once again, the Chair recognizes Hon. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate from BAYAN MUNA Party-List to interpellate the good Sponsor of House Bill No. 5989, Hon. Joey Sarte Salceda.

REP. ZARATE. Maraming salamat, G. Ispiker. Mamarapatin po ba ng ating kagalang-galang na Sponsor na sagutin ang ilang mga katanungan natin sa paglilinaw ng ating panukalang batas?

REP. SALCEDA. Opo.

REP. ZARATE. Maraming salamat po. Bilang panimula po siguro, puwede po bang mag-update ang ating kagalang-galang na Sponsor, as we speak now, kung magkano po ba ang pondo natin para po sa kalamidad at disaster?

REP. SALCEDA. Ang P16 billion po ay nasa national government at ang para sa mga individual local government po ay nasa P30 billion. Samakatuwid, Your Honor, mas malaki po ang pondo para sa kalamidad ng mga local government kaysa national government.

REP. ZARATE. Salamat po. Sa taong 2020 ay mayoong P16 billion?

REP. SALCEDA. Opo.

REP. ZARATE. Tama po ba iyong aking nabasa na kalahati ng P16 billion na ito ay nakalaan naman para sa rehabilitasyon ng Marawi? Tama po ba?

REP. SALCEDA. Tama po.

REP. ZARATE. So, mayroon lang po tayong P8 billion, theoretically, out of the allocated budget for

2020 na P16 billion na calamity fund. Is that correct, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SALCEDA. Tama po iyon.

REP. ZARATE. Now, noong 2019 po, mayroon po ba tayong datos kung magkano po ang ating calamity fund?

REP. SALCEDA. Nasa P20 billion po.

REP. ZARATE. So, P20 billion. Ang para sa lokal naman po, magkano ang pondo?

REP. SALCEDA. Ito ay P28 billion.

REP. ZARATE. So, P28 billion, more or less?

REP. SALCEDA. Opo.

REP. ZARATE. Kadugtong po na tanong—noong 2019, kung mayroon po tayong P20 billion, naubos po ba ang P20 billion na iyon, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SALCEDA. Naubos po.

REP. ZARATE. Naubos po ang P20 billion?

REP. SALCEDA. Opo.

REP. ZARATE. Mayroon din ho akong nabasa nito lang, bago lang, na mayroong pondo para sa Marawi pero dahil hindi ito nagamit ay nag-lapse na po. Tama po ba iyon, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker? Bahagi po ba ito ng sinasabi ninyong P20 billion na pondo para sana noong nakaraang taon?

REP. SALCEDA. Kasama po.

REP. ZARATE. Kasama po.

REP. SALCEDA. Yes, Sir?

REP. ZARATE. So, kasama po ito sa P20 billion na pondo para sa Marawi rehabilitation na hindi ho nagamit. Paano po natin nasabi na iyong P20 billion noong 2019 ay naubos samantalang mayroong pondo na hindi nga nagamit at hindi ito nailaan doon sa rehabilitasyon ng Marawi, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SALCEDA. Na-allocate po siya, Your Honor, ito po ang ating continuing appropriations. So, in the spirit of transparency, may P3.4 billion po na hindi nagamit pero inilaan po para sa Marawi. Samakatuwid, ngayon pong taong 2020 ay may magagamit pong P6.9

billion para po sa rehabilitasyon ng Marawi—P3.4 billion plus P3.5 billion na galing po sa P20 billion.

REP. ZARATE. So, ibig pong sabihin, dahil hindi ito nagamit in 2019, so, by 2020 ay puwede pang gamitin?

REP. SALCEDA. Opo kasi continuing appropriations po siya.

REP. ZARATE. Sige po, maraming salamat. Ilinaw ko lang po ito dahil mayroon ho akong nakuhang mga datos mula sa report na ginawa ng COA o Commission on Audit on how we spent our Disaster Fund or Calamity Fund.

In 2018, ang sinabi po ng COA, iyong beginning balance ng Summary of Receipts of the Disaster Fund in 2018 ay P43,051,291,897.53. At the end of 2018, ang Ending Balance po ng 2018, ayon po sa COA, ay umabot ng P56,563,372,506.82 at dahil po doon sa mga pondong ating na-allocate, ang sabi ng COA, nakita niya ito doon sa DRRM Fund, only 34.6 percent ang kaniyang utilization; doon naman sa QRF, 28.31 percent; at doon sa MRRP is 59.17 percent. Iyon po ang sabi kaya at the end of 2018, lumaki ang kanyang ending balance and at the beginning of 2019 ay mayroon hong humigit-kumulang na P56.6 billion na Calamity Fund—P56.6 billion.

Ang kasunod ko po na tanong, kung nabanggit ninyo kanina na in 2019 ay mayroon tayong inilaan ulit na P20 billion plus P56 billion, ibig po bang sabihin ay, at the beginning of 2019, dahil nadagdagan siya ng P20 billion, magkano po ang naging Ending Balance in 2019 para po masabi natin na ito iyong kabuuang Calamity Fund at the beginning of 2020 na dinagdagan naman natin ng P16 billion, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SALCEDA. Your Honor, puwede ho akong bumalik kasi mukhang pati kami nag-aaway na? So, baka puwede po na mai-explain ko sa inyo, na magsisimula po ako ng 2016 hanggang 2020 kung napaano po iyong pondo ng DRRM para po mas malinaw. Sa tingin ko, Your Honor, kung mabibigyan ninyo po ako ng panahon—sa Lunes po kasi Miyerkules ngayon o maski sa Biyernes para po maipaliwanag kung napaano po ito—kasi po ang Calamity Fund ay ang pinakasagradong pondo ng gobyerno because this fund saves lives. So, Your Honor, it is really proper that this fund should be fully and properly accounted for.

