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House of Representatives**

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
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**JOURNAL NO. 2
Monday, July 23, 2018
and Tuesday, July 24, 2018**

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CALL TO ORDER

In the evening of Monday, July 23, 2018, Deputy Speaker Rolando G. Andaya Jr. called the session to order and remarked that the first item in the Order of Business was to proceed with the voting of an interim Presiding Officer and Majority Leader.

**DESIGNATION OF TEMPORARY
PRESIDING OFFICER AND
INTERIM MAJORITY LEADER**

Whereupon, on motion of Rep. Karlo Alexei B. Nograles, duly seconded and there being no objection, the Body designated Deputy Speaker Rolando G. Andaya Jr. as temporary Presiding Officer and Deputy Speaker Fredenil "Fred" H. Castro as interim Majority Leader.

**MOTION OF MAJORITY
LEADER CASTRO (F.H.)**

Upon recognition by the Chair, Majority Leader Castro moved that the House of Representatives hold session. There being no objection, the motion was carried.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Majority Leader Castro (F.H.), the session was suspended for three minutes.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

Upon resumption of session, Rep. Magnolia C. Antonino requested the plenary page to get the Mace of the House from the Office of the Speaker.

REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

The Chair then requested the Legislative Security to get the Mace displayed in the House of Representatives' Archives. He also asked the Secretary General to direct the Legislative Security.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Majority Leader Castro (F.H.), the Chair suspended the session.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session was resumed.

**REMARKS OF MAJORITY
LEADER CASTRO (F.H.)**

Upon recognition by the Chair, Majority Leader Castro stated for the record that the the Office of the Sergeant-at-Arms had been requested to produce the Mace of the House of Representatives in the Plenary Hall. He remarked that the Members had wasted so much time and they cannot further delay the proceedings. He added that they should continue with their proceedings and that if ever the Mace arrives, it should be displayed in the Session Hall.

Majority Leader Castro further explained that the presence of the Mace of the House in the Session Hall does not lend validity to the proceedings that will have to be conducted in the plenary, as its presence cannot take precedence over the authority of the majority of all the Members present in the proceedings.

**MOTION OF MAJORITY
LEADER CASTRO (F.H.)**

On subsequent motion of Majority Leader Castro, there being no objection, the Body proceeded with the plenary session.

REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

Anent the issue of the Mace of the House, the Chair explained that the mace is merely symbolic of the plenary powers of the Majority especially since about two-thirds of the Members of the House were present at that moment. He also compared the mace to the police badge as a mere symbol of authority.

**REMARKS OF MAJORITY
LEADER CASTRO (F.H.)**

At this point, Majority Leader Castro stated that the records will bear out that they had requested the production of the Mace in the plenary hall but notwithstanding said request and the time that had elapsed, the Mace had not been produced.

**MOTION OF MAJORITY
LEADER CASTRO (F.H.)**

On motion of Majority Leader Castro, there being no objection, the Chair directed the Secretary General to explain at the appropriate time why the Mace had not been produced in the plenary hall.

**MOTION TO DECLARE THE
POSITION OF SPEAKER VACANT**

Thereupon, on motion of Majority Leader Castro (F.H.), the Chair recognized Rep. Antonino who moved to declare the position of the Speaker vacant. There being no objection, the motion was carried.

**PERIOD OF NOMINATIONS FOR
THE POSITION OF THE SPEAKER**

Recognized by the Chair upon the Majority Leader's motion, Deputy Speaker Raneo "Ranie" E. Abu nominated the former President and incumbent Representative of the Second District of Pampanga, Rep. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo for the position of Speaker of the House, on behalf of the Nacionalista Party and numerous other Members of the House who had stayed up to that moment to effect a change in the House leadership.

**TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD
FOR NOMINATIONS**

There being no other nominations, on motion of Majority Leader Castro (F.H.), duly seconded by Representative Antonino and there being no objection, the Body closed the period for nominations.

**MOTION OF MAJORITY
LEADER CASTRO (F.H.)**

Majority Leader Castro then moved that the Body proceed with the voting.

REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

There being no other nominee for the position of Speaker, the Chair stated that there was a unanimous consensus that the Members had already elected Representative Macapagal-Arroyo as the new Speaker of the House.

