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No. 55

CALL TO ORDER

At 3:00 p.m., Speaker Alan Peter “Compañero” S. Cayetano called the session to order.

THE SPEAKER. The session is called to order. Please rise for the Invocation to be delivered by Rep. Florida “Rida” P. Robes of the Lone District of San Jose del Monte City.

Everybody rose for the Invocation.

INVOCATION

REP. ROBES. Let us all bow our heads for a prayer.

Dear Lord, Heavenly Father, we humbly gather here today—one in mind, spirit and compassion for our sworn duty to serve our nation.

Thank You, Dear Father, for giving us another opportunity to be of service to our countrymen.

Our Lord, despite some impediments, we are gathered here today to resume our session at the House of Representatives because this is our way of fulfilling our mandate to serve our people especially at this most difficult period in our country’s history.

More than 600 of our countrymen have perished due to the deadly virus and almost 10,000 are fighting for their lives. As the COVID-19 virus grips our country and the rest of the world, we beseech You to give us strength in both mind, body and spirit so that we may carry out and complete what You have prepared us to fulfill.

Despite the many limitations and challenges that we now face, we pray that You give us the necessary skill and grace to do Your will especially for those who are suffering and in dire need of help.

May You give us Your wisdom, grace and strength so that we may effectively carry out our responsibilities to craft meaningful and critical legislations to bring relief to our countrymen devastated by this deadly pandemic.

Dearest Lord, may You give us the strength to work tirelessly to untangle challenges and contentious issues

that hinder valuable programs for our people. Lord, may we be able to work together, despite our differences and opposing political persuasions, to uphold the welfare of our people, our communities and our country.

Let us not forget the phrase from Isaiah 41:10,

“Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”

Lord, we pray for our frontliners, health workers, local government workers, law enforcement agents, barangay workers, volunteers, food servers, grocery employees, farmers and fisherfolk, and all those who risk their lives and those of their families to serve us during this enhanced community quarantine. Please strengthen each and every one of them physically, emotionally and spiritually, so that they may continue to be our modern-day heroes in these trying times.

O, Dear Lord, thank You, Heavenly Father, for Your promise of wisdom to guide us. We ask You for it today. Please teach us the way we should go. You are our strength and our fortress.

This we ask in the Mighty Name of Jesus and Mama Mary. Amen.

THE SPEAKER. Amen.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE SPEAKER. Please remain standing for the singing of the Philippine National Anthem.

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

THE SPEAKER. The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROMUALDEZ (F.). The Speaker of the House of Representatives, Speaker Alan Peter Cayetano, will address the Body.

SPEECH OF SPEAKER CAYETANO

THE SPEAKER. Mankind was created in God's image. God created us to prosper us and not to harm us, to give us hope and a future. But our individual choices and the choices we make as a people determine our path. It is an uncertain and a very challenging time for humankind. Yet it is the best time for us individually and collectively here in the Philippines and the whole world to rethink our choices, to correct all those that need to be corrected by seeking the grace of God in His forgiveness, healing and renewal.

In these extraordinary times, people look up to Congress not just so that they can be represented, but also that we may provide answers and/or solutions. We are called upon to adopt, innovate and manage. We have to take aim towards very specific targets and that is what we have been doing kahit wala pong sesyon. I would like to thank Majority Leader Martin Romualdez and the DCC Committee. Tinarget ninyo po talaga iyong peace and order, social amelioration, economic stimulus and all the other aspects, including the health aspect of this crisis. So, let us aim, adopt, innovate and manage. That is why we call upon the Members of Congress that it is the time for us, more than ever, to lead by example. We apologize for the others who want to be at least in the complex with us, but the pandemic can get worse because of us. So, we have to be the first to do the social distancing and follow the WHO, the DOH and the IATF guidelines. Yet, we will not fail our people and with the help of technology, every single district and every single sector that has a party-list representation shall be represented and shall have a voice and vote during this May session that we will have.

In the next four weeks, we are called upon to provide answers and solutions, but we can provide the right answers and the correct solutions only if we correctly identify the problems and if we ask the right questions. So, let me repeat: one of the very difficult jobs of Congress in these next four weeks is discerning. Ano ba ang tamang tanong? Kasi kung mali iyong tanong ay mali din iyong sagot. Kung sasabihin lang natin, paano natin tutulungan, bibigyan ng subsidy ang negosyo kapag naka GCQ na or kapag na-lift na ito, pero kung kalahati na lang ang customers na puwedeng umupo sa restaurant na iyon or kung kalahati na lang ang puwedeng pumasok sa parlor na iyon, di ba? Or kung walang enough na trabahante na willing, sa mga highly urbanized cities na siksikan, magtrabaho sa construction? It is not asking the right questions. And so, we have to continue to ask the right questions so that we, together with the Executive, the local government officials, our scientists, our medical professionals and the whole country can come together to provide answers.

Congress has been working from day one of this crisis, yet the invisible enemy is so formidable that for every answer, there are more questions; and for every solution that we offer, more problems come about. This will be a Congress that will be remembered for asking the right questions, properly identifying problems and finding lasting and real solutions. We call on the whole government to work together and not against each other. That we agree that we will work together, not against each other. We have to agree that red tape, inefficiency and corruption have no place in serving our people, whether or not there is a crisis; but especially during this crisis, ang mabilis na aksyon at matapang na solusyon ang kailangan ng ating kababayan.

We gather here today to represent the Filipino people and to proclaim that, with the grace of the Almighty, we will succeed, we will defeat COVID-19, and we will pass the test. We gather to say that we refuse to fail, we refuse to be defeated by this disease and the consequences of fighting its spread, but let us make it clear that we will succeed only if we are together. We will pass the test only if we are one. In this crisis all around the world, there is no "you," there is no "I," there is no "them," there is no "us." It is either we succeed together or we fail together.

We fight as one. We pray as one. We heal as one. God bless the Philippines.

In the next four weeks, magtatrabaho po tayo and let us get the solutions.

Thank you, Majority Leader. *(Applause)*

REP. ROMUALDEZ (F.). Mr. Speaker, we will recognize the Gentleman from the ANAKALUSUGAN Party-List, Rep. Michael T. Defensor from Quezon City.

THE SPEAKER. Congressman Defensor is recognized for a manifestation.

REP. DEFENSOR (M.). Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, at the outset, binabati ko po kayo sa inyong binanggit. Iyong pananaw natin sa mga darating na panahon. But, Mr. Speaker, if you recall, noong March 23 po ay inaprubahan natin ang Bayanihan Act kung saan nagbigay kaagad tayo ng pondo sa ating gobyerno. Ang Pangulong Duterte, ni-release po niya kaagad ang pondo. Limang beses na po siyang lumabas sa telebisyon, nag-ulat sa bayan, at ipinakita niya na talagang ang pondo ay ibinigay kaagad sa tao.

Mr. Speaker, ang pinag-usapan ninyo po kanina ay iyong mga darating na panahon pero ang katanungan ko po ay iyong nakaraan at itong kasalukuyan. Marami pong nagrereklamo na hindi sila nakatanggap ng tulong. Marami po ang nagrereklamo na kulang ang tulong. Marami pa rin po ang nakapila at naghihintay ng suporta ng gobyerno, Mr. Speaker. Kailan lamang, si

Deputy Speaker Luis Raymund “Lray” F. Villafuerte Jr. ay nagsalita tungkol doon sa maraming na-stranded sa iba’t ibang lugar na kailangang ibalik sa kani-kanilang mga probinsya.

Binanggit ko ito, Mr. Speaker, again, following your line, “humanap tayo ng solusyon”. Ang takot ko, Mr. Speaker, ay kung magkaroon ng pangalawang yugto or second surge sa problemang COVID-19. Hindi na po natin puwedeng payagan, Mr. Speaker, iyong binanggit na “inefficiency” at iyong binanggit na problema na hindi nabibigyan kaagad ng tulong ang ating mga kababayan. Mr. Speaker, at the proper time, we hope that Congress can conduct an investigation. Habang ngayong nandito tayo, may panahon pa dahil mayroon pang nalalabing araw doon sa ECQ at sa GCQ, Mr. Speaker. Siguro, kailangan natin gawin iyong tamang batas at tamang polisiya na kapag nangyari po ulit ito, ay mabibigyan ng tamang suporta ang ating mga kababayan at iyong pondo ay aabot sa kanila at mapakikinabangan.

Inuulit ko, Mr. Speaker, na ginawa ng Pangulo ang kaniyang trabaho pero mukhang nagkaroon ng problema sa implementasyon ang mga ahensya ng gobyerno.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THE SPEAKER. The Chair joins the manifestation of the Representative from the ANAKALUSUGAN Party-List, Congressman Defensor. At the right time, we will take all actions. In fact, today, there will be privilege speeches and we ask the Representatives to speak out but as we criticize, we should also provide solutions.

So, thank you for that manifestation.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROMUALDEZ (F.). Yes. Mr. Speaker, as the Co-Chairman of the Defeat COVID-19 Committee and in the ad hoc meetings that we have been having, we would like to thank the Speaker for the trust and confidence na ibinigay niya sa akin. Simula noong na-form itong DCC, nagmi-meeting po kami araw-araw, informally, pero mahigit anim na technical working groups na ang naganap. Kung sinasabi ni Congressman Defensor iyong mga inefficiencies po, iyong hangarin po ng DCC technical working groups ay ibigay natin o mag-ulat at makipag-ugnayan sa ating mga kapwa government officials sa Executive Branch, sa lahat ng Cabinet officials at agencies, kung ano po ang mga hinaing, ang mga problema, at ang mga kinakaharap pa ng mga ating mga kababayan, ng mga kapwa nating mga Pilipino.

We are very grateful for the opportunity to have this DCC confer during this break. Sa totoo lang po, wala talagang break kasi lahat po ng mga Kongresista na umuwi sa mga sariling distrito, sila po ang nag-participate po dito sa ating DCC meetings via Zoom

conference at saka technical working group hearings. Nagpapasalamat din po tayong lahat sa mga ating mga kapwa government officials sa Executive, sina Secretary Carlos “Sonny” G. Dominguez po, Secretary Silvestre Bello III, Secretary Rolando Joselito D. Bautista at Secretary Francisco T. Duque—lahat po sila at saka iyong iba po, mga heads of agencies po, ay nakipag-ugnayan po sa atin. Sana po ay magkaisa tayo dito kasi itong mga sinasabing inefficiencies po ay sobra-sobra na talaga. Hindi na kaya po ng ating mga kababayan.