REP. ZARATE. Very well, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker. Kaya ko po itinatanong ang pondong ito dahil ang sinasabi ay parating kulang tayo ng pondo o hindi nagagamit iyong pondo sa dapat paglagyan para makatulong sa ating mga kababayan. So, gusto ho nating malaman—bago po tayo magdesisyon na ipasa

ang panukalang batas na ito at gumawa ng isang bagong departamento—kung paano ba ginasta ang pondong ito. Sa kasalukuyan, magkano ba talaga ang pondong ito? Lalo na higit nitong mga nakaraang araw ay nakaranas tayo ng mga kalamidad sa Batangas noong sumabog ang Bulkang Taal, sa Mindanao sa ang mga sunod-sunod na lindol, at sa Visayas at iba pang bahagi ng Luzon ay ang pagbagyo naman. At any rate, hihintayin po natin ang magiging datos na ipo-provide ng ating kagalang-galang na Sponsor. Pupunta na po ako dito sa mga probisyon ng ating panukalang batas, kung inyo pong mamarapatin.

Kahit pa man po noong Seventeenth Congress, noong atin na ring pinagdebatehan ang panukalang batas na ito, matampok po iyong katagang “resilience.” Gusto nga nating baguhin na ang katawagan ay hindi na Disaster Rehabilitation and Management pero ito po ay isang Department for Disaster Resilience. Ito po iyong bagong byword ngayon in pushing for this Department pero sa nakikita ko po rito, sinabi rito sa panukalang batas sa pag-define ng “resilience,” there is this national disaster resilience framework na ang sinasabi na, and I quote, “comprehensive, all-hazards, multi-sectoral, inter-agency and community-based.” Dagdag po dito ang sinabi rin doon sa Section 2, subparagraph (yy), “resilience framework is composed of National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Framework (NDRRMF), and National Framework Strategy on Climate Change.” Ang tanong ko po, puwede pong linawin natin kung ano po ang ibig sabihin ng dalawang framework na ito na sinasabi ninyo na kasama doon sa National Disaster Resilience Framework na siyang pinakabuod ng panukalang batas na ito, G. Isponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SALCEDA. Kapag tinignan mo po iyong peligro na hinaharap natin, sa kabuuan po, dalawa po ang pinagmumulan: Isa, dahil po sa masasabi nating natural disaster tulad ng lindol at bulkan. Mayroon din po, dahil po ang Pilipinas kung saan ang atin pong lokasyon ay nasa isang lugar na talagang halos lahat ng bagyo ay dumadaan at ipinanganak po sa Pasipiko, iyong climate resilience ay kasama po doon iyong pagharap sa bagyo subalit mas malaki pa doon.

In other words, kung ma-imagine ninyo po, may dalawang klaseng overlap kasi po ang climate resilience ay patungkol din po sa agrikultura at patungkol din po sa human settlements. May mga sinasaklawan siya na parte ng ating buhay bilang lipunan na apektado po ng climate change pero hindi po siya isang disaster.

Ang disaster naman po ay sakop ng National Disaster Resilience Framework na ipinapasiguro na lahat po ng klaseng disaster, whether it be from climate change or from natural disaster, iyon po ang kaniyang sinasaklaw. Hindi lang po iyong galing sa bagyo kung hindi pati na po iyong galing sa pagsabog ng bulkan.

Iyong climate framework naman, hindi lang po disaster ang sakop kung hindi pati po agrikultura, human settlements at iba pa pong mga aspeto ng buhay ng isang komunidad o lipunan.

REP. ZARATE. Salamat po, G. Isponsor, Mr. Speaker. Sa kasalukuyan po ba ay mayroon nang nabalangkas patungkol dito sa dalawa na sinabi ninyong hiwalay pero magkaugnay na framework, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SALCEDA. Mayroon po, kaso po at hindi ho naka-cascade, hindi po na-interpret para po magamit ng mga ordinaryong mamamayan. Nabasa ko na po iyong dalawa at kailangan pong i-update at kailangan po na mas malawakan ang pagpapatupad at pagpapaintindi sa mga taong apektado o maaari pong apektado. Nabasa ko na po iyong dalawa, National Framework for Climate Change at iyong National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plan, nabasa ko na po at ito po ay dalawang dokumento na kailangan natin pong i-submit sa mga convention kung saan po tayo nakapirma, halimbawa, ng UNFCCC o United Nations Framework For Climate Change Convention at saka iyong isa naman po, doon sa Kyoto Protocol.

REP. ZARATE. Kyoto Protocol.

REP. SALCEDA. Sa Sendai Framework na kung saan po ay signatory din po ang ating bansa at kailangan po nating mag-submit ng dalawang dokumentong ito.

REP. ZARATE. Maraming salamat, G. Isponsor. Sa kasalukuyan, dahil sinabi ninyo ay mayroon namang nabalangkas na, ang dalawang framework na ito, actually, hindi ito bago noong ipinasok ito dito sa panukalang batas at sa katunayan, mayroong existing na dalawang framework na ito, in fact, nagkakaroon ng convergence from time to time.

Ang sunod ko pong katanungan, sino po ang pangunahing ahensiya sa kasalukuyan na siya pong pangunahing namamahala at maniniguro na ang dalawang framework na ito ay ating mai-implement in times of and in response to, for example, disaster or as a result of climate change, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SALCEDA. Doon po sa climate change, ito ang Climate Change Commission. Doon po sa National DRR and Management Plan, ito ang NDRRMC na ang secretariat po ay ang OCD.

