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JOURNAL NO. 45
Wednesday, December 06, 2017

Prepared by the
JOURNAL SERVICE
Plenary Affairs Bureau

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CALL TO ORDER

At 4:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Mylene J. Garcia-Albano called the session to order.

NATIONAL ANTHEM AND PRAYER

Pursuant to Section 73, Rule XI of the amended Provisional Rules of the House, the Members sang the National Anthem and thereafter, observed a minute of silent prayer.

ROLL CALL

On motion of Rep. Ann K. Hofer, there being no objection, the Chair directed the Secretary General to call the Roll and the following Members were present:

Abaya
Abellanosa
Abu
Abueg
Acharon
Acop
Acosta-Alba
Advincula
Aggabao
Aglipay-Villar
Albano
Alejano
Almario
Almonte
Alvarez (F.)
Alvarez (P.)
Amante
Amatong
Andaya
Aquino-Magsaysay
Aragones
Arbison
Arcillas
Arenas
Atienza
Bataoil
Batocabe
Bautista-Bandigan
Belaro
Belmonte (J.C.)
Biazon
Bolilia
Bondoc

Bordado
Bravo (A.)
Bravo (M.V.)
Brosas
Calderon
Calixto-Rubiano
Caminero
Campos
Canama
Casilao
Castelo
Castro (F.L.)
Castro (F.H.)
Cerafica
Cerilles
Chipeco
Co
Cojuangco
Collantes
Cortes
Cortuna
Cosalan
Crisologo
Cua
Cuaresma
Cueva
Dalipe
Datol
de Venecia
De Vera
Defensor
Del Mar
Del Rosario
Dimaporo (A.)
Dimaporo (M.K.)
Elago
Erice
Eriguel
Ermita-Buhain
Escudero
Espino
Estrella
Evardone
Fariñas
Ferrer (J.)
Ferrer (L.)
Ferriol-Pascual
Flores
Fortun
Fortuno
Fuentebella
Garbin

Garcia (G.)	Pimentel
Garcia (J.E.)	Pineda
Garcia-Albano	Primicias-Agabas
Garin (S.)	Quimbo
Gasataya	Ramirez-Sato
Gatchalian	Ramos
Go (M.)	Relampagos
Gomez	Revilla
Gonzaga	Roa-Puno
Gonzales (A.P.)	Rodriguez (I.)
Gonzales (A.D.)	Romero
Gonzalez	Romualdo
Herrera-Dy	Salimbangon
Hofer	Salo
Jalosjos	Sambar
Kho	Sandoval
Khonghun	Sarmiento (E.M.)
Labadlabad	Savellano
Lacson	Sema
Lanete	Siao
Laogan	Silverio
Leachon	Singson
Lee	Suansing (E.)
Lobregat	Suarez
Lopez (B.)	Tambunting
Lopez (M.L.)	Tan (A.)
Loyola	Tan (M.)
Macapagal-Arroyo	Tejada
Madrona	Teves
Malapitan	Ting
Manalo	Tinio
Mangaoang	Tolentino
Mangudadatu (Z.)	Treñas
Marcoleta	Tupas
Mariño	Ty
Marquez	Umali
Martinez	Unabia
Mending	Ungab
Mercado	Unico
Montoro	Uy (J.)
Noel	Uy (R.)
Nogralas (J.J.)	Uybarreta
Nogralas (K.A.)	Vargas
Nuñez-Malanyaon	Veloso
Oaminal	Villafuerte
Ocampo	Villanueva
Olivarez	Villarica
Ong (E.)	Yap (A.)
Ong (H.)	Yap (M.)
Ortega (P.)	Yap (V.)
Ortega (V.N.)	Yu
Pacquiao	Zamora (R.)
Paduano	Zarate
Palma	Zubiri
Pancho	
Panganiban	
Papandayan	
Pichay	

With 197 Members responding to the Call, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum. (See Appendix)

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

Thereupon, on motion of Representative Hofer, there being no objection, the Body approved Journal No. 44, dated December 5, 2017.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Hofer, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the Reference of Business.