Kaya po we will still go ahead, and we will forge ahead with the mandate that the Speaker has given us in the DCC and we thank him for his direction, for his supervision, and for all his advice and his active participation. Lahat po, over 300 Congressmen, ay nagpa-participate araw-araw hindi lamang sa Viber thread, hindi lang sa Zoom, pero nagtatawagan talaga kami sa isa’t isa para malaman kung ano ang puwede talaga nating magawa para sa ating mga kababayan.

With that, Mr. Speaker, we join our fellow Congressman Mike Defensor in his concern in making sure that the policies that have been laid out by our President, as he had done his job, that this help should all trickle down expediently and efficiently to the benefit of the Filipino people, as our mandate is that the DCC will work with the Executive and all attached agencies, with all the LGUs, with all our men in uniform, and all the frontliners particularly our medical professionals so that we can win as one and we shall defeat this COVID-19 together as a Filipino people.

Maraming salamat, Mr. Speaker.

THE SPEAKER. On behalf of the Members of Congress, the Chair would like to, again, thank the Majority Leader. You have done a tremendously good job. Ang gaganda po ng recommendations. Let me assure our people that the handicap that COVID-19 gave us, katulad po na, physically, hindi nandito kung hindi nasa teleconferencing ang mga Miyembro ng Kongreso, we can turn that to our advantage. One, in our next few hearings, as we cannot bring all of the barangay captains, mayors or governors here and in fact, some of them would prefer not to leave their area given the crisis, but for an hour or two, and to help them, through teleconferencing, we will be able to reach out to more people. The same for the Members of Congress—many Members of Congress want to be here physically but they do not want to leave their sector or their geographic constituency precisely because they are needed there.

We will continue to do that and to support you, Majority Leader, at siguro po, may I recommend that maybe some time this week—at the latest, early next week—may we have on Zoom some of the frontliners in terms of the LGUs—the barangay captains, mayors and governors—so that we can discuss with them kung paano natin maiaayos iyong mga problema sa first

round ng social amelioration. Ganoon din po sa health if the health cluster would like to invite some of our doctors like former DOH secretaries and other medical frontliners sa Zoom, on how to sustain iyong kanilang pangangailangan during this time and how to prevent a second wave.

Again, thank you, Majority Leader.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ROMUALDEZ (F.). Mr. Speaker, we shall coordinate with the other Members—the cluster Co-Chairs of the DCC and we shall proceed accordingly.

Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the session for a few minutes.

THE SPEAKER. The session is suspended.

It was 3:18 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:25 p.m., the session was resumed with Deputy Speaker Dan S. Fernandez presiding.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

ROLL CALL

REP. ROMUALDEZ (F.). Mr. Speaker, I move that we call the roll of Members.

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

The Secretary General will please call the roll of Members.

*The Secretary General called the roll, and the result is reflected in Journal No. 55, dated May 4, 2020.**

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. Mr. Speaker, the roll call shows that 301 Members responded to the call.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Fernandez). With 301 Members in attendance, which includes the 25 Members physically present and 276 who are attending to the needs of their constituents and participating now via telecommunication and teleconferencing using online technology like Zoom and Facebook, text messaging and email, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. ROMUALDEZ (F.). Mr. Speaker, in line with the Speaker's policy, the Representatives who intend or desire to participate on the floor, with the limitation that we shall only have 25 Representatives on the floor, may submit their reservation as to their days of availability to attend the same to the Secretary General's office as well as the Rules Committee secretariat for proper processing so that they will be informed as to which days they shall be attending physically on the floor. The rest, as I will presume, will be able to attend via the Zoom platform and register their attendance via Viber or text and other electronic means possible, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Fernandez). There is a motion by the Majority Leader.

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

REP. ROMUALDEZ (F.). Mr. Speaker, in order for the House of Representatives to continue with the unhampered performance of its constitutional mandate amidst the COVID-19 pandemic and with due consideration of the health and safety of its Members, employees and guests, with leave of the House, I move that we allow the Members to register their attendance, participate and vote on any matter presented to the Body through telecommunication and/or other online messaging and email by using their respective contact numbers and/or accounts preregistered by the Members and verified by the Secretary General.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Fernandez). There is a motion.

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

REP. ROMUALDEZ (F.). Mr. Speaker, in line with the policy that we have earlier adopted, I move that we authorize all committees to conduct meetings through online technologies, subject to the internal rules of procedure that may be implemented by these committees for the duration of the COVID-19 threat.

Mr. Speaker, I so move.

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

Mr. Majority Leader, please.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. ROMUALDEZ (F.). Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve Journal No. 53 of the session dated March 10, 2020.

* See ANNEX (printed separately)

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

REP. ROMUALDEZ (F.). Mr. Speaker, I move that we proceed to the Reference of Business.

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

The Secretary General will please read the Reference of Business.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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. 6557, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE MT. PULAG PROTECTED LANDSCAPE IN SOME PORTIONS OF THE MUNICIPALITIES OF KABAYAN, BOKOD AND BUGUIAS, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF BENGUET; PORTIONS OF TINOC, IFUGAO; AND KAYAPA, NUEVA VIZCAYA AS A PROTECTED AREA UNDER THE CATEGORY OF PROTECTED LANDSCAPE PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Chungalao
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 6559, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO NORTHERN MINDANAO BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8157 ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING THE NORTHERN MINDANAO BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE ISLAND OF MINDANAO, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES’ ”

By Representative Pimentel
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 6560, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING A STANDARD OF CARE FOR THE TREATMENT OF PERSONS WITH BLEEDING DISORDERS, ESTABLISHING TREATMENT CENTERS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Gaité and Zarate
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 6561, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING MANDATORY GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR TRIPLETS, QUADRUPLETS AND OTHER HIGHER ORDER MULTIPLE BIRTHS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Gaité and Zarate
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 6562, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE APPOINTMENT OF BARANGAY HEALTH WORKERS, PROVIDING FOR THEIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES, COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

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

House Bill No. 6564, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING LAND, AIR, AND SEA TRANSPORT PROVIDERS TO PROVIDE PRIORITY SEATING FOR THE ELDERLY, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NOS. 9257 AND 9994, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS ACT OF 2010”

By Representative Sy-Alvarado
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS

House Bill No. 6565, entitled:

“AN ACT TRANSFERRING THE POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE INSURANCE COMMISSION TO THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS AND FURTHER STRENGTHENING THE INSURANCE INDUSTRY, AMENDING SECTIONS 2, 77, 189, 193, 200, 201, 202, 204 TO 207, 219, 221, AND 441 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10607, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE INSURANCE CODE, AS AMENDED BY

PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NOS. 612, 1141, 1280, 1455, 1460, 1814, AND 1981, AND BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 874, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Sy-Alvarado
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

House Bill No. 6566, entitled:

“AN ACT DEVELOPING THE TIKOG INDUSTRY, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE BANIG SUBSIDY FUND AND THE TIKOG RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER, AND DECLARING THE MUNICIPALITY OF BASEY IN THE PROVINCE OF SAMAR AS THE BANIG CAPITAL OF THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Tan (Sharee)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 6571, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO SOUNDSTREAM BROADCASTING CORPORATION TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES IN THE PROVINCE OF ISABELA AND IN OTHER PLACES IN THE PHILIPPINES UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8209 FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS”

By Representative Garcia (Pablo John)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 6572, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CAMPUS OF THE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES (PUP) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CABIAO, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA, TO BE KNOWN AS THE PUP-CABIAO CAMPUS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Natividad-Nagaño
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 6573, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE EDUCATION AND LICENSURE OF PHYSICIANS AND THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE IN THE PHILIPPINES, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 2382, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Natividad-Nagaño
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 6574, entitled:

“AN ACT INTEGRATING MANDATORY SWIMMING AND SURVIVAL LESSONS AND WATER SAFETY IN K-12 BASIC EDUCATION CURRICULUM”

By Representatives Lusotan and Uy (Rolando)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 6575, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Garin (Sharon)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 6576, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE KAPURPURAWAN ROCK FORMATION IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BURGOS, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE, AS A TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Fariñas (Ria) and Fariñas (Rudys Caesar)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 6577, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE SINKING BELL TOWER IN THE CITY OF LAOAG, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS NORTE, AS A TOURIST DESTINATION, PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Fariñas (Ria) and Fariñas (Rudys Caesar)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 6578, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE LAMON BAY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, DEFINING ITS POWERS, FUNCTIONS, AND DUTIES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Tan (Angelina)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 6579, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A NATIONAL POLICY ON ADOLESCENT PREGNANCY

INCLUDING ITS PREVENTION AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF”

By Representative Fortun
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

House Bill No. 6580, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO MUSLIM MINDANAO RADIO AND TELEVISION NETWORK CORPORATION TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE MINDANAO ARCHIPELAGO”

By Representative Robes
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 6581, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROAD STRETCHING FROM SITIO BOLIGANAY, BARANGAY PANIQUE, MUNICIPALITY OF ODIONGAN TO SITIO KABALIWAN, BARANGAY BACHAWAN, MUNICIPALITY OF SAN AGUSTIN, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF ROMBLON INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Madrona
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 6582, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE SABLAYAN-AGPANABAT-BAGACAY ROAD, A SECTION OF THE ROMBLON CIRCUMFERENTIAL ROAD INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Madrona
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 6583, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE SAWANG-MACALAS ROAD IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ROMBLON, PROVINCE OF ROMBLON, INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Madrona
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 6584, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROAD

STRETCHING FROM BARANGAY TUGUIS, MUNICIPALITY OF ODIONGAN TO BARANGAY TUGDAN, MUNICIPALITY OF ALCANTARA, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF ROMBLON, INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Madrona
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 6586, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR STANDARDS FOR THE PRACTICE OF REHABILITATION MEDICINE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Lacson-Noel
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 6587, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE CITY OF MALABON IN THE METROPOLITAN MANILA A CULTURAL HERITAGE ZONE”