REP. ZARATE. Dito po sa inyong panukalang batas, these two frameworks will now be under the Department of Disaster Resilience. Tama po ba iyon?

REP. SALCEDA. They will cohabit or cohere.

REP. ZARATE. Ang papel ng Climate Commission ay mawawala na po? Tama po ba iyong pagkakaintindi ko, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SALCEDA. Come again, Sir?

REP. ZARATE. What will now be the role of the Climate Change Commission?

REP. SALCEDA. Siya rin po ang mamumuno dahil marami pong iniatas na mga batas na sila po ang dapat nagpapatupad. Isa pa po, sila po ang itinalaga natin na makikipag-negotiate para sa ating gobyerno at para sa ating taumbayan pagdating po doon sa UNFCCC. Pangalawa, siya rin po ang itinalaga bilang taga-access ng pera na ibinayad po ng mga mayayamang bansa bilang pangsuporta sa mga adaptation measures na ang tawag po ay Green Climate Fund. Nakatalaga po ito doon at nakasaad na ang Climate Change Commission ang magrepresent at siya lang po ang puwedeng mag-access noong pondong iyon.

Marami pa pong bagay na wala po sa climate change o wala pong disaster aspect kundi mga risks to other aspects of our life as a society and as a community. As I had said, you have human settlements, you can even go as far as monetary policy. In other words, Your Honor, under this Bill, they cohabit or they cohere. In other words, their roles are being defined and therefore, each of them, whether the new DDR would know what is their relationship with CCC and the CCC, of course, is linked to or siya po ay mayroong interdepartmental linkage po dito po sa ipino-propose, kaya hindi mo naman kailangan po na gawing mag-asawa o ipakasal sila subalit puwede po sila—ang tawag ko po dito ay live-in po iyang dalawa.

REP. ZARATE. Salamat po, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker. Pupunta na po ako doon sa ibang provisions noong proposed law. Dito po sa sinabi ninyong framework ngayon na mayroon lang magli-live-in iyong framework on disaster and framework doon sa climate change, kapuna-puna po at kapansin-pansin ang pag-introduce ng isang bagong concept dito. While it was mentioned doon sa Section 3, paragraph (yy), that the framework now is “comprehensive, all-hazards, multi-sectoral, inter-agency and community-based,” pero mas pinalaliman po ito pagdating doon sa Section 2, paragraph (j) ng panukalang batas at sinabi rito, that this framework will “adopt a whole-of-society, whole-of-government, and whole-of-nation approach in disaster preparedness to increase collaboration, planning,” et cetera.

Mayroon pong tatlong concept na andoon po at maalala ko po, noong Seventeenth Congress ay na-introduce na rin ang ilang concepts na ito.

REP. SALCEDA. Opo.

REP. ZARATE. Tulad ng whole-of-government and whole-of-society.

REP. SALCEDA. Opo.

REP. ZARATE. Ang bagong konsepto pong ipinasok ninyo ngayon dito ay ang “Whole-of-Nation approach” na nandoon po sa Section 3, paragraph (www). Sa tingin po ng Kinatawag ito, ito po ang very controversial and dangerous, and even on our part, objectionable.

Una ko pong nabasa iyong “Whole-of-Nation approach” na sinasabi doon sa inilabas na Executive Order No. 70 ng Pangulong Duterte pagkatapos na kinansela unilaterally ng gobyerno ng Republika ng Pilipinas ang usapang pangkapayapaan ng GRP at ng National Democratic Front of the Philippines. Sinabi ho doon sa Executive Order No. 70—na siya po ngayong bibliya ng counterinsurgency ng Duterte administration, dahil ito po ang ginagamit na tuntungan ng mga kampanya ng mga nasa security sector—in the “Whereas” clause of that Executive Order No. 70, it says:

The Whole-of-Nation approach addresses the root cause of insurgencies, internal disturbances and tensions, and other armed conflicts and threats by prioritizing and harmonizing the delivery of basic services and social development packages by the government, facilitating societal inclusivity, and ensuring active participation of all sectors of the society in the pursuit of the country’s peace agenda.

That is in one of the “Whereas” clauses at sinasabi na i-institutionalize iyong Whole-of-Nation approach. Then, in Section 2, to further institutionalize this Whole-of-Nation approach, EO 70 created the National Task Force to End the Local Communist Armed Conflict when it was stated thereat, “To ensure efficient and effective implementation of the Whole-of-Nation approach, a National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (Task Force) is hereby created under the Office of the President (OP).”

Doon ko po unang nakita itong “Whole-of-Nation Approach” and so, this “Whole-of-Nation approach” is actually a counterinsurgency approach. This is now the approach of the present administration, ano, para daw matugunan ang mahigit na limang dekadang rebelyon sa ating bayan. Tama po ba ang appreciation ko nito, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SALCEDA. Iyong paggamit po ng pananalitang iyan ay nalimitahan po base po sa depinasyon dito sa

batas na ito, at hindi ko na siguro kailangang pag-awayin pa ang isang batas at ang isang EO dahil alam naman natin kung ano ang masusunod. Ano po talaga, in essence, ang “Whole-of-Nation”? Sinasabi po ng “Whole-of-Nation,” pagdating po sa pagharap sa mga peligro, dapat isaisip ang pangkasalukuyan ang mga susunod na henerasyon. In other words, it is an intertemporal, intergenerational approach, so that we avoid maladaptation. Akala mo nakaka-save ka ng tao subalit dahil sa ginawa mo ay napepeligro mo naman iyong mga susunod na generation. Iyong paggamit po ng phrase na “Whole-of-Nation” ay nandiyan po iyong espiritu, at sa tingin ko naman ay mag-a-agree po ang akin pong kausap ngayon na wala pong masama kung isaisip natin kung ano ang makabubuti para po sa future generation sa mga patakaran natin sa ngayon. Iyon po ang meaning ng “Whole-of-Nation” as defined in the proposed law and the spirit in which it was used when we talk about disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. That is the interpretation of “Whole-of-Nation.”