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 6744, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A FOOD POLICY FRAMEWORK, CREATING NATIONAL AND LOCAL FOOD COUNCILS AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE”

By Representative Chavez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD SECURITY

House Bill No. 6745, entitled:

“AN ACT TO SUPPORT FARMER AND FISHERFOLK ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT BY WAY OF RESTRUCTURING AND STRENGTHENING LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS IN AGRICULTURE TO BE KNOWN AS 'SAGIP SAKA', PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Chavez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 6746, entitled:

“AN ACT REAPPORTIONING THE COMPOSITION OF THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT AND SANGGUNIANG

PANGLUNGSOD SEATS OF THE CITY OF CALOOCAN”

By Representative Malapitan

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 6747, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING THE PHILIPPINE MECHANICAL ENGINEERING ACT OF 1998”

By Representative Campos

TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 6748, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY VICTORIA REYES IN THE CITY OF DASMARIÑAS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE”

By Representative Barzaga

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 6749, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY NEW ERA IN THE CITY OF DAMARIÑAS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE”

By Representative Barzaga

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 6750, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY H-2 IN THE CITY OF DASMARIÑAS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE”

By Representative Barzaga

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 6751, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING AN ADDITIONAL BRANCH OF REGIONAL TRIAL

COURT IN THE 3RD DISTRICT OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE, TO BE STATIONED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LILOY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 129, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'JUDICIARY REORGANIZATION ACT OF 1980' AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Amatong

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 6752, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE CACAO INDUSTRY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Tan (A.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 1503, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CALLING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDEMN AND CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CASES OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL KILLINGS ON AUGUST 28, 2017, OF FARMERS AND HUNTERS ROGELIO MENDOZA AND ROLITO MENDOZA IN CADSALAN, SAN MARIANO, ISABELA, PERPETRATED BY THE 86TH INFANTRY BATTALION OF THE PHILIPPINE ARMY”

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

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1504, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CONDUCT OF US-PHILIPPINES COUNTER-TERRORISM DRILL

'TEMPEST WIND' AND ITS IMPLICATIONS ON PHILIPPINE SOVEREIGNTY”

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

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1505, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER HOUSE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY AND INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE APPARENT CORRUPTION AND IRREGULARITIES IN THE IMPOSITION, COLLECTION, AND DISTRIBUTION OF TAXES AND FEES ON THE QUARRYING OPERATIONS IN THE PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA AND OTHER PROVINCES IN THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representatives Vergara, Violago and Teves

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1506, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED FOOD BLOCKADE IMPOSED BY THE MILITARY IN A LUMAD EVACUATION CAMP IN LIANGA, SURIGAO DEL SUR”

By Representative Elago

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1507, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE 'ASEAN BAC PHILIPPINES' HEADED BY PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP CHAIRMAN JOEY CONCEPCION AND COUNCIL MEMBERS TESSIE SY-COSON AND GEORGE T. BARCELON FOR SUCCESSFULLY ORGANIZING AND HOSTING THE ASEAN BUSINESS AND INVESTMENT SUMMIT (ABIS) 2017”

By Representatives Yap (A.), Panganiban and Biron

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1508, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM (GSIS) TO IMMEDIATELY WAIVE INCURRED PENALTIES OF LOANS OBTAINED BY PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Salo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Message dated November 29, 2017, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed with amendments House Bill No. 6215, entitled:

“AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND EIGHTEEN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

in view of the disagreeing votes on the said House Bill, the Senate designated Senators Loren Legarda, Ralph G. Recto, Franklin M. Drilon, Cynthia A. Villar, Sonny Angara, Panfilo M. Lacson, Joseph Victor G. Ejercito, Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay and Juan Miguel F. Zubiri as its conferees to the Bicameral Conference Committee.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated December 4, 2017, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date designated Senator Vicente C. Sotto III as an additional conferee to the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 6215, entitled:

“AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND EIGHTEEN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter dated October 10, 2017 of Catalino S. Cuy, Officer-in-Charge, Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), submitting to the House of Representatives the DILG’s 3rd Quarter Progress Report on Performance Challenge Fund for CY 2017.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project Implementation for the Quarter ended September 30, 2017 of the Municipality of Lupao, Province of Nueva Ecija.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report by the Committee on Basic Education and Culture (Committee Report No. 503), re H.B. No. 6306, entitled:

“AN ACT RECOGNIZING THE BRITISH SCHOOL MANILA AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER, GRANTING CERTAIN PREROGATIVES CONDUCTIVE TO ITS DEVELOPMENT AS SUCH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

recommending its approval in consolidation with House Bills Numbered 6032 and 6063

Sponsors: Representatives Durano, Lacson, Salo and Escudero

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 504), re H.J.R. No. 18, entitled:

“JOINT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE IN BASE PAY OF MILITARY AND UNIFORMED PERSONNEL IN THE GOVERNMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

recommending its adoption without amendment in consolidation with House Bills Numbered 1325, 1350, 1465, 1701, House Joint Resolutions Numbered 14, 16, 17, 19 and House Resolution No. 1459

Sponsors: Representatives Nograles (K.A.), Alvarez (P.), Fariñas, Suarez, Pimentel, Abayon, Biazon, Alejano, Bertiz, Alonte, Yap (A.) and Belaro

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Local Government (Committee Report No. 505), re H.B. No. 6764, entitled:

“AN ACT TRANSFERRING THE CAPITAL AND SEAT OF GOVERNMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF RIZAL FROM THE CITY OF PASIG, METRO MANILA TO THE CITY OF ANTIPOLO, PROVINCE OF RIZAL”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 3046

Sponsors: Representatives Acharon, Acop and Duavit

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

**BUSINESS FOR THE DAY:
COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 504 ON
HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 18**

Upon motion of Representative Hofer, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Joint Resolution No. 18, as embodied in Committee Report No. 504 and reported out by the Committee on Appropriations.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read the title of the measure, to wit:

“JOINT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE IN BASE PAY OF MILITARY AND UNIFORMED PERSONNEL IN THE GOVERNMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

As copies of the House Joint Resolution had been distributed to the Members, on motion of Representative Hofer, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the text of the measure without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House.

Subsequently, on motion of Representative Hofer, the Chair recognized the Chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations, Rep. Karlo Alexei B. Nograles for his sponsorship speech.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE NOGRALES (K.A.)

Representative Nograles expressed his honor in sponsoring House Joint Resolution No. 18 which he said was authored by Speaker Pantaleon D. Alvarez, Majority Leader Rodolfo C. Fariñas, Minority Leader Danilo E. Suarez and himself. Due to time constraints, he then moved to insert his sponsorship speech into the Record of the House.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE DEFENSOR

Rep. Arthur R. Defensor Jr. adopted the motion of Representative Nograles (K.A.) and also moved to consider the Explanatory Note as sponsorship remarks on the measure. There being no objection, the Body approved the same.

ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

Thereafter, on motion of Rep. Alexandria P. Gonzales, there being no objection, the Body approved to include as additional coauthors of House Joint Resolution No. 18, Rep. Raul V. Del Mar and other Members as contained in the list to be submitted by the Committee on Rules.

Subsequently, on motion of Representative Gonzales (A.P.), the Chair recognized Rep. Antonio L. Tinio for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE TINIO

Representative Tinio initially said that House Joint Resolution No. 18 is unprecedented and an important measure that Congress should focus on. He then asked the Sponsor if effective January 1, 2018, the salaries of police, soldiers, and uniformed personnel will be doubly increased.

To Rep. Tinio's query on policy changes in the implementation of salary increases of men in uniform, the Sponsor explained that the Duterte Administration recognizes their role in ensuring the country's national and internal security, this as he stressed that the needs of the civilian employees will also be addressed in the forthcoming annual budget hearings.

As to the implementation of House Joint Resolution No. 18, Rep. Nograles (K.A.) said that once it is approved by the Senate in a bicameral committee, the proposed amount for the salary increase would be fully funded. He thereafter disclosed the

amounts needed for the 2018 and 2019 salary increases under said Joint Resolution, and also clarified that said increments would not affect the 2018 performance-based bonus (PBB) of civilian employees.

Representative Tinio raised the concern of implementing another round of salary increases to civilian government personnel after the full implementation of Executive Order (E.O.) No. 201 by 2019, to which Representative Nograles stated that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) is presently studying the matter.

Thereupon, both Members discussed the basis for the modified base pay schedule for the military and uniformed personnel (MUP); and the distortion in salaries between MUP and civilian government personnel considering that there are certain criteria and professional qualifications to consider.