By Representative Lacson-Noel
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 6588, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTING THE MAGNA CARTA OF FILIPINO SEAFARERS”

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

House Bill No. 6592, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE FINAL FORESTLAND BOUNDARY OF THE PROVINCE OF SIKUIJOR”

By Representative Villa
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 6600, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY BASE CAMP, MUNICIPALITY OF MARAMAG, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON TO BE KNOWN AS BASE CAMP NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Zubiri
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 6601, entitled:
“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY POBLACION, MUNICIPALITY OF KADINGILAN, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON TO BE KNOWN AS POBLACION NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Zubiri
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 6602, entitled:
“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY POBLACION, MUNICIPALITY OF KIBAWA, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON TO BE KNOWN AS POBLACION NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Zubiri
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 6603, entitled:
“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PROTECTION OF FINANCIAL CONSUMERS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Legarda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

House Bill No. 6604, entitled:
“AN ACT TO PROMOTE THE MANUFACTURE, ASSEMBLY, IMPORTATION, SALE, DISTRIBUTION, USE AND DEVELOPMENT OF HYBRID AND ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLES BY GRANTING TAX EXEMPTIONS AND PROVIDING INCENTIVES THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Legarda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 6605, entitled:
“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE DISTRICT BRANCH IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PANDAN, PROVINCE OF ANTIQUE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Legarda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 6606, entitled:
“AN ACT APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF

THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY BILLION (P370,000,000,000) FOR THE 2020 FISCAL STIMULUS PACKAGE TO ADDRESS THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF COVID-19”

By Representative Quimbo
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6607, entitled:
“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE CONDITIONAL MATCHING GRANT TO PROVINCES (CMGP) FOR ROAD AND BRIDGE REPAIR, REHABILITATION, AND IMPROVEMENT” By Representative Yap (Victor)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 6608, entitled:
“AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO PRIME BROADCASTING NETWORK INCORPORATED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8154, ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING PRIME BROADCASTING NETWORK, INCORPORATED, A FRANCHISE TO CONDUCT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN STATIONS FOR RADIO AND TELEVISION IN THE PHILIPPINES’ “ By Representative Salo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 6609, entitled:
“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO RC YULO TELEPHONE SYSTEM INC., UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8348 ENTITLED ‘AN ACT GRANTING THE RC YULO TELEPHONE SYSTEM INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN LOCAL EXCHANGE NETWORKS IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF BINALBAGAN, HINIGARAN, PONTEVEDRA, ISABELA, MURCIA AND THE CITY OF HIMAMAYLAN IN THE PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL’ “

By Representative Rivera
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 6611, entitled:
“AN ACT GRANTING TAX INCENTIVES TO

PRIVATE ENTITIES WHO EMPLOY SENIOR CITIZENS AS EMPLOYEES, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7432, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'AN ACT TO MAXIMIZE THE CONTRIBUTION OF SENIOR CITIZENS TO NATION BUILDING, GRANT BENEFITS AND SPECIAL PRIVILEGES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES' "

By Representative Quimbo
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SENIOR CITIZENS

House Bill No. 6612, entitled:

"AN ACT APPROPRIATING THE AMOUNT OF TEN BILLION PESOS TO FUND AN EMERGENCY TOURISM STIMULUS PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF COVID-19 IN THE TOURISM SECTOR"

By Representative Rodriguez
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6613, entitled:

"AN ACT APPROPRIATING THE AMOUNT OF THREE BILLION PESOS TO FUND AN EMERGENCY EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF COVID-19 ON THE EMPLOYMENT SECTOR"

By Representative Rodriguez
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6614, entitled:

"AN ACT APPROPRIATING THE AMOUNT OF TEN BILLION PESOS TO FUND AN EMERGENCY BUSINESS STIMULUS PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF COVID-19 ON THE BUSINESS SECTOR"

By Representative Rodriguez
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6615, entitled:

"AN ACT REAPPORTIONING THE PROVINCE OF BENGUET INTO TWO (2) LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS"

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

House Bill No. 6617, entitled:

"AN ACT MANDATING A THIRTY-DAY NATIONAL PAYMENT HOLIDAY DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) GLOBAL PANDEMIC"

By Representative Castelo
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6618, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EPIDEMICS AND/OR PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS PLAN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES THEREOF"

By Representative Sy-Alvarado
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6619, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING A NATIONAL STIMULUS STRATEGY TO RESTORE ECONOMIC GROWTH AND EMPLOYMENT, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

By Representative Salceda
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6620, entitled:

"AN ACT PROVIDING EMERGENCY FOOD SUBSIDY TO EVERY POOR FILIPINO FAMILY AFFECTED BY THE ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF"

By Representative Legarda
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6621, entitled:

"AN ACT MANDATING A MORATORIUM OF FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS UNDER STATE OF CALAMITY"

By Representative Herrera-Dy
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6622, entitled:

"THE PHILIPPINE BANKING INDUSTRY RESILIENCY ACT AGAINST COVID-19 PANDEMIC"

By Representative Cua
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6623, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING POLICIES AND

REGULATIONS FOR THE NEW NORMAL FOR THE WORKPLACE AND PUBLIC SPACES AND INSTITUTING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF”

By Representatives Cayetano (Alan Peter), Villafuerte, Duterte, Legarda, Romualdez (Ferdinand), Yap (Eric), Cayetano (Maria Laarni), Defensor (Michael) and Sy-Alvarado
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 *AD HOC* COMMITTEE

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 785, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON ENERGY TO IMMEDIATELY CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION IN AID OF LEGISLATION INTO THE STATUS OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRICITY IN ILOILO CITY TO ENSURE THAT POWER DISTRIBUTION WILL NOT CEASE AND THAT THE PEOPLE OF ILOILO CITY WILL NOT BE AFFECTED”

By Representative Lagon
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 786, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE LIBERALIZATION OF FERTILIZER IMPORTATION AS PART OF THE EFFORTS IN CONTINUING TO CUT THE COST OF PRODUCING RICE IN THE COUNTRY”

By Representative Violago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 788, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO PROVIDE SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS DURING THEIR MEDIA BRIEFINGS ON COVID-19 TO CATER TO THE DEAF COMMUNITY IN THE COUNTRY”

By Representative Crisologo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Resolution No. 790, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE PROPOSED WATERGAGE INCREASE OF ZAMBOANGA CITY WATER DISTRICT”

By Representative Jimenez
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House Resolution No. 791, entitled:

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By Representative Pacquiao (Rogelio)
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON EAST ASEAN GROWTH AREA

House Resolution No. 792, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEMISE OF ADORACION VILLANUEVA”

By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 793, entitled:

“RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE 100 YEARS OF PHILIPPINE CINEMA”

By Representative Legarda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

House Resolution No. 794, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE TO LOOK INTO THE INTEGRATION OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY CONCEPT INTO THE COUNTRY’S LOW-EMISSIONS DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND THE MINIMIZATION OF WASTE GENERATION THROUGH PREVENTION, REDUCTION, RECYCLING AND REUSE TOWARDS ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY AND A CLEAN AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT”

By Representative Legarda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 795, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THROUGH THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS, TO

CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE RECENT ATTACKS AGAINST LUMAD SCHOOLS IN MINDANAO”

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

House Resolution No. 796, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION INTO THE PRESENT STATE OF THE COUNTRY’S QUALITY OF EDUCATION TO PROMOTE AND MAINTAIN LITERACY”

By Representative Escudero
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 797, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO EXCLUDE PRIVATELY USED TRICYCLES AND TRICABS FROM THE COVERAGE OF DILG MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR 2020-036 WHICH, IN PART, BANS TRICYCLES AND PEDICABS FROM NATIONAL HIGHWAYS”

By Representative Rodriguez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Resolution No. 798, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON GOOD GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGED ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES OF UNSCRUPULOUS TRADERS AND ALLEGED CONSIGNEES-FOR-HIRE TO EVADE THE RIGHTFUL PAYMENT OF IMPORT TAXES TO THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT”

By Representative Ong (Ronnie)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 801, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL AND PRIVATE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TO GRANT AND EXTEND AVAILABLE CREDITS TO SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS, SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS AND FARMERS TO REDUCE THE EFFECT OF THE RESTRICTED MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE AND GOODS DUE TO CORONAVIRUS

DISEASE (COVID-19) OUTBREAK WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION 992, s. 2020, DECLARING A STATE OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY ALL OVER THE PHILIPPINES AND THE PASSAGE OF R.A. 11469 KNOWN AS BAYANIHAN TO HEAL AS ONE ACT”

By Representative Sakaluran
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

COMMUNICATIONS

Copy of the Civil Service Reporter (Volume 60 No. 4 – 4th Quarter 2019 Issue) published by the Civil Service Commission.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

Letter dated December 31, 2019 of Cynthia M. Evasco, Supervising Auditor and Ameer S. Kamama, Audit Team Leader, Office of the Auditor, Commission on Audit, addressed to Dr. Editha V. Pillo, President, Eulogio “Amang” Rodriguez Institute of Science and Technology (EARIST), Manila, furnishing the House of Representatives a copy of the Statement of Audit Suspensions, Disallowances, and Charges (SASDC) of EARIST for the period ending December 31, 2019.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

AKG Annual Journal 2019 of the Philippine National Police–Anti-Kidnapping Group.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY

Letter dated 29 January 2020 of Sheriff M. Abas, Chairman, Commission on Elections, submitting to the House of Representatives a copy of the Report to the President and Congress of the Republic of the Philippines on the May 13, 2019 National and Local Elections.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Committee on Poverty Alleviation (Committee Report No. 294), re H.B. No. 6593, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING POOR JOB APPLICANTS A 20% DISCOUNT IN THE PAYMENT OF FEES AND CHARGES FOR CERTAIN CERTIFICATES AND CLEARANCES ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 4829

Sponsors: Representatives Malapitan, Maceda, Martinez, Nieto and Valeriano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education (Committee Report No. 295), re H.B. No. 6595, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE INCLUSION OF A FOREIGN LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH, AS AN ELECTIVE COURSE IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION CURRICULUM”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 2986

Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark) and Castelo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education (Committee Report No. 296), re H.B. No. 6596, entitled:

“AN ACT RENAMING THE COMPOSTELA VALLEY STATE COLLEGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF COMPOSTELA, PROVINCE OF COMPOSTELA VALLEY TO THE DAVAO DE ORO STATE COLLEGE”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 5751

Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark) and Zamora (Way Kurat)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 297), re H.B. No. 6597, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF DAPA, SIARGAO ISLAND, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE, TO BE KNOWN AS THE SIARGAO, SURIGAO DEL NORTE TESDA TRAINING AND ASSESSMENT CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 2228

Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark), Yap (Eric) and Matugas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education (Committee Report No. 298), re H.R. No. 789, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING

AND COMMENDING ALDREAN PAUL ELVIRA ALOGON FOR BEING AWARDED THE PRESTIGIOUS FREEMAN ASIAN SCHOLARSHIP AT THE WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY IN CONNECTICUT, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA”

recommending its adoption in substitution of House Resolution No. 297

Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark) and Lagon
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Local Government (Committee Report No. 299), re H.B. No. 6598, entitled:

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

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 5077

Sponsors: Representatives Villanueva (Noel) and Ermita-Buhain
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on People’s Participation (Committee Report No. 300), re H.B. No. 6599, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK FOR CITIZENS PARTICIPATION IN LEGISLATIVE POLICY MAKING THROUGH THE USE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY PLATFORMS”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 1677 and 3238

Sponsors: Representatives Villafuerte, Robes and Vergara
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Overseas Workers Affairs (Committee Report No. 301), re H.B. No. 6610, entitled:

“AN ACT EXPANDING THE USE OF THE LEGAL ASSISTANCE FUND, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 26 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8042, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘MIGRANT WORKERS AND OVERSEAS FILIPINOS ACT OF 1995,’ AS AMENDED” recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 1812

and 5097 Sponsor: Representative Mendoza
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

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

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker.

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

PRIVILEGE HOUR

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, today being a Monday, and pursuant to our rules, I move that we open the Privilege Hour.

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

The Chair declares the Privilege Hour open.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the first to avail of the Privilege Hour is Hon. Michael Edgar Y. Aglipay of the Party-List DIWA.

Mr. Speaker, I move we recognize the Gentleman from the Party-List DIWA, Honorable Aglipay.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Fernandez). Rep. Michael Aglipay is recognized.

Please proceed.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. AGLIPAY

REP. AGLIPAY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues in Congress, it is a pleasure to join you once again in session. I pray that all of you and your families are well in this time of COVID-19.

We are in a state of public health emergency. We know this because our President declared such last March 8, 2020, coinciding with the declaration of the global pandemic due to COVID-19 made by the World Health Organization. Since then, the national government has implemented the enhanced community quarantine and various LGUs have executed versions and variations of these measures. We are in a state of public health emergency because if the spread of COVID-19 is not effectively contained, it would flood our public health system and cause its collapse. We are lucky though, blessed perhaps, that so far, the measures taken by our government and the selfless work put in by the healthcare frontliners, our new heroes, have allowed the Philippines to be successful in controlling the outbreak relative to countries in Europe and the United States. As of May 3, 2020, we have 9,223 cases or around 84 COVID cases for every one million Filipinos, while in Europe and the US, the range runs from 3,000 to 5,000 cases for every one million population.

We are in a state of public health emergency. In the perspective of this Representation, it is not only

because the WHO or our President said so, but because this pandemic has opened the eyes of many on how vulnerable our public health system truly is.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Fernandez relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Raneo "Ranie" E. Abu.

In particular, the service delivery aspect of our system, which deals with public health facilities and health human resources that come with it, has been of great concern throughout our fight against COVID-19. The question of testing centers and capabilities resonated for quite some time, so did the number of hospitals that declared their inability to receive more patients due to full capacity.

We are in a state of public health emergency, and this Representation believes that long after this pandemic is placed under control, our public health facilities would remain to be a great concern. I remember, my colleagues, long before COVID-19 came, six years ago to be exact, I had the unfortunate experience of bringing a household helper to a government hospital, only to be turned away due to overcapacity. We inquired in two more public hospitals but the same thing happened—we were turned away. It did not matter that our patient was in excruciating pain and was pale all over; if it were not yet a life-or-death situation, they would not entertain us. We finally brought her to a private facility where she received treatment. It was appendicitis. At that point, I asked myself, “Ganito na ba talaga ang government hospitals sa atin, hindi ka na papansinin kung hindi life-or-death situation?”

The memory of this experience came back when I read the story of Arnel Bocco last April 2. He was a father who expired due to a heart attack, but was suspected also of having COVID-19. His children narrated how they were turned down in hospitals that they went to due to the lack of capacity, up until Mr. Bocco met his death. More recently, last April 25, we read the story of Kathy Bulatao who died of complications from childbirth after being refused by six hospitals. This is nothing short of heartbreaking.

The stories of my household helper six years ago, and those of Mr. Bocco and Ms. Bulatao in this time of COVID-19 all happened here in the National Capital Region, the region with the highest density of health facilities per capita and yet several facilities run on full capacity almost everyday, thus, turning down patients even in life-or-death situations.

We are in a state of public health emergency, and the scary thought that has remained in my mind is this: What if the COVID-19 outbreak happened outside NCR? Or what if a new epidemic breaks out in any of our provinces? Are they even ready for this?

Let us look at the numbers as of May 1, 2020. Region IV-A, Calabarzon, which is very close to NCR and home to many workers and students who commute daily to Metro Manila, has 959 active cases. These are confirmed cases, less recoveries and less deaths. So, God forbid, if a new wave breaks out there with an infection rate doubling at three days which we experienced in Metro Manila in early April, that would mean that by May 13, their cases would reach 15,344. According to our DOH numbers, there are only 12,428 hospital beds in Region IV-A in both private and public hospitals.

What if this simulation happens in Central Luzon which has 323 active cases as of May 1? Again, God forbid, if an outbreak exploded there they would be looking at 10,366 cases by the 16th of May and yet, there are only 9,930 hospital beds in Region III.

Let us look a bit farther to Central Visayas. They have 746 active cases as of May 1. If we apply the same simulation, these cases may grow to 6,000 in 10 days, while the number of hospital beds in Central Visayas is only roughly 6,436.

Mr. Speaker, this august halls have seen landmark legislation in the past nine years addressing our public health system. Most notable perhaps was the signing of Republic Act No. 11223 or the Universal Healthcare Act barely two years ago. We have high hopes that this law would indeed bring the healthcare system to a level where every Filipino has unimpeded access to healthcare services and facilities. The Sin Tax Reform Act, the Reproductive Health Care Act, and the Expanded Senior Citizens Law, among others, also stand out as key pieces of legislation leading up to a true enhancement of our public healthcare system.

My plea is that we do not take our eyes off the ball. While these laws need time for implementation and execution, let us keep our sights open as to how we can make sure that relevant and timely reforms are still legislated to support these existing laws and respond to our most urgent needs. For one, let us not look far from the emerging urgency in improving our public health service delivery. Even without the COVID-19 pandemic, our vulnerabilities have already been exposed by studies and researches in the past. For instance, there is a PCIJ research which reveals that the ratio of government health service facilities to population is very alarming. There is only one government hospital for every 230,000 Filipinos. There is only one government hospital bed for every 47,000 Filipinos. There is only one government physician for every 14,000 Filipinos.

Our National Objectives for Health report, as published by the DOH, showed that our hospital beds per capita have not increased for the period 2008 to 2016. We had 1.04 hospital beds per 1,000 Filipinos in 2008, and we still have one hospital bed per 1,000 Filipinos in 2016. Data from the World Bank further

revealed that these hospital beds per capita ratio ranks us as 152nd in the world. We are even behind neighboring Southeast Asian countries with comparable economies like Indonesia and Thailand; Indonesia has 1.2 hospital beds per 1,000 while Thailand has 2 hospital beds per 1,000. Further, these hospital beds are concentrated in the National Capital Region, thus, highlighting the uneven distribution of service delivery facilities in the country. DOH data showed that almost one-third of the total number of hospital beds are in the National Capital Region. Mindanao has only 0.83 beds per 1,000 persons while Visayas, even less at 0.78 beds per 1,000 persons.

Despite the higher density of government hospital beds in the NCR, they are still highly overutilized. The DOH-HSFRB reports in 2010 and 2012 told us that DOH-managed centers or Level III hospitals had a bed capacity of 128 percent in 2012. That means that one in out of every four beds were shared by two patients. No wonder the experience I narrated earlier on hospitals turning away patients due to full capacity is not isolated. Our very own government Level III hospitals are running overcapacity. The diagnostic imaging equipment, which typically is available in Level III hospitals and medical centers, is also lacking in regions outside the NCR. Compared to other ASEAN countries, the Philippines also has a low density of CT scan and mammography equipment. Compared to our ASEAN neighbors, it may be acceptable that wealthier countries like Singapore, Brunei and Malaysia are ahead of us, but Thailand, which is very comparable to the Philippines in terms of size and economy, has six times more CT scan equipment per one million population than the Philippines.

Of course, facilities would be meaningless without the necessary human resources for health: doctors, nurses and other healthcare workers. As of 2017, the Philippine Health System Review published by the World Health Organization revealed that we have 3.09 doctors, 8.6 nurses, 4.1 midwives, and 1.3 medical technologists for every 10,000 Filipinos. The ratio of 12.7 nurses and midwives for every 10,000 Filipinos is just about the same with Indonesia and Vietnam, but again way below Thailand which has 20.8 nurses and midwives for every 10,000 citizens. Despite this, the Philippines ranks as the No. 1 source country for the deployment of nurses to foreign countries in the world, and the No. 6 source country for deploying doctors. This means that we have overworked nurses and midwives in our country not because our supply is lacking, but because we cannot keep the supply within this country. I reckon that the opportunities are simply not compelling enough for them to stay.