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Abu relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Aurelio “Dong” D. Gonzales Jr.

REP. ZARATE. Salamat po, G. Isponsor, Mr. Speaker. Kung ang tinuran po ng ating kagalang-galang na Speaker at Sponsor ay ganoon nga ang pakahulugan ng “Whole-of-Nation approach” ay puwede ho sigurong kami ay magkakasundo pero—at ito po ang malaking “pero”—kung babasahin po natin ang nakatitik o ang nakalagay sa inyong panukalang batas, sa paragraph (www), Section (3), it is stated that the “Whole-of-Nation Approach refers to an approach that seeks to bring about a concerted effort towards sustainable development and national peace and security by creating consensus and understanding of development and security that is shared not just among core security forces and oversight government institutions, but also by the nation’s stakeholders such as government, civil society, private sector, and the communities.” Nanamnamin ko po iyan, nanamnamin po natin iyan. Ano po ang ibig ipakahulugan ng inyong sinabi ritong “Whole-of-Nation approach”? The security forces ay mayroon silang concept of what is development and security. At ito ang gusto nilang maging shared vision natin sa pamamagitan ng panukalang batas na ito. Kailangang kasama nila ang lahat ng stakeholders, government, civil society, private sector and the communities in this understanding of development and security. Iyon po ang nakakapangamba doon.

Sa pamamagitan po ng panukalang batas na ito ay ini-institutionalize po natin ang isang executive order na nagtataglay ng isang counterinsurgency framework at ipinapasok natin ang counterinsurgency framework

na dito sa isang panukalang batas na magki-create ng isang departamento—very innocent—but actually, you are now converting this Department into another counterinsurgency tool to suppress the rights of our people, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor.

REP. SALCEDA. At the appropriate time, this Sponsor will be willing to reconsider, so that the language will be more apropos, what is the spirit of the “Whole-of-Nation.”

REP. ZARATE. Well, thank you for that, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor, but again, iyon po ang nakakapangamba because that is already introduced here. There is a nuance in using that phrase “Whole-of-Nation” because that is really a counterinsurgency framework under Executive Order No. 70 which, at present, is an executive order na napakarami pong tinatamaan, lalong-lalo na sa paglabag sa mga karapatang pantao ng ating mga kababayan dahil ho sa pag-create nitong National Task Force to supposedly end local communist armed conflict. In the main, sila po ang naging dahilan sa tuloy-tuloy na pag-atake sa mga karapatan ng ating mamamayan. Well, pupunta po ako sa susunod na point and probably my other colleagues, who will interpellate later, will expound on this further.

Doon po sa panukalang batas ninyo, kung maalala ko po doon sa kasalukuyang batas, Republic Act No. 10181, ang isa pong pinakasentro na feature ng batas na iyon, ang creation ng Republic Act No. 10121, ay ang pagtatayo ng mga local DRRM Council kung saan ang mga kinatawan ng civil society organizations and private sector are represented. Iyan po ang isang feature ng Republic Act No. 10121. Ang napapansin ko po dito ay hayagan at explicitly na na-abolish ang mga local DRRM Council. Puwede po bang maipaliwanag ng ating kagalang-galang na Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, bakit po ang isang konseho kung saan ay mayroong partisipasyon ang ating mga mamamayan at mga civil society organizations and private sector, ay winalis at tinanggal sa kasalukuyang batas na ito, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor?

REP. SALCEDA. Well, Mr. Speaker, inilagay po, in replacement ng DRRMC bilang source po ng inputs from the other stakeholders of our society including NGOs, POs, iyong multisectoral o multi-stakeholders convergence units pero sa tingin ko, Mr. Speaker, ito ay maaaring i-replicate at a future time, Mr. Speaker, for the local government—iyong pong nasa provincial, city and municipal levels, Mr. Speaker. Maaari po iyong italaga po dito sa batas.

REP. ZARATE. Be that as it may, malinaw dito na tinanggalan, contrary to the statement, as the principles or policies laid down in this proposed Bill—in fact,

kung babalikan natin ang framework, ang sabi ninyo, this will be community-based, multisectoral pero iyong isang konseho na ginawa na nang batas ay tinanggal dito. Kaya po ang aking pagkakahulugan dito, ayaw natin, ayaw ng Sponsors o ng mga nagtutulak nito na maging aktibo ang mga civil society organizations sa usapin ng disaster management and disaster response, dahil gusto nating i-supplant—dahil nga ito ay isang counterinsurgency tool at nandiyan ang civil society organizations and the private sector at sila itong tinataguriang mga maingay, kini-question sa loob ng konseho ang mga patakaran na hindi, sa tingin nila, ay para sa interes ng mamamayan.

Alam ko po, G. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, noong kayo ay naging Gobernador ng probinsiya ng Albay, you are an advocate of this Local Disaster Council kaya ako ay nagtataka na kayo ay pumayag na tanggalin at walisin ito, dahil it empowers our people when we say and we argue that this Bill is really community-based as our people are, sila iyong pangunahing puwersa sa usapin man ng disaster o rehabilitasyon o sa usapin man ng epekto ng mga pagbabago ng klima, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

REP. SALCEDA. Tama po.