Representative Nograles stated that there is no comparison on the classification between the MUP and civilian government personnel as they could be treated differently as they belong to different sectors.

Representative Tinio stated that public school teachers, nurses, doctors, and other government employees are also important to the nation and the Administration should focus on the Salary Standardization Law (SSL) for the benefit of all.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 18

On motion of Representative Defensor, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of House Joint Resolution No. 18.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Rep. Gonzales (A.P.) acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of guests of Speaker Alvarez, Reps. Henry S. Oaminal, Sabiniano S. Canama and Ann K. Hofer.

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 18

On motion of Representative Defensor, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration on Second Reading of House Joint Resolution No. 18.

On further motion of Representative Defensor, the Chair recognized Representatives Nograles

(K.A.) and Tinio, as sponsor and interpellator, respectively.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE TINIO (Continuation)

Representative Tinio next discussed with the Sponsor the reduction in the PBB for the year 2018 as compared to 2017 which Representative Nograles (K.A.) explained was due to the low utilization rate in 2017 and would be allotted to those with a high utilization rate.

Representative Tinio then asked if the reduction would be the source of funds for the instant measure as he stressed that other government employees should also receive an increase in their salaries and remarked that there seems to be an attempt by the Administration to get military and police support for the war against illegal drugs and the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army (CPP-NPA) which the Administration declared as terrorists, through the passing of the measure. Representative Nograles clarified that the government is not advocating the measure in order to support a revolutionary government.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE DEFENSOR

At this point, Representative Defensor stated that the time allotment of Representative Tinio had already expired.

REMINDER FROM THE CHAIR

Deputy Speaker Garcia-Albano thus reminded Representative Tinio to wind up his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE TINIO (Continuation)

To Representative Tinio's concern on giving the same substantial salary increases especially to rank-and-file government employees, Representative Nograles (K.A.) pointed out that it would be at both Houses of Congress' discretion and should be decided upon together with the Executive branch.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 18

Upon motion of Representative Defensor, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of House Joint Resolution No. 18.

APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF CERTAIN HOUSE BILLS UNDER THE BUSINESS FOR THE DAY

On successive motions of Representative Defensor, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading the following House Bills, as contained in various Committee Reports and submitted by the Committee on Legislative Franchises; dispensed with the reading of the texts of the measures without prejudice to their insertion into the Record of the House; adopted the Explanatory Notes as the sponsorship remarks on the measures as concurred by Rep. Franz E. Alvarez, Chairperson of the Committee on Legislative Franchises; terminated the period of sponsorship and debate; approved the amendments as contained in the Committee Reports or as presented on the floor, if any; terminated the period of amendments; and approved the same on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting:

1. House Bill No. 6707 as embodied in Committee Report No. 488, extending for another twenty-five (25) years the franchise granted to Raven Broadcasting Corporation, under Republic Act (R.A.) No. 8084 ; and
2. House Bill No. 6708 as embodied in Committee Report No. 489, extending for another twenty-five (25) years the franchise granted to Advanced Media Broadcasting System, Inc., under R.A. No. 8061.

ADOPTION OF HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1463

On further successive motions of Representative Defensor, there being no objection, the Body considered House Resolution No. 1463 as embodied in Committee Report No. 481 and reported out by the Committee on Tourism, entitled: “A RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING HIS EXCELLENCY, PRESIDENT RODRIGO DUTERTE, TO RENEW THE POLICY WHICH GRANTS TRAVEL TAX EXEMPTION TO TRAVELLERS DEPARTING FROM ALL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS AND SEAPORTS IN MINDANAO AND PALAWAN TO ANY DESTINATION IN THE BRUNEI DARUSSALAM-INDONESIA-MALAYSIA-PHILIPPINES - EAST ASEAN GROWTH AREA (BIMP-EAGA)””; dispensed with the reading of the text thereof without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House; and unanimously adopted the same.

RATIFICATION OF THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ON HOUSE BILL NO. 4863 AND SENATE BILL NO. 1239

Upon motion of Representative Defensor, there being no objection, the Body considered and subsequently ratified the Conference Committee Report on the disagreeing provisions of House Bill No. 4863 and Senate Bill No. 1239, granting the Chief of the Philippine National Police, the Director and the Deputy Director for Administration of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group the authority to administer oath and to issue subpoena.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

At 5:30 p.m., the session was suspended on motion of Representative Defensor.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:32 p.m.