The report by the OECD/WHO entitled, *Health at a Glance: Asia/Pacific 2018, Measuring Progress towards Universal Health Coverage*, gave an insightful

look into where we stand as a country compared to our neighbors. The two figures here, found in the report's section on inequities to health access, showed that of the women in the Philippines surveyed, up to 60 percent reported problems accessing care due to financial reasons. Compare this with Indonesia with less than 30 percent who reported the same, and it appears that we have been truly left behind. In terms of women who reported problems accessing health care due to distance or geographic location, about 40 percent of Filipino women in rural areas reported difficulty while less than 20 percent in Indonesia reported the same. On the other hand, both figures showed that the inequity in access experienced here in the Philippines is comparable to smaller countries like Cambodia, Nepal and Pakistan, all of which have lower GDP per capita than the Philippines.

Mr. Speaker, there is an emerging urgency to improve our public health service delivery. This is the time to expedite the process for improving the capacity and capability of our public health facilities. This is the time to develop premier hospitals, even at least among our DOH hospitals, and strategically locate them, provide them with a full complement of physicians—both generalists and specialists—and ensure their potential for expansion with flexibilities that would meet the requirements of emerging health needs.

I once thought—would it not be good if each of our 17 regions actually have at least one DOH regional hospital that, we can say, is in the same level of quality as that of private medical centers in the National Capital Region? Or would it not be good if the islands of Visayas and Mindanao would also experience the availability of services from specialty hospitals such as the Lung Center, Heart Center, or the National Kidney and Transplant Institute? After all, it will soon be 40 years since we have seen any government hospital newly built in the caliber of these specialty hospitals.

House Bill No. 269, entitled: AN ACT TO INSTITUTIONALIZE A STANDARD UPGRADE AND MODERNIZATION OF REGIONAL HOSPITALS TO CREATE AND ESTABLISH REGIONAL CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR HEALTH CARE, which I authored and filed in Congress last July 1, touches on the upgrade and enhancement of DOH regional hospitals and the provision of doctors and medical specialists for each hospital. This provides an outline of standards that a number of our regional hospitals should achieve within the next five years. New regional hospitals that will be built should attain these so as to reach the caliber of service delivery that our people in regions all over the country deserve.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, my esteemed colleagues, as I enjoin you to highly consider this emerging need for a service delivery upgrade, let us keep in mind

that it is not all about budget allocation. Funding alone does not necessarily lead to success. Philippine Statistics Authority data show us that the HFEP or Health Facilities Enhancement Program budget of the DOH has grown exponentially from 2007 to 2016, but the actual number of hospital infrastructure projects implemented from 2010 to 2015, particularly for the DOH, the DOH-retained and provincial hospitals, remained a flat curve.

This shows us that the absorptive capacity of the implementing department is very low and a more comprehensive execution program and perhaps more empowering legislation is needed.

For this reason, in House Bill No. 269, I proposed the creation of the Regional Hospital Modernization Commission that would be attached to the DOH but composed of various stakeholders in the industry. Even before the COVID-19, we already knew that the DOH is spread thinly given the matters on their plate, and it is best to form a commission that will take on the execution of this proposed modernization program. Finally, ladies and gentlemen, allow me to reiterate that there is an emerging urgency to improve our public health service delivery, first through facilities upgrade, modernization or construction; and relative to it, through a strategic talent management of human resources for health. If we believe in the saying that “health is wealth”, then let us not allow our country to further slide down in poverty due to poor public health service delivery. The COVID-19 pandemic, for all its problems and difficulties, has brought us all together as a nation to heal as one. Let us continue on this path, and as one, I urge you to work with us in solving the issues of a fragmented health service delivery system, the inequities in the access to health facilities and the inadequacy and maldistribution of health personnel.

Maraming salamat po.

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

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, to interpellate Honorable Aglipay, I move that we recognize Hon. “Kuya” Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Honorable Sy-Alvarado is recognized to interpellate the good Gentleman, Honorable Aglipay.

REP. SY-ALVARADO. Maraming salamat po, Mr. Speaker. Will the good Gentleman from DIWA Party-List yield to some questions?

REP. AGLIPAY. Gladly, Mr. Speaker.

REP. SY-ALVARADO. Mr. Speaker, nais lamang pong itanong ng Representasyong ito kung ano po ba ang magagawa na mas mabilis ng ating gobyerno ngayong panahong ito, para mabilis na ma-augment iyong kakulangan natin sa hospital beds at in the medium-term, kung ano ang dapat gawin ng ating gobyerno. Doon po sa privilege speech ng ating kasama from DIWA Party-List ay mukhang napakarami ng kakulangan sa ating hospital beds, Mr. Speaker.

REP. AGLIPAY. Mr. Speaker, bago po ako naging Congressman, nag-isip ako ng mga problema sa ating bayan at ito na po ang pinakanaisip kong numero unong makakaapekto sa lahat sa atin kung tayo ay magsasama-sama na tuunan ng pansin ito. Ito po ay iyong kakulangan sa health care—regional hospitals at saka iyong mga equipment at pangatlo iyong human resource. Ito po ang medium-term na solusyon: in three to five years, ay magtatayo ng Regional Health Hospitals Commission kasi po puno na po—nakita ko po, dito sa mga hearing na nag-attend ako since July ng Committee on Health and others, at nasa budget din, na hindi na kaya ng DOH to do this on their own kasi iyong other projects ay hindi na nila magawa.

So, kailangan dito may katulong na private sector na part of that commission sa expertise nila kasi dito sa bill na ito, may standards, like iyong Joint Commission, which are the standards na ina-apply ng Makati Medical Center at saka ng St. Luke's Medical Center. Iyon ang gagamitin nating standards for the regional health centers of excellence. Maski mayroon tayong pera na inilaan natin sa PhilHealth to pay for the medical needs of our poor countrymen, kung iyong mismong facilities na kung saan ka magbabayad ay hindi makakatulong sa paggamot sa kanila ay useless din po. So, I think that this is—what do you call this?—it is not a shortcut but this is the fastest way for us to have 17 regional health centers of excellence in the next three to five years.

REP. SY-ALVARADO. Mr. Speaker, kasama po ba sa pagdadagdag natin ng hospital facilities iyong mga bagay na kakailanganin ng ating mga mamamayan, lalong-lalo na sa laban sa COVID-19? Ito po iyong mga aparato tulad ng respirator at intubator, at mga gamot, lalo na iyong vitamins, antibiotics and anti-viral drugs na kakailanganin ng ating sambayanan pang maipaghanda ang buong bansang Pilipinas laban sa sakit ng COVID-19, Mr. Speaker.

REP. AGLIPAY. Yes, Mr. Speaker. Actually, when the Joint Commission was formed, mayroon po silang standards kung anong kailangan—ilan ang kailangan na espesyalista, for example, mga pediatrician, iyong internal medicine doctors, at iyong iba pang mga doctor. Mayroon doon kung ilang doktor per regional hospital ang kailangan. Tapos, kung anong equipment

ang mga kailangan, nandoon po naka-specify sa Joint Commission for Level III hospitals. So, ito po ay mangangailangan ng malaking pera pero ito naman po ay para sa buong Pilipinas para hindi na po dadalhin sa Metro Manila or sa Cebu ang mga tao. Ang alam ko, tatlong ospital—iyong sa Davao at saka iyong Sotto Hospital sa Cebu at saka sa Metro Manila. So, ito po ay 17 regions sa buong Pilipinas na bibigyan natin ng world-class na regional hospitals po. Magkakaroon na iyan at iyang mga kailangan ngayon ay, ano lang po iyan, one of the many equipment na kailangan na nandoon po. Miski walang may sakit o mayroong sakit, kailangan nandoon na ang equipment po at nakahanda.

REP. SY-ALVARADO. Napakaganda pong pakinggan, Mr. Speaker, na mayroon tayong ginagawang hakbang upang mapunan ang ating kakulangan sa medical equipment, hospital beds, at hospital supplies ngunit sa panahon pong ito ng COVID-19, Mr. Speaker, hindi lamang po iyan ang pangangailangan natin. Sa privilege speech po ng ating kasama from DIWA Party-List ay kaniya pong naisaad na as of May 1, sa Central Luzon ay mayroon ng 323 cases at ayon sa DOH, ...

REP. AGLIPAY. Active cases po.

REP. SY-ALVARADO. ... active cases, ngunit sa Central Luzon Center for Health Development, ang nakalagay ay 374 ang confirmed cases at hindi nakalagay kung active or inactive, pero ang admitted lamang ay 190. Ibig sahibin, halos 200 po ay hindi ma-admit ng ating mga ospital sa hindi natin malaman na kadahilanan, kung ito ba ay kulang na kaagad ng hospital beds o kulang ba sa gamot at aparato, Mr. Speaker?

Siguro po ay kailangan po nating mas lalong maliwanagan.

REP. AGLIPAY. Sa 45 days ng ating pandemic dito sa Pilipinas, ang main reason po talaga is kulang po sa hospital beds. Siyempre, next na sa hospital beds ay iyong equipment, iyong mga binanggit ninyo po kanina tulad ng respirator for this present situation. Kung bibigyan natin ng pansin ito, ma-empower natin ang isang commission to put the same level of equipment and the same number of doctors and specialists in every regional center in the Philippines, this would be an equitable way of solving the problem since miski rural o miski agricultural iyong parte ng bansa na iyon ay may ganoong level na ospital para po lahat iyan sa ating taong-bayan. Kung nakakabigay tayo ng hundreds of billions sa PhilHealth, bakit hindi po natin mabigyan in the next three to five years ang lahat po ng regions? Wala pa ditong nakalagay kung which hospital, which location, which province or which region dahil ito po ay dedesisyunan ng commission. Nagki-create lang

tayo ng commission, and they will be given the budget to plan, execute and monitor it.

Kapag naitayo na po iyong 17, sila po iyong magmo-monitor upang iyong standards ay hindi po mababawasan. Ibig sabihin po, iyong equipment ay hindi nasisira at saka iyong mga doktor, kung aalis man ang doktor na iyon, mapapalitan ng isa pang espesiyalista. So, ito po ay parang another bureau, another commission under the DOH pero ito po ay gusto natin parang GOCC siguro, para mayroon din o kasama iyong private sector.