REP. ZARATE. Sumasang-ayon po kayo na mali itong ginawang pagwalis o pag-alis sa local councils?

REP. SALCEDA. In another name, Mr. Speaker, kasi tama po kayo na kailangan ang synergy with communities with various levels or hierarchy of local governments.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker. Napansin ko po rito, bilang token, pang consuelo de bobo ang sabi nga ng iba, inalis iyong Local Disaster Council at sabi rito ay magtayo nalang tayo ng isang Disaster Resilience Assembly which will meet once every quarter at the regional and provincial levels. Who will compose this DRA or Disaster Resilience Assembly, sino po ang kabahagi nito at ano ang papel nila? Ano talaga ang function nitong DRA, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SALCEDA. Unang-una, ito ay para mapag-usapan po at mahango o ma-mobilize ang ibang sources of ideas patungkol sa pagharap sa peligro. Pangalawa, sila po ay makakasama sa mismong aksiyon kung kailangan nating harapin ang peligro.

May I ask for a suspension of session, Mr. Speaker.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.).
The session is suspended.

It was 4:44 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:44 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.).
The session is resumed.

Honorable Salceda is recognized.

REP. SALCEDA. Base po sa page 34, Section 37, ang mga magiging miyembro po nito ay ang Union of Local Authorities in the Philippines (ULAP), League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP), League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP), CSOs, NGOs, the academe, DRRM practitioners and the private sector. Ang presumption po dito ay itatalaga sila upon nomination of the Department and they shall be appointed by the President.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker. Tama po kayo na mayroon ngang banggit na itong Disaster Resilience Assembly which will convene every quarter ay may usapin naman sa membership ng civil society organizations. Ang hindi po malinaw rito, with such an assembly, ano ba ang kaniyang poder or power? Ang assembly ba na ito ay parang isang meeting lang ng isang club kung saan nag-uusap-usap o mayroon ba itong policymaking powers? Hindi malinaw sa Section 37 on what is the role of this Disaster Resilience Agency and it just says that it will convene to ensure and foster coordination and collaboration in the implementation of this Act. As to how it will do that...

REP. SALCEDA. Kayang-kaya po iyan by IRR, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ZARATE. ...sa IRR nalang po natin iiwan pero walang...

REP. SALCEDA. The spirit, iyong spirit na nandiyan is that the LGUs may convene local DRAs within their jurisdiction, if necessary, for the attainment of disaster resilience at the local level. Kung sa Albay po ito, sigurado at automatic na una kong gagawin iyan para ipatupad ang batas.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. SALCEDA. Kasi hindi ko po kaya iyan nang mag-isa.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor. I hope na lalinawin ito dahil napaka-broad noong pagbanggit lang. Inalis natin iyong Local Disaster Council, bumuo lang tayo ng isang assembly na every quarter siguro ay magkikita-kita o mag-uusap-usap pero

kung ang napag-usapan dito ay saan ito papunta, ito ay hindi malinaw sa panukalang batas na ito. Unlike under RA 10121, malinaw ang powers, duties and functions of the Local Disaster Council. Iyan ang existing set-up ngayon kaya isang malaking katanungan kung bakit gusto nating walisin o alisin iyong set-up na iyan, na nakikita naman natin how effective it is in its implementation.

Now, on to my next point, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, napuna o nakita ko rin dito sa panukalang batas na ito na napakaraming broad powers are being granted to the Secretary and to the Department itself, but my other colleagues will expound on that in their interpellation. I will go directly to a related point. I have observed that there are provisions here that, to my interpretation, ang disaster po ay ginagawang negosyo—it is being commercialized and I will cite one example. Binanggit po rito sa Section 5(b), subparagraph (13) that the Department, in this Bill—“Designs and implements an incentive system for greater private and public investment, both at the local and national levels, on disaster risk reduction.” Puwede po bang maipaliwanag ng kagalang-galang na Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, ano ang ibig sabihin na bibigyan natin ng insentibo para sa mas malawak pang private investments sa usapin ng disaster preparedness at disaster rehabilitation, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. SALCEDA. Maraming bagay po. Bago mangyari, mayroon po tayong tinatawag na parametric insurance. Iyong nangyari pong paglindol sa Mindanao, agad-agad nakapagbigay ng P832 million na walang adjustment. Nito naman pong pagdaan ng bagyong Tisoy sa Albay, nakapag-release ng P242 million dahil sa parametric insurance. Ang nagpapatakbo nito ay ang private sector at ito po ang nag-a-absorb ng risk. Kung walang nangyaring bagyo, iyong ibinayad nating P2 billion ay kanila na subalit mas malaki po ang binayad nila sa atin. In short, puwede pong risk transfer or risk sharing.

Pangalawa, katulad po ng PDRF or Philippine Disaster Recovery Fund, puwede tayo makipag-partner para sa rehabilitasyon para magkaroon kaagad—alam naman po natin na ang private sector ay mas mabilis at hindi subject sa procurement rules ng national government—o sila po ay puwede mag-raise ng pera sa labas ng bansa na puwede nilang gamitin at ituturo naman natin na “huwag ka sa Polangui, doon ka sa Libon.” Mr. Speaker, ganoong klase po ang partnership at iyan po ang ibig sabihin nitong page 17 na inyong pong itinuturo.