**NOMINAL VOTING ON THE LONE
NOMINEE FOR SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE**

Thereafter, on motion of Majority Leader Castro (F.H.), there being no objection, the Members proceeded to the election of the new Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Chair then directed the Secretary General to call the Roll for nominal voting.

**PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY
OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA**

Upon recognition by the Chair, Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. inquired into the election process as there was only one candidate. He proposed for a *viva voce* voting instead to simplify the whole election process.

While he agreed with the points raised by Representative Atienza, the Chair nonetheless asked Majority Leader Castro (F.H.) as to the procedure to be adopted. The Majority Leader said that a nominal voting would be conducted, which ruling the Chair adopted.

**NOMINAL VOTING ON THE LONE NOMI-
NEE FOR SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE**

As moved by Majority Leader Castro (F.H.), there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the election of the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Chair then directed the Secretary General to call the Roll for nominal voting on the lone nominee for the Speaker of the House.

MANIFESTATIONS OF MEMBERS

During the voting, the following Members took the floor with their remarks, to wit:

1. Reps. Raneo "Ranie" E. Abu, Magnolia C. Antonino, Aniceto "John" D. Bertiz III, Seth Frederick P. Jalosjos, Dennis C. Laogan, Doy C. Leachon, Mariano Michael M. Velarde Jr., and Lord Allan Jay Q. Velasco indicated their vote for Rep. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo as the new Speaker of the House;
2. Reps. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr., Kaka J. Bagao, and Jorge "Bolet" Banal abstained from voting;
3. Reps. Antonio L. Tinio, Carlos Isagani T. Zarate, Arlene D. Brosas, and Ariel "Ka Ayik" B. Casilao cast their "No" votes;
4. Rep. "Kuya" Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado said in Filipino that to unite the House of Representatives as one body, he was voting for Representative Macapagal-Arroyo;
5. Even as he was for changes in the House leadership, Rep. Richard C. Eusebio stressed his commitment to the Liberal Party's role of providing check and balance in Congress. He then abstained from voting; and

6. Rep. Edcel C. Lagman abstained from voting which he deemed to be an irregular proceeding.

REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

At this point, the Chair informed the Body of the arrival in the Session Hall of the Mace of the House of Representatives.

MANIFESTATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DAZA

After being informed that he has not yet voted, Rep. Raul A. Daza abstained from voting in compliance with his being a member of the Liberal Party.

The Chair noted the manifestation.

QUERY FROM THE CHAIR

Thereafter, the Chair said that three members of the Makabayan Bloc had voted “No,” and clarified that this would be taken as an abstention from voting because a Member was supposed to either vote or not vote for the lone candidate. He also stressed that a Member’s vote would be counted as part of the attendance. After emphasizing that when Representative Tinio’s name was called, the members of the Makabayan Bloc were absent, he asked whether Representative Tinio’s participation in the voting meant that his name would be added to the attendance.

Representative Tinio answered in the affirmative after which the Chair informed the Body that with the inclusion of the three Members from the Makabayan Bloc who voted “No,” the attendance of the Members now totaled 244.

EXPLANATION OF REPRESENTATIVE TINIO’S VOTE

With the permission of the Chair, Representative Tinio clarified that the vote of a Member signifies whether or not, he or she supports the sole candidacy of Representative Macapagal-Arroyo as Speaker of the House. He explained that the Makabayan Bloc did not abstain from voting but cast a “No” vote which signified that they do not support the speakership of Representative Macapagal-Arroyo.

REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

In reply, the Chair stated that a “No” vote to the nomination of Representative Macapagal-Arroyo was misplaced at that moment and out of order.

RESULT OF THE VOTING

The result of the voting was as follows:

“Yes” vote:

Abayon
Abellanosa
Abu
Acharon
Acosta-Alba
Aggabao
Alonte
Alvarez (M.)
Amante
Andaya
Angara-Castillo
Antonino
Antonio
Aquino-Magsaysay
Aragones
Arbison
Arcillas
Arenas
Atienza
Aumentado
Bagatsing
Barzaga
Batocabe
Bautista-Bandigan
Belaro
Belmonte (F.)
Belmonte (R.)
Benitez
Bernos
Bertiz
Biazon
Biron
Bolilia
Bravo (A.)
Bravo (M.V.)
Bulut-Begtang
Cagas
Calalang
Calixto-Rubiano
Campos
Canama
Cari
Castelo
Castro (F.H.)