REP. SY-ALVARADO. Mr. Speaker, maigi po na pag-aralan ng inyong abang-lingkod mula sa lalawigan ng Bulacan ang napakagandang panukala po ng House Bill na ito mula sa ating kasama sa DIWA Party-List. Makakaasa po kayo na sa mga darating na panahon ay hindi po natin masabi kung magko-co-author po tayo o gagawa tayo ng same measure na kagaya po o nalalapit dito po sa ginawang House Bill ng ating good Gentleman from the DIWA Party-List.

Mr. Speaker, idadamay ko na rin po ang pasasalamat ng inyong abang-lingkod at ng buong lalawigan ng Bulacan sa pangunguna ng Pangulong Duterte at ng ating Secretary Vince Dizon; ng ating Philippine Coast Guard; ng DOH; ng DPWH sa napakabilis na paggawa ng additional hospital beds at quarantine facilities, ng ipinahiram na pasilidad ng Iglesia ni Cristo sa Ciudad de Victoria, at ito po ay pinagtulung-tolongan. Alam ko marami ang nagdonasyon ng mga korporasyon dito upang maibigay ng libre iyong ating hospital beds sa ating facilities. Isang masigabong palakpakan po para sa ating Pangulo sa napakabilis na karagdangang COVID-19 quarantine area na kanilang ginawa, kasama na po sa kapatiran ng Iglesia ni Cristo.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Fernandez relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Raneo "Ranie" E. Abu.

Nito pong mga nakakaraang panahon, Mr. Speaker, sa Facebook ay kumalat rin iyong mga problema sa social amelioration program ngunit sabi nga ni Rep. Mike Defensor, ito ay ating mas lalong pag-uusapan at ilalahad sa House of the People o sa malaking kapulungang ito upang mas lalo nating maintindihan. Sa lahat po ng mga gumagawa ng katiwalian sa gobyerno, sa lahat ng nagnanakaw ng pera para sa ating mga pinakamahihirap at hindi ibinibigay ng buo ang social amelioration, nagbabantay po ang Kongresong ito, lalong-lalo na ang ating liderato sa pangunguna po ni Speaker Cayetano at siyempre, ng ating Pangulong Rodrigo Roa Duterte.

Maraming salamat po, Mr. Speaker. Maraming salamat po, good Gentleman from the DIWA Party-List.

REP. AGLIPAY. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you to the good Gentleman from Bulacan, Congressman Sy-Alvarado.

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

REP. MACAPAGALARROYO. Mr. Speaker, there being no more interpellators on the privilege speech of Honorable Aglipay, I move that we refer the privilege speech and the contents of the interpellation to the Committee on Rules and thereafter be referred to the proper committee.

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.

REP. MACAPAGALARROYO. Mr. Speaker, next to interpellate or the next to avail of the Privilege Hour through Zoom or through his electronic device is Hon. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate of BAYAN MUNA Party-List. I move that we recognize Honorable Zarate to avail of the Privilege Hour.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Hon. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate from BAYAN MUNA Party-List is recognized through video conference.

Honorable Zarate naka-mute ka yata. Naka-mute ka.

REP. ZARATE. Naka-unmute na po, Mr. Speaker. Naririnig na po ba ako?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Okay na. So, you are now recognized. You have now the floor for your privilege speech.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. ZARATE

REP. ZARATE. Maraming salamat, Mr. Speaker.

Sa Pilipinas, hindi na bago ang kaliwa't kanang pamamaslang ng mga aktibista. Sa katunayan, kahiya-hiya mang sabihin para sa isang bansang itinatanghal ang sarili bilang demokratiko, isa ang Pilipinas sa pinakamapanganib na bansa para sa mga taong nagsisiwalat ng katotohanan, para sa mga taong tunay na nagsisilbi para sa mga inaapi at mahihirap, at mga taong inialay ang likas na kakayanan para sa pagbabago ng lipunan. Gayunpaman, Mr. Speaker, walang makapaghahanda sa amin, sa aming hanay, sa pagpaslang kay kasamang Jory Porquia.

Mr. Speaker, mga kapwa ko Mambabatas, ako ay nagsasalita ngayon sa kabila ng matinding galit at

pighati sa walang awang pagpaslang kay Jose Reynaldo “Jory” Porquia noong Huwebes, ika-30 ng Abril. Siyam na bala ang ibinaon sa kaniyang katawan, isa rito ay sa kaniyang ulo para mapaniguro marahil na wala na siyang ni katiting na hininga para tuligsain ang mga tumampalasan sa kaniya—walang kalaban-laban, walang awa. Lampas langit ang aming galit, Mr. Speaker.

Si kasamang Jory ay isa sa mga tagapagtatag ng aming Partidong BAYAN MUNA noong September 1999. Sa loob ng mahabang panahon, si Jory ang aming tagapag-ugnay o coordinator ng BAYAN MUNA sa siyudad ng Iloilo—maaasahan, matatag, malikhain at walang-kapagurang aktibista. Siya ay palaging kumikilos, kasama ng mga manggagawa at maralita, kaya nakakapanggalit man ay hindi na rin kagulat-gulat na pinaslang si kasamang Jory. Nitong mga nakaraan, Mr. Speaker, lalo na noong nakaraang eleksyon, ilang posters na may pangalan at larawan niya at iba pa ang ikinalat sa isla ng Panay at nag-aakusa sa kaniya bilang isa raw siyang armadong rebolusyonaryo at isa raw siyang terorista.

Ilang aktibista na ba, Mr. Speaker, ilang mga magsasaka, manggagawa, kabataan, maging taong-simbahan, mamamahayag at mga abogado—ilan na nga ba sa kanila ang pinaslang matapos silang akusahan ng mga pulis at ng mga militar, at iba pang mga anti-demokratikong puwersa sa ating lipunan bilang mga komunista raw at bilang mga terorista? Gayunpaman, walang ano mang banta ang makapaghahanda sa amin sa kaniyang walang awa at madugong pagpaslang.

Si Jory, Mr. Speaker, ay nagsimula bilang kabataang aktibista, bilang lider ng tanyag na organisasyon ng League of Filipino Students. Naging miyembro din si Jory ng National Youth Commission noong panahon ng dating Pangulong Cory Aquino. Sa una, naging isa siyang OFW sa Middle East at sa Tsina, at patuloy pa rin siya sa gawaing pag-o-organisa kahit na noong siya ay naging OFW, siya at mga Pilipinong migrante. Hindi na kagulat-gulat na papaslangin ng lipunang bulok at salat sa katarungan ang isang katulad ni Jory. Ang mga taong pinanday ng karanasan sa paglubog sa masang inaapi, ng karanasan na itinuon ang galing at panahon sa pagsisilbi sa bayan, ang nangangarap ng mas magandang bukas hindi lamang para sa kaniyang sarili at sa pamilya, sila pa itong pinapaslang. Parang walang puwang ang kagaya niya sa isang lipunang mapagsamantala at mapang-api. Para sa mga tagapag-taguyod ng kaayusang ganito, si kasamang Jory ay sagabal sa kanilang madilim na paghahari sa ating bayan. Gayunpaman, Mr. Speaker, hindang-hindi katanggap-tanggap ang madugong pagpaslang sa aming kaibigan at kasama.

Sa deka-dekadang pagiging aktibista ni kasamang Jory, nakaligtas pa siya sa madilim na yugto ng batas militar ng diktador na si Marcos subalit ngayon, noong

nakaraang Huwebes, siya ay tuluyan nang inabutan ng pasistang atake na matagal ng humahabol sa kaniyang likuran, ngayon kung kailan saklot ang sanlibutan, saklot ang ating bayan, ng pandemyang nagbabanta sa kaligtasan ng lahat.

Mr. Speaker, isang linggo bago siya paslangin, bago siya pagbabarilin, nakabangga ni kasamang Jory ang mga kapulisan sa Iloilo City dahil sa pagsasagawa ng relief missions o relief operations ng BAYAN MUNA sa mga mahihirap na komunidad ng Iloilo City. Habang masayang tinanggap ng mga komunidad ang ayuda mula sa aming local chapters sa siyudad ng Iloilo at maging ng alkalde nito na si Iloilo City Mayor Jerry Treñas, para bagang hindi ito ikinatuwa ng ilang mga elemento ng Philippine National Police sa Iloilo City at sa katunayan, hinarang nila ang feeding operations na ito.

Dalawang linggo bago siya brutal na pinaslang, si Police Major Engelbert Banquillo ang Molo District Police Station Chief, ang siya mismong personal na humarang sa isinasagawang feeding program ng mga miyembro ng BAYAN MUNA sa pamumuno ni kasamang Jory Porquia. Ipinagkakalat pa diumano ng ilang mga kapulisan na ang mga ipinapamigay naming mga ayuda ay may COVID-19.

G. Ispiker, ang red-tagging at vilification ay tahasang ginagamit sa kasalukuyan upang bigyang katuwiran ang pamamaslang sa aming hanay. Ang umiiral na state of impunity o ang estado ng kawalan ng pananagutan ay inilulusot sa ngalan ng pekeng kaayusan at kapayapaan upang pigilan ang mga aktibista at mga ordinaryong mamamayan na magsagawa ng humanitarian at volunteer work sa kabila ng banta ng pandemya ng COVID-19. Ikaw ay ikukulong, kakasuhan, paparusahan at sa kaso nga ni kasamang Jory, ay papaslangin.

Ang kawanggawa ng mamamayan upang abutan ng ayuda ang mahihirap, ang pag-ambag ng mga hindi kakilala upang mabayaran ang piyansa ng mga ikinulong na mahihirap na maralita, ang community kitchens para sa mga maralitang-lungsod, ang pagbibigay ng donasyon sa mga health workers na kulang ng PPEs at kapos sa sahod, ang pagbibigay ng libreng sakay sa mga naglalakad na mga nurse at doktor, ang crowdfunding para mabayaran ang napakalaking bayarin sa ospital at iba’t iba pang tulong na inaabot ng ating mga kababayan ay sumasalamin sa napakalaking pagkukulang ng ating pamahalaan sa ating taumbayan sa panahon na ito na mayroong krisis at mayroong pandemya ng COVID-19.