REP. ZARATE. Salamat, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker. Tama po kayo at iyon nga ang aking nakita rito na ito po iyong incentivization—ang pag-incentivize sa disaster. In fact, ang kaakibat na probisyon diyan, nakita rin natin

sa Section 5(b), subparagraph (17), may nabanggit din na the Department is mandated to “establish and monitor national and local capacity for disaster risk financing and insurance and other risk transfer strategies” and so, ang operative phrase po diyan ay “insurance and risk transfer strategies.”

Finally, sinabi rin sa panukalang batas na ito that the DDR has the authority to require all government agencies, GOCCs and LGUs to insure their assets and/or properties and pay the premium of that insurance or the insurance. Sa tingin ko po o ang aking pananaw dito, talagang negosyo ito. Nakakita ng negosyo sa disaster at magiging masaya ang insurance business dito.

Maliban po sa magiging masaya ang insurance business, ang kahulugan nito, sa halip na i-capacitate natin ang ating, for example, local government units at community-based organizations, ang pondo po ng pamahalaan ay ilalagak sa pribadong sektor at pambayad ng premium dahil gusto natin i-transfer iyong risk. Iiwasan ng pamahalaan ang kaniyang responsibilidad sa panahon ng kalamidad o sa panahon ng epekto ng climate change, at ipapasa ito sa pribadong sektor.

Iyon po ang nakikita ng Kinatawang ito kaya big business ito. Ang panukalang batas na ito ay hindi lang nagki-create ng isang department, but it will also provide opportunities for business, especially sa tinatawag nating risk transfer strategies. Napakarami po nito and it is not just insurance dahil may reinsurance pa and many more related business, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

REP. SALCEDA. Kung kaya po ng GSIS, puwede natin italaga na sila na lang. Wala akong problema kung kaya ng GSIS subalit mukhang ang GSIS po, it is beyond its capacity to absorb risk kaya po tayo ay nagkakaroon ng tinatawag nating reinsurance o risk transfer modes.

Mr. Speaker, kung ano ang kaya sa ilalim, iyon ang ibibigay natin. Kung sa tingin ninyo ay mas mainam na doon iyon, suportahan lalo natin para iangat iyong kanilang kapasidad. In other words, it is based on the capacity and appropriateness of the strategy in terms of timeliness, in terms of their terrain knowledge, which is exactly the same. Hanggang umaakyat ka, halimbawa, sa insurance, puwede naman po tayo mag-pool ng mga insurance subalit hindi po ito kakayanin ng local government units natin kaya kailangan ang role o ang papel ng private sector at pati na ng national government.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker. Napakarami pa po ako sanang gustong linawin pero napakalimitado ng ating oras. Gusto ko lang pong isuma o marehistro ang punto na nakakapangamba sa panukalang batas na ito—ang pag-introduce natin sa isang konsepto na kabahagi ng

counterinsurgency concept, iyong Whole-of-Nation approach na sa kasalukuyan nga ay ang dahilan ng malawakang paglabag sa mga karapatang pantao ng ating mga mamamayan. Nagresulta ito sa pagpaslang ng napakarami nating kababayan, lalong-lalo na ang lider ng mga mahihirap na mga organisasyon ng mga magsasaka, ng indigenous peoples. Nagresulta ng displacement ang counterinsurgency concept na ito—displacement ng ating mga kapatid na lumad o mga katutubo; at nagresulta rin ito sa malawakang red-tagging, red-baiting and trumped-up charges against several individuals.

Sa likod nito, maliban pa po sa magiging counterinsurgency tool ito, ang panukalang batas na ito, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, ay isang tuntungan na naman para gawing negosyo kahit na ang disaster na nagdulot ng kapahamakan sa ating mga kababayan.

Salamat po, G. Isponsor, sa inyong paglilinaw sa ilang mga katanungan ng Kinatawag ito. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. SALCEDA. Salamat din po.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 5989

REP. AGLIPAY. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the consideration of House Bill No. 5989 on Second Reading.

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

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. AGLIPAY. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve Journal No. 39, dated February 4, 2020.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. AGLIPAY. Mr. Speaker, I move that we acknowledge the presence of the guests of our Speaker Alan Peter “Compañero” S. Cayetano. They are from the US Department of Treasury, namely: Bonnie Otting, Faith Bautista, Jin Sung, Gigi Bautista, former Cong. Maite Defensor and Marcus Asuncion; and from the US Comptroller of the Currency, Joseph Otting. (*Applause*)

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The presence of the guests of Speaker Alan Peter “Compañero” S. Cayetano is hereby acknowledged. Welcome to the House of Representatives. Palakpakan po natin sila ulit. (*Applause*)

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. AGLIPAY. Mr. Speaker, I move that we also acknowledge the presence of the guests of Hon. Josephine Veronique R. Lacson-Noel from the Lone District of Malabon. They are the City of Malabon University’s Tiger Shark men’s basketball varsity players, headed by their coach, Mr. Jayjay Balagtas.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Welcome to the House of the People. Palakpakan po natin ang guests ni Representative Lacson-Noel. (*Applause*)

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. AGLIPAY. Mr. Speaker, I move that we likewise acknowledge the guests of Hon. Godofredo N. Guya from the Party-List RECOBODA. They are Mrs. Edna Infante Guya, Fr. Jaime Jose, Ma. Cristina Guya Guzon, Tony Guzon and Benjie Beho.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The presence of the guests of Cong. Godofredo Guya is hereby acknowledged. Welcome to the House of the People. (*Applause*)

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 137

Continuation

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, under the Calendar of Unfinished Business, I move that we resume the consideration of House Bill No. 137, under Committee Report No. 154, as reported out by the Committee on Welfare of Children.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). 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. 137, entitled: AN ACT IMPOSING STIFFER PENALTIES FOR CHILD ABUSE, EXPLOITATION AND DISCRIMINATION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7610, AS AMENDED.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.).
The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, the parliamentary status of the Bill is that we are still in the period of sponsorship and debate. I move that the Sponsor of the Bill, Hon. Yedda K. Romualdez of TINGOG SINIRANGAN Party-List, be recognized.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.).
Cong. Yedda K. Romualdez is recognized.