Cayetano	Malapitan
Celeste	Manalo
Cerilles	Mangaoang
Chavez	Mangudadatu (S.)
Chipeco	Mangudadatu (Z.)
Co	Marcoleta
Collantes	Marcos
Cortuna	Martinez
Cosalan	Mendoza
Cuaresma	Mirasol
Dalipe	Montoro
Del Mar	Nava
Deloso-Montalla	Nieto
Dimaporo (A.)	Noel
Duavit	Nogralas (K.A.)
Durano	Nuñez-Malanyaon
Dy	Olivarez
Enverga	Ong (E.)
Eriguel	Ong (H.)
Ermita-Buhain	Ortega (P.)
Escudero	Ortega (V. N.)
Espina	Paduano
Espino	Palma
Estrella	Pancho
Fernando	Panganiban
Ferrer (L.)	Panotes
Ferriol-Pascual	Pichay
Floirendo	Pineda
Flores	Primicias-Agabas
Fortun	Relampagos
Fortuno	Roa-Puno
Garbin	Robes
Garcia (J.E.)	Rodriguez (I.)
Garcia-Albano	Roman
Garin (R.)	Romero
Garin (S.)	Romualdez
Gasataya	Romualdo
Gatchalian	Roque
Geron	Sagarbarria
Go (M.)	Salceda
Gonzales (A.P.)	Salo
Hernandez	Salon
Herrera-Dy	Sambar
Jalosjos	Sandoval
Javier	Sarmiento (C.)
Kho	Sarmiento (E.M.)
Khonghun	Savellano
Lacson	Siao
Lanete	Silverio
Laogan	Suansing (E.)
Lazatin	Suansing (H.)
Leachon	Suarez
Lopez (C.)	Sy-Alvarado
Lopez (M. L.)	Tambunting
Macapagal-Arroyo	Tan (A.)
Maceda	Tan (M.)
Madrona	Tan (S.)

Tejada
Ting
Treñas
Tugna
Tupas
Ungab
Unico
Uy (J.)
Uy (R.)
Uybarreta
Vargas
Vargas-Alfonso
Velarde
Velasco
Velasco-Catera
Vergara
Villafuerte
Villanueva
Villaraza-Suarez
Violago
Yap (A.)
Yap (M.)
Yap (V.)
Zamora (M.C.)
Zamora (R.)
Zubiri

“No” vote:

Brosas
Casilao
Tinio
Zarate

Abstained:

Abaya
Bag-ao
Baguilat
Banal
Belmonte (J.C.)
Bordado
Daza
De Venecia
Erice
Lagman
Limkaichong
Quimbo

With 184 affirmative votes and 12 abstentions, the Chair declared Representative Macapagal-Arroyo elected as the new Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MOTION OF MAJORITY LEADER CASTRO (F.H.)

With Representative Macapagal-Arroyo having been declared as the newly-elected Speaker of the House, Majority Leader Castro moved that the Body proceed with her oath-taking.

He also requested the following Members, as leaders of their respective political parties, to accompany Representative Macapagal-Arroyo to the rostrum: Rep. Michael John R. Duavit for the Nationalist People’s Coalition; Deputy Speaker Raneo “Ranie” E. Abu for the Nacionalista Party; Rep. Magnolia C. Antonino for and in behalf of Majority Leader Castro, for the National Unity Party; Rep. Feliciano Belmonte Jr. for the Liberal Party; Rep. Alfredo “Albee” B. Benitez for Partido Demokratiko Pilipino–Lakas ng Bayan; Rep. Yedda Marie K. Romualdez for Lakas-Christian Muslim Democrats; and Deputy Speaker Sharon S. Garin for the party-list bloc.

Finally, he designated the youngest Member of the House under the 17th Congress, Rep. Dennis C. Laogan, to administer the oath of office to Speaker-elect Macapagal-Arroyo.