Napapahiya ng mga katulad ni kasamang Jory ang mga pasistang pulis at militar na imbes ibsan ang pagdurusa ng mga mamamayan ay pinupuno pa ng takot ang kanilang mga puso at dinadagdagan pa ang ligalig ng kanilang mga kaisipan. Napapahiya ng katulad ni kasamang Jory ang bilyon-bilyong pisong budget para

sa social amelioration program na hanggang ngayon, magdadalawang buwan na at pagkatapos na magkaroon ng lockdown, ay hindi pa rin nakakarating sa lahat ng nangangailangan nito. Iyon na nga siguro ang naging hudyat upang tuluyan nang wakasan ang maningning na buhay ni kasamang Jory ng karimlan ng pasismo. Balot ng lungkot at galit, nagsagawa ng protesta ang mga kaanak at aming mga kasama kinabukasan, noong Mayo 1, subalit ano ang naging sagot? Ikinulong ng mga pulis ng Iloilo ang 42, kasama pati ang abogado na rumesponde sa mga ikinukulong at ang mismong anak ni kasamang Jory.

Tuluyan na nga ba tayo, G. Ispiker, na tinakasan ng hustisya? Pinatay na nga iyong mahal sa buhay at ikaw pa rin ay ikukulong. Mas malulupit pa yata kaysa pandemya ng COVID-19 ang inaabot ng ating mga kababayan sa kamay ng mga ahente ng estado. Nakakalimutan yata ng ating mga kapulisan at militar na hindi suspendido ang karapatang pantao kahit pa nasa ilalim tayo ng isang public health emergency. Nawala yata sa kanilang hinagap na hindi krimen ang protesta at lalong-lalo nang hindi krimen ang pagtulong sa ating mga kapwa. Lasing sa mga pahayag ng pandarahas sa ating mamamayan na mula mismo sa mga bibig ng nasa Malacañang, ginagawa nilang larangan ng pasismo ang ating mga kalsada at ang ating mga komunidad.

Hindi giyera laban sa pandemya ng COVID-19 ang kanilang ginagawa ngunit ito ay patuloy na giyera sa mamamayan ang kanilang ginagawa. Nito lamang Mayo 1, Labor Day o Araw ng Paggawa, ay ilan pong relief workers din ang dinakip at kinulong. Sampu ang inaresto sa Marikina, dalawa ang sa Montalban, 18 naman sa Quezon City, apat sa Valenzuela at 16 sa Sta. Rosa, Laguna. Hindi lamang sakit ang kumakalat sa kasalukuyan kundi pandarahas at represyon, at lubhang mas mapanganib at nakamamatay ang mga ito.

Bilang mga Mambabatas, G. Ispiker, ito ba ang ating tinatanaw at ninanais ng binigyan ng Kapulungang ito ng dagdag kapangyarihan ang poder ng nasa kasalukuyang administrasyon? Bilang panghuli, G. Ispiker, amin pong nirerehistro na hindi tulong ang iniabot sa mamamayan kundi lalo pang pagkalugmok sa kahirapan at mas maigting na pandarahas at kailangang bigyan ng wakas ito.

Tulong, hindi kulong. Bigas, hindi dahas.

Itigil ang pamamaslang. Hustisya para kay Jory Porquia.

Maraming salamat po, G. Ispiker, at magandang hapon po sa ating lahat.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Maraming salamat.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, I move we refer the privilege speech of Honorable Zarate

to the Committee on Rules, to be assigned to the proper committee for appropriate action.

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.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the next Gentleman to avail of the Privilege Hour is the Deputy Speaker from the Second District of Misamis Occidental, Hon. Henry S. Oaminal.

Mr. Speaker, before we formally recognize Honorable Oaminal, I would like to remind everybody that we have a little more than 20 minutes left in our Privilege Hour and we shall not extend this due to the situation now. I am just reminding everybody about that rule which we are going to implement today. Anyway, tomorrow, we can continue with the Privilege Hour.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Please take note of that, fellow Members of the House of Representatives, that we will not extend anymore the one-hour Privilege Hour.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. With that, Mr. Speaker, I would like to formally recognize the Deputy Speaker, Honorable Oaminal.

I so move.

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

The Deputy Speaker from Mindanao, Hon. Henry Oaminal is recognized.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. OAMINAL

REP. OAMINAL. Mr. Speaker, ladies and gentlemen, with the current situation we have now, my greetings which, through time, became customary, suddenly became more sublime. So, with all sincerity, I wish you all, my dear colleagues, your families, your staff, and our people, a pleasant good afternoon.

What was supposed to be a typical adjournment of session, a period utilized to give more attention to the needs of the district or advocacies of the party-lists, also became the commencement of a more intense preparation for an enemy which is miniscule to the ordinary eye to see yet, its repercussions has resulted in dire situations.

The COVID-19 infection has become a global pandemic which nobody has ever imagined even in their wildest dreams. As of today, a total of 3,506,729 COVID-

19 cases have already been reported worldwide, with 1,125,236 recoveries and 247,470 deaths. Locally, as of today, a total of 9,485 cases of COVID-19 infections have already been reported, with 1,315 recoveries and 623 fatalities. All these cases happened in just 50 days or from March 15 when the community quarantine was implemented. There were 623 fatalities despite the strict implementation of the enhanced community quarantine in Luzon and NCR and general community quarantine in other parts of the Philippines. Indeed, this is a disconcerting data for this pandemic not only brought upon illness, but also brought with it hunger and scarcity.

As we continue to stay home, one of our attempts is to slow down the spread of and infection from COVID-19. We are now also faced with the reality that is trying to stop the motion of the world we have grown accustomed to. A big portion of our workforce is now unable to earn to bring food to the table.

The people are desperately asking this question: With this pandemic, will we die of illness or of hunger?

Every leadership is tested by challenges one way or another, but the current challenge that we are facing now is too gargantuan that even the more progressive nations hit by this pandemic are brought down to their knees. What our country may lack in financial capacity, we overcompensate with ingenuity and diligence. We may be a small nation but we are endowed with a resilient leadership that invigorates us to continue our endeavors in what seems to be the greatest fight of our lifetime.

I take this opportunity to thank our strong and dynamic President Rodrigo Roa Duterte and the COVID-19 Inter-Agency Task Force for their timely and effective implementation of actions necessary to flatten the curve of this pandemic by outlining and strictly enforcing the quarantine rules and protocols and declaring the entire country in a state of calamity. The release of the social amelioration funds to 18 million affected families plus an additional of five million as currently announced has helped a lot our poor countrymen to bring food to their tables, thus, averting chaos and trouble in society.

I join the people from the Second District of Misamis Occidental that I represent in thanking all my distinguished colleagues in this august Chamber. We thank you and commend also the House leadership of Speaker Alan Peter Cayetano, assisted by our Deputy Speaker for Finance, Rep. Luis Raymund "Lray" F. Villafuerte Jr; Committee on Appropriations Chairperson, Rep. Eric G. Yap; and Majority Leader, Rep. Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, for making a strong representation to the DBM and the Executive Department, and with the Speaker's charm and diplomatic leadership, in convincing them to continue the infrastructure projects in all government agencies

which is a good stimulus to our economy as these will generate more jobs, especially for those affected by this pandemic, and which projects are greatly needed at this time because of their multiplier effect.

Thank you, too, Senator Bong Go for helping us in echoing our common public concerns, especially with your unprecedented efforts in imposing the release of the one-month IRA to all municipalities and cities and the one-month IRA to all provinces which is of great help to our local government units in responding to the needs of our people and in effectively managing the crisis in our respective localities.

Mr. Speaker, it is noteworthy to mention that the DSWD, under the leadership of Secretary Rolando Bautista and Regional Director Mari-Flor Dollaga-Libang of my region, Region X, have efficiently released the social amelioration funds in my district orderly and peacefully through close coordination with our local government officials and the PNP and the Philippine Army. The people in my district are happy and grateful to our President and to Congress for enacting R.A. No. 11469, the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act of 2020, for the great help.

The DOLE TUPAD and #BKBK Programs, under the leadership of Secretary Silvestre Bello III and Region X Director Joffrey M. Suyao, are very much appreciated by our people, especially by our COVID-19 frontliners, the BPAT, the BHW and barangay officials.

Again, thank you. Mr. Speaker, thank you for your other initiatives in rolling out the DOLE and the DSWD funds into our congressional districts as these help us a lot in responding to the crisis.

As the Representative of our district to this plenary, I would like to express our local government unit's continuous support to the President and to our Speaker for the fight against COVID-19. To date, a large majority of the families in our district have been provided for and we will continue to do so as the need arises. Our district is blessed enough to receive P252,252,000, which is equivalent to helping 42,092 families as SAP beneficiaries.

Currently, our local government units in Ozamiz City headed by Mayor Sancho Fernando Oaminal, Mayor Jennifer Tan of Tangub City, Mayor Samson Dumanjug of Bonifacio, Mayor Samuel Parojinog of Tudela, Mayor Delio Lood of Sinacaban, Mayor Glory P. Roa of Clarin and Mayor Bertoldo Murallon of Don Victoriano, all in Misamis Occidental, are now busy preparing for the second wave of our local version of the social amelioration program consisting of relief goods and cash assistance.

We will take this opportunity to thank our Almighty Father for his continuing grace as we face one of the dark phases of our nation. May this also be an opportunity for all of us to put our faith together in Him, trusting Him, that as we do our very best for the survival

of our nation, the Lord will guide us and provide us with the wisdom necessary to overcome this trial. The world we have been familiar with is now very different. We have yet to know when this pandemic will be over but let us emerge from this crisis victorious and hopeful; and that though this period may be challenging to all of us, it will result in a better and greater Philippines.

Maraming salamat po sa inyong lahat.

Maraming salamat, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Thank you very much.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the honorable Deputy Speaker to the Committee on Rules and after that, it will be assigned to the proper committee.

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.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the last Member of Congress today who will avail of the Privilege Hour is the distinguished Minority Floor Leader, Hon. Bienvenido M. Abante Jr.