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we resume the sponsorship and debate.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate on or speak against the measure, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

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

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize Hon. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo of the Lone District of Camiguin.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Dep. Majority Leader XJ Romualdo is recognized.

INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

REP. ROMUALDO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, we would like to propose the following individual amendments on House Bill No. 137, and I would like to start off with page 1.

The first is on lines 8 and 9, to delete the words “of *RECLUSION TEMPORAL* in its medium period” and in lieu thereof, to insert the words FROM FOURTEEN (14) YEARS, EIGHT (8) MONTHS AND ONE (1) DAY TO SEVENTEEN (17) YEARS AND FOUR (4) MONTHS.

REP. ROMUALDEZ (Y.). Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.).
Congresswoman Romualdez (Y.) is recognized.

REP. ROMUALDEZ (Y.). Mr. Speaker, this Representation poses no objection to the amendment proposed by Hon. XJ Romualdo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.).
The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve the amendment as proposed by Honorable Romualdo.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the amendment is approved.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, still on page 1, line 12, we propose to delete the words “*RECLUSION PERPETUA*” and in lieu thereof, to insert the words THIRTY (30) YEARS AND ONE (1) DAY TO FORTY (40) YEARS.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.).
The Sponsor is recognized.

REP. ROMUALDEZ (Y.). We accept, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.).
The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve the proposed amendment of Hon. XJ Romualdo.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the amendment is approved.

Dep. Majority Leader Romualdo is recognized.

REP. ROMUALDO. Still on page 1, Mr. Speaker, on lines 16 and 17, to delete the words “of *RECLUSION TEMPORAL* in its MAXIMUM period” and in lieu thereof, to insert the words FROM SEVENTEEN (17) YEARS, FOUR (4) MONTHS AND ONE (1) DAY TO TWENTY (20) YEARS.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mme. Sponsor please.

REP. ROMUALDEZ (Y.). We accept, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve the proposed amendment of Honorable Romualdo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the amendment is approved.

Congressman Romualdo, please continue.

REP. ROMUALDO. This time, Mr. Speaker, we are now on page 2. On lines 8 and 9, to delete the words “of *RECLUSION TEMPORAL* in its minimum period” and in lieu thereof, to insert the words FROM TWELVE (12) YEARS AND ONE DAY TO FOURTEEN (14) YEARS AND EIGHT (8) MONTHS.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mme. Sponsor, please.

REP. ROMUALDEZ (Y.). Mr. Speaker, this Representation is amenable to the amendment.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve the proposed amendment of Honorable Romualdo.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the amendment is approved.

Dep. Majority Leader Romualdo is recognized again.

REP. ROMUALDO. Still on page 2, Mr. Speaker, on lines 14 and 15, to delete the words “of *RECLUSION TEMPORAL* in its MEDIUM period” and in lieu thereof, to insert the words FROM FOURTEEN (14) YEARS, EIGHT (8) MONTHS AND ONE (1) DAY TO SEVENTEEN (17) YEARS AND FOUR (4) MONTHS.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mme. Sponsor.

REP. ROMUALDEZ (Y.). We accept, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we accept the proposed amendment of Honorable Romualdo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the amendment is approved.

Dep. Majority Leader Romualdo is recognized.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, still on page 2, on lines 23 and 24, to delete the words “of *prision mayor* in its MAXIMUM period” and in lieu thereof, to insert the words FROM TEN (10) YEARS AND ONE (1) DAY TO TWELVE (12) YEARS.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mme. Sponsor, please.

REP. ROMUALDEZ (Y.). We accept, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve the proposed amendment of Honorable Romualdo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the amendment is approved.

Congressman Romualdo is recognized.

REP. ROMUALDO. Still on page 2, Mr. Speaker, on lines 27 and 28, we propose to delete the words “*RECLUSION TEMPORAL* in its MEDIUM period” and in lieu thereof, to insert the words FROM FOURTEEN (14) YEARS, EIGHT (8) MONTHS AND ONE (1) DAY TO SEVENTEEN (17) YEARS AND FOUR (4) MONTHS.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.).
Mme. Sponsor, please.

REP. ROMUALDEZ (Y.). Mr. Speaker, we
accept.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.).
The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that
we approve the proposed amendment of Hon. XJ
Romualdo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is
there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none;
the amendment is approved.

Congressman Romualdo, please proceed.

REP. ROMUALDO. This time, Mr. Speaker, we
are on page 3. On line 3, to delete the words “of *prision
mayor* in its MAXIMUM period” and in lieu thereof, to
insert the words FROM TEN (10) YEARS AND ONE
(1) DAY TO TWELVE (12) YEARS.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.).
Mme. Sponsor, please.

REP. ROMUALDEZ (Y.). We accept, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.).
The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that
we approve the proposed amendment of Hon. XJ
Romualdo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is
there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none;
the amendment is approved.

Dep. Majority Leader Romualdo, please continue.