OATH-TAKING OF SPEAKER MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

Thereafter, Representative Laogan administered the oath of office to Representative Macapagal-Arroyo as Speaker of the House of Representatives in the presence of the aforesaid party leaders and other Members of the House.

At this juncture, the Presiding Officer relinquished the Chair to Speaker Macapagal-Arroyo.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY OF REPRESENTATIVE ABELLANOSA

Recognized by the Chair, Rep. Rodrigo A. Abellanosa emphasized that he voted for the new Speaker but so as not to make the proceedings questionable, he asked for a reconciliation of the records. He noted that at the start of their session, it was announced that some 236 or 238 Members were in attendance but when the result of the voting was declared, the total of those who voted for Speaker Macapagal-Arroyo numbering 184 and those who abstained numbering 12, would only total 196.

**REMARKS OF MAJORITY
LEADER CASTRO (F.H.)**

Upon the Chair's recognition, Majority Leader Castro, in response to the inquiry of Representative Abellanosa and so as not to further delay the proceedings on the floor, requested the Secretary General to reconcile or reexamine the number of votes and the attendance during the Roll Call, and to submit a report to Representative Abellanosa.

The Chair directed the Secretary General to do as requested.

MOTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER ABU

Deputy Speaker Abu thereupon moved that the Secretary General be directed to inform the Senate of the Philippines and the Office of the President of the election of the new Speaker of the House.

Duly seconded and there being no objection to his motion, the Body approved the same and the Secretary General was so directed.

**MANIFESTATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE LAGMAN**

Recognized by the Chair, Representative Lagman stated that it would be hard for the Secretariat to make a reconciliation of the records because the attendance was called and recalled before the entry of the members of the Secretariat in the Session Hall.

The Chair took note of Representative Lagman's manifestation.

**AFFIRMATION OF MAJORITY
LEADER CASTRO'S MOTION (F.H.)**

As moved anew by Majority Leader Castro, duly seconded by Representative Antonino, there being no objection, the Chair directed the Secretary General to make a reconciliation of the records of voting and attendance, and to present the same to Representative Abellanosa.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Thereafter, Majority Leader Castro (F.H.) moved for the adjournment of session and to resume at four o'clock in the afternoon of the following day.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed with Deputy Speaker Andaya presiding.

WITHDRAWAL OF MOTION TO ADJOURN

Majority Leader Castro (F.H.) withdrew his motion to adjourn the session, and moved for the recognition of Representative Nograles (K.A.).

**ELECTION OF MR. LESACA
AS INTERIM SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**

On motion of Representative Nograles (K.A.), there being no objection, the Body elected Mr. Danilo A. Lesaca as interim Sergeant-at-Arms.

REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

With the election of Mr. Lesaca as interim Sergeant-at-Arms, the Chair stated that the interim Secretary General is Mr. Dante Roberto P. Maling.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Majority Leader Castro (F.H.), the session was suspended until four o'clock in the afternoon of Tuesday, July 24, 2018.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 24, 2018, the session resumed with Deputy Speaker Rolando G. Andaya Jr. presiding.

REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

At this point, the Chair directed the Secretary General to distribute copies of the Conference Committee Report on the proposed Bangsamoro Organic Law for approval by the Body.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Thereupon, the Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session at 4:01 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 4:22 p.m.

**RATIFICATION OF CONFERENCE
COMMITTEE REPORT
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 6475
AND SENATE BILL NO. 1717**

Upon resumption of session, on motion of Rep. Fredenil “Fred” H. Castro, there being no objection, the Body considered and subsequently ratified the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 6475 and Senate Bill No. 1717, providing for the Organic Law for the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Deputy Speaker Andaya *motu proprio* suspended the session at 4:23 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:11 p.m. with Deputy Speaker Abu presiding.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Castro (F.H.) acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Reps. Alex “AA” L. Advincula, Jeffrey D. Khonghun, Eleanor C. Bulut-Begtang, Milagros Aquino-Magsaysay, and Conrado M. Estrella III.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Castro (F.H.), the session was suspended at 5:17 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:21 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Castro (F.H.), there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until four o’clock in the afternoon of Wednesday, July 25, 2018.

It was 5:22 p.m., Tuesday, July 24, 2018.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. CESAR STRAIT PAREJA**
Secretary General