Mr. Speaker, we did not recognize him earlier because he was no longer wearing his PPE. We now recognize the honorable Minority Leader Hon. Benny Abante.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Minority Leader, Hon. Benny Abante from the Sixth District of Manila, is now recognized to avail his Privilege Hour.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. ABANTE

REP. ABANTE. Salamat po, Mr. Speaker.

Magandang hapon po sa ating mga kasama, kaibigan at katrabaho na naririto ngayon sa gitna ng ECQ, pati ang ating mga kasama na ngayon ay nasa Zoom platform.

Mr. Speaker, my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives, magandang hapon po sa inyong lahat. Gusto ko munang banggitin ang isang sitas sa Banal na Kasulatan, doon sa Proverbs, Chapter 22, Verse 16. Ito po ang sinasabi, "He that oppressteth the poor to increase his riches, and he that giveth to the rich, shall surely come to want."

We are a nation and a people who believe in God, in law and order, and in honest labor. We are a nation that

believes in the higher principles of morality, honesty and decency. This humble Representation rises on a matter of personal privilege to reiterate my long-standing opposition to the operation of the Philippine Offshore Gaming Operators, as we call it, the POGOS. Until recently, the debate regarding this industry had been put on hold as we focus our energies on dealing with the COVID-19 outbreak and passing measures to address the far-reaching effects of this pandemic. However, recent developments have forced this Representation to emphatically state my position on this foul industry, that has benefitted no one but the rapacious personalities behind it.

Nakakalungkot po na sa gitna ng krisis na ito, pinapayagan uli ang mga POGO na mag-operate dito habang may mga industriya na nananatiling sarado dahil sa ECQ. Hindi lamang iyan, Mr. Speaker, habang pinapayagan po natin na mag-operate ang POGO, samantalang alam natin na hindi sila mag-o-obey o susunod sa guidelines ng ating pamahalaan on social distancing, pinigilan po naman ng pamahalaan na magkaroon ng pagsamba sa mga simbahan kahit na ito ay sumusunod sa guidelines ng gobyerno. Nakakadismaya na para mabuksan ang mga POGO na ito, ipinipilit pa natin na isama ang mga POGO sa BPO industry, samantalang ang owners po ng BPO, tinanggihan, Mr. Speaker, na ang POGO po ay isang BPO; na ito ay sinasabing "essential service" na kailangan mag-operate sa gitna ng ECQ at ng krisis na ito.

Bakit? Does POGO employ Filipinos? No. Does POGO perform an essential service? No. Kumikita ba ang mamamayang Pilipino dito? Hindi po. How many times do we need to ask questions when we already know the answers? Hindi naman nagbabago ang sagot sa tanong, Mr. Speaker. The POGOs have repeatedly and consistently shown they have no regard for our laws, and we should not be surprised because this is the same disrespect for gambling laws in China that have forced them to bring their operations to our country. Nakakalungkot kung saan ang Pilipino po ay relihiyosong mga tao, kung saan ang Pilipinas ay tinatawag nating the only Christian country in the Far East, tinalo pa tayo ng isang komunistang bansa na hindi po naniniwala sa Diyos. Samantalang sila ay ipinagbawal ang sugal, dito naman, Mr. Speaker, at aking mga kasamahan, ay lalo nating pinag-iigihan ang lahat ng klaseng sugal.

It is time to end this debate once and for all and to declare this industry illegal in our country. Mr. Speaker, POGOs encourage a vice that is deplorable regardless of where it is practiced. Evidence shows POGOs lead to the promotion of other vile industries like prostitution as the Lady Members of the House explained on Women's Day. Experience reveals that POGOs do not provide any tangible, impactful benefits to our country as attested by finance officials who were asked to testify in legislative

hearings on this subject. Manapa’y ginagawa nating corrupt ang ilang mga empleyado ng Deportation and Immigration Bureau tungo dito, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, this Representation recognizes that our government needs more revenues. Our involvement in the budget process has made us aware that efforts must be made to generate more income for the country’s many programs and projects, especially now as we pour billions for social amelioration programs and stimulus packages for our people. Kaya nga tayo sa Kongreso, kahit po recess, ang ating Speaker po ay naging napakasipag upang tayo ay pulungin kahit sa Zoom conference platform upang pag-usapan kung paano natin matutulungan ang ating mga kababayan ngayon sa krisis na ito. Ating nakita na ang Chairman ng Ways and Means Committee, si Cong. Joey Salceda, at ang isa pong kasama namin sa Minority, si Cong. Stella Quimbo, ay nagko-collaborate upang magkaroon tayo ng isang economic stimulus program, Mr. Speaker, upang ang ating bayan ay hindi masadlak sa isang economic downpour.

Mr. Speaker, hindi po ang POGO ang solusyon. We lose billions in revenues due to corruption and inefficiency in our revenue collection agencies, Mr. Speaker, and these are the issues we should instead address if we want greater revenues for government operation.

In light of all these points, this Representation is asking for your support for the immediate passage of the Anti-POGO Act of 2020 that I am going to file, and your support is earnestly requested.

Panahon na para ikandado natin ang mga POGO, Mr. Speaker. Panahon na para itapon natin sa malalim na karagatan ang POGO. It is time to say “no to POGO.”

Maraming, maraming salamat po, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Marami pong salamat sa ating kagalang-galang na Minority Leader. The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we refer the speech of the honorable Minority Leader to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

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.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we take up the Additional Reference of Business. I am sorry, I withdraw, Mr. Speaker.

May I move for a suspension of the session.

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

It was 5:06 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:33 p.m., the session was resumed.

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

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to apologize to the Members, to our colleagues who have signified their intent to avail of the Privilege Hour. Unfortunately, due to our protocol, we are constrained to suspend the conduct of the Privilege Hour. So, I move that we suspend the Privilege Hour until tomorrow. We will resume tomorrow and our Members who manifested their intention to avail of the same will be given their chance and opportunity tomorrow to deliver their speeches.

I move that we suspend the Privilege Hour.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). The Privilege Hour is suspended and will resume tomorrow for the other Members who wish to avail of the Privilege Hour.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve Journal No. 54, dated March 11, 2020, copies of which have already been distributed to the Members.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; Journal No. 54, dated March 11, 2020, Wednesday, is approved.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

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

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

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

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 6633, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MODERNIZATION OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, ESTABLISHING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE CENTER FOR DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Tan (Angelina)
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 AD HOC COMMITTEE

House Bill No. 6656, entitled:

“AN ACT EXTENDING THE AVAILABILITY OF THE 2020 APPROPRIATIONS TO DECEMBER 31, 2021, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 60 OF THE GENERAL PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11465, THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT OF FISCAL YEAR 2020”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 6662, entitled:

“AN ACT REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10912, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2016’”

By Representatives Cayetano (Alan Peter), Romualdez (Ferdinand), Duterte, Villafuerte, Yap (Eric), Defensor (Michael), Sy-Alvarado, Gonzalez (Sandro) and Bautista
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 AD HOC COMMITTEE

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 802, entitled:

“RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND HONORING THE COURAGE, COMPASSION, AND HEROISM OF DOCTORS, NURSES, AND OTHER ALLIED MEDICAL PERSONNEL, FOR THEIR SUPREME SACRIFICE AND DEVOTION TO THEIR PROFESSION SO THAT THOSE AFFLICTED WITH THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) MAY LIVE”

By Representative Violago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 803, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF

REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF MRS. SALLY LIMBAG POYNTER-DELOSO, MOTHER OF REPRESENTATIVE CHERYL P. DELOSO-MONTALLA OF THE SECOND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF ZAMBALES”

By Representatives Cayetano (Alan Peter), Romualdez (Ferdinand) and Abante
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 804, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF HONORABLE ROMULO B. LUMAUIG, FORMER MEMBER OF THE SEVENTH CONGRESS REPRESENTING THE LONE DISTRICT OF IFUGAO”

By Representatives Cayetano (Alan Peter), Romualdez (Ferdinand) and Abante
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 805, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991, CONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISION UNDER SECTION 521 OF THE SAID ACT TO MAKE IT MORE RESPONSIVE AND RELEVANT TO THE CURRENT CHALLENGES IN LOCAL ADMINISTRATION”

By Representative Cabochan
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 AD HOC COMMITTEE

House Resolution No. 806, entitled:

“RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF HONORABLE HEHERSON T. ALVAREZ, FORMER SENATOR OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FORMER REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FOURTH DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF ISABELA”

By Representatives Cayetano (Alan Peter), Romualdez (Ferdinand) and Abante
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 807, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT TO FAST TRACK THE

DISBURSEMENT OF THE 2ND TRANCHE OF THE SPECIAL AMELIORATION PROGRAM (SAP) BY GIVING THE BARANGAY THE POWER TO IDENTIFY THE BENEFICIARIES AND TO DISBURSE THE ALLOCATION”

By Representative Fernando
TO THE DEFEAT COVID-19 AD HOC COMMITTEE

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

CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 803

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Resolution No. 803.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). 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. 803, entitled: RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF MRS. SALLY LIMBAG POYNTER-DELOSO, MOTHER OF REPRESENTATIVE CHERYL P. DELOSO-MONTALLA OF THE SECOND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF ZAMBALES.

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adopt House Resolution No. 803.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

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

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

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

ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 803

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

House Resolution No. 803 is adopted.

CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 804

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Resolution No. 804.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). 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. 804, entitled: RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF HONORABLE ROMULO B. LUMAUIG, FORMER MEMBER OF THE SEVENTH CONGRESS REPRESENTING THE LONE DISTRICT OF IFUGAO.

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

ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 804

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adopt House Resolution No. 804.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

House Resolution No. 804 is adopted.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 806

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Resolution No. 806.

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

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). 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.*

* 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.”

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Resolution No. 806, entitled: RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF HONORABLE HEHERSON T. ALVAREZ, FORMER SENATOR OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FORMER REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FOURTH DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF ISABELA.

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

ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 806

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adopt House Resolution No. 806.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved. House Resolution No. 806 is adopted.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. PALMA. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the session until three o'clock in the afternoon tomorrow, Tuesday, May 5, 2020.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Abu). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the session is suspended until tomorrow at three o'clock, May 5, 2020.

It was 5:40 p.m.