REP. ROMUALDO. Still on page 3, Mr. Speaker,
on lines 11, 12 and 13, to delete the words “of
RECLUSION TEMPORAL to *reclusion perpetua*” and
in lieu thereof, to insert the words FROM TWELVE
(12) YEARS AND ONE (1) DAY TO THIRTY (30)
YEARS.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.).
Mme. Sponsor, please.

REP. ROMUALDEZ (Y.). Mr. Speaker, this
Representation poses no objection.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.).
The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that
we approve the proposed amendment of Honorable
Romualdo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is
there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none;
the amendment is approved.

Congressman Romualdo, please proceed.

REP. ROMUALDO. We are now on page 5, Mr.
Speaker, and on lines 8 and 9, to delete the words “of
PRISION CORRECCIONAL in its MEDIUM period”
and in lieu thereof, to insert the words FROM TWO (2)
YEARS, FOUR (4) MONTHS AND ONE (1) DAY TO
FOUR (4) YEARS AND TWO (2) MONTHS.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.).
Mme. Sponsor, please.

REP. ROMUALDEZ (Y.). We accept, Mr.
Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.).
The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that
we approve the proposed amendment of Honorable
Romualdo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is
there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none;
the amendment is approved.

Congressman Romualdo, proceed please.

REP. ROMUALDO. For our last proposed
amendment, Mr. Speaker, still on page 5, we propose
to delete lines 25 and 26.

That is all, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.).
Mme. Sponsor, please.

REP. ROMUALDEZ (Y.). We accept, Mr.
Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.).
The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that
we approve the proposed amendments of Honorable
Romualdo.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is
there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none;
the amendments are approved.

REP. ROMUALDO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mme. Sponsor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROMUALDEZ (Y.). Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, there being no further individual amendment, I move that we close the period of amendments.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 137

REP. LACSON-NOEL. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the consideration of House Bill No. 137.

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

The consideration of House Bill No. 137 is hereby suspended.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. LACSON-NOEL. I move for a one-minute suspension of the session, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The session is suspended.

It was 5:09 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:09 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The session is resumed.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. DELOS SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I move that we acknowledge the presence of the guests of the honorable Majority Leader Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez and TINGOG SINIRANGAN Party-List

Rep. Yedda Marie K. Romualdez from the LGU of Lucban, Quezon, namely: Mayor Celso Olivier Dator; Barangay Captains—Kap. Godofredo Martinez, Kap. Edgardo Abustan, Kap. Willer Racelis, Kap. Josephine Juacalla, Kap. Fernando Raneses, Kap. Florencia Noceja, Kap. Francisco Oblefias, Kap. Alejandro Dahilig, Kap. Gilbert Ratio, Kap. Luis Dator, Kap. Sunday Alvarez, Kap. Marcelino Arquiza, Kap. Flaviano Dator, Kap. Romy Cada, Kap. Teodoro Villafior, Kap. Roselito Deapera, Kap. Nicomedes Oblea, Kap. Teodoro Villa Jr. and Kap. Filmore Hugo; and Councilors—Kon. Virgilio Oblea, Kon. Jun Ver, Kon. Andak Salvatierra, Kon. Enrique Buctil, Kon. Edmilo Dator, Kon. Edmilo Dator, Kon. Christine Macasero, Kon. Chaderick Baluchay, Kon. Ricardo De Vargas; Ms. Jesus Ella, Ms. Maria Lourdes Villega, Mark Salayo, Celit Ariola, Pedro Macasero, Jameel Bisagas and Mario Ilagan, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). To the guests of Majority Leader Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez and my kumadre, Cong. Yedda Romualdez, from the LGU of Lucban, Quezon, welcome to the House of Representatives. Palakpakan po natin. Malayo pa po ang pinanggalingan nila. (*Applause*)

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CHANGE OF REFERRAL OF CERTAIN MEASURES

REP. DELOS SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I move for the change of referral of the following measures:

1. House Bill No. 1257, creating the National Local Roads Development Bureau, from the Committee on Public Works and Highways to the Committees on Government Reorganization, and Public Works and Highways;

2. House Bill No. 4079, providing for the creation of the Pangasinan River control system, from the Committee on Public Works and Highways to the Committees on Government Reorganization, and Public Works and Highways;

3. House Bill No. 1481, creating the Solar Energy Development Authority, from the Committees on Government Reorganization, and Energy to the Committee on Energy; and

4. House Bill No. 1930, conferring the cadets of the Philippine National Police Academy the status of government employees and granting them with civil service eligibility and benefits and privileges, from the Committee on Civil Service and Professional Regulation to the Committee on Public Order and Safety.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 408

REP. DELOS SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Resolution No. 408, contained in Committee Report No. 62, as reported out by the Committee on Basic Education and Culture.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). 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 Resolution No. 408, entitled: A RESOLUTION URGING THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT TO PROMOTE THE SIMPLE ACT OF GRACEFULLY LAYING THE PALM OF THE RIGHT HAND OVER THE CENTER OF THE CHEST WITH A SIMULTANEOUS SLIGHT

HEADNODASACUSTOMARYFILIPINO GESTURE OF GOODWILL, PRAISE, AND RESPECT.

ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 408

REP. DELOS SANTOS. I move that we adopt House Resolution No. 408.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

House Resolution No. 408 is adopted.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. DELOS SANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I move to adjourn the session until February 10, Monday, at 3:00 p.m.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the session is adjourned until February 10, Monday at 3:00 p.m. next week.

It was 5:14 p.m.

* Copies of the bill were distributed to the members earlier. Section 53, Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives provides that “[a] bill or joint resolution on Second Reading shall be read in full unless copies thereof have been distributed to the Members.”