BUSINESS FOR THE DAY: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 460 ON HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1418

On motion of Representative Defensor, there being no objection, the Body considered House Resolution No. 1418 as contained in Committee Report No. 460 and reported out by the Committee on Tourism.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read the title of the Resolution, to wit:

“A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM (DOT), THROUGH THE TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENTERPRISE ZONE AUTHORITY (TIEZA), TO ALLOCATE FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC RESTROOMS ALONG THE EASTERN AND WESTERN NAUTICAL HIGHWAYS OF THE PHILIPPINES.”

Considering that copies of the Resolution had been distributed to the Members, on motion of Representative Defensor, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the text thereof without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House.

Upon Representative Defensor’s further motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Lucy T. Gomez, Chairperson of the Committee on Tourism, to sponsor the measure.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

As presented by Representative Defensor and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved the Committee amendments on the first, second, third, and resolatory clauses as well as the title of House Resolution No. 1418.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no other Committee and individual amendments, on motion of Representative Defensor, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of amendments.

ADOPTION OF HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1418, AS AMENDED

On motion of Representative Defensor, there being no objection, the Body adopted House Resolution No. 1418, as amended.

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 18

Upon motion of Representative Defensor, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration of House Joint Resolution No. 18, as embodied in Committee Report No. 504 and reported out by the Committee on Appropriations, entitled:

“JOINT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE INCREASE IN BASE PAY OF MILITARY AND UNIFORMED PERSONNEL IN THE GOVERNMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

Representative Defensor stated that the status of the House Joint Resolution was that it was in the period of sponsorship and debate; and on his successive motions, the Chair recognized Representative Nograles (K.A.) to sponsor the same and Rep. Gary C. Alejano to interpellate thereon.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ALEJANO

At the outset, Representative Alejano lauded the Committee on Appropriations headed by Representative Nograles (K.A) in its effort to increase the salaries of the uniformed sector; manifested his support for House Joint Resolution No. 18; and recounted the history of a bill on a fourth tranche on salary standardization for all government employees, that he had filed as an anti-corruption measure.

Representatives Alejano and Nograles then discussed the Joint Resolution’s provision on the suspension of military retirees’ pension indexation to active personnel’s base pay in accordance with E.O. No. 201. The latter pointed out that the suspension would be temporary and the Committee was willing to accept an amendment whereby the suspension would be only for a period of up to January 1, 2019 or upon the effectivity of a new Pension Reform Law, whichever will come earlier, so that retirees will be covered by the increases in pension.

Next discussing the amount needed for pension indexation, Representative Alejano asked whether there will also be increases in hazardous pay, flying pay, and other benefits connected to the increase of the MUP base pay. Representative Nograles cited the breakdown of the increase in the monthly base pay which includes all other allowances that military personnel have been receiving, after which he said that the funds for the third tranche of salary standardization under E.O. No. 201 were already released to the different civilian and military agencies.

Thereupon, Representative Alejano discussed the following issues with the Sponsor: sources and amounts of funds to implement the third tranche of E.O. No. 201 for the MUP; the seemingly bigger increases in the year 2018 for enlisted personnel as compared to officers; the comparative net salaries that the MUP will receive under E.O. No. 201 and House Joint Resolution No. 18; and the comparative risks faced by civilian employees in agencies such as the Department of National Defense and Bureau of Jail Management and Penology on one hand, and by the MUP on the other hand.

After Representative Nograles said he will provide Representative Alejano with the pertinent computation and data thereon, the latter then opined that the armed forces will not support the declaration of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte of a revolutionary government and that insurgency could not be solved by creating another problem.

Representative Alejano subsequently thanked the sponsoring Committee for its initiative to improve the morale of soldiers and policemen, and expressed hope that the instant House Joint Resolution will not aim to buy their loyalty as they should be faithful only to the Constitution.

On motion of Representative Gonzales (A.P.), the Chair recognized Rep. Rolando G. Andaya Jr. for his interpellation.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE ANDAYA**

Representative Andaya, after expressing support for House Joint Resolution No. 18, inquired whether Representative Nograles (K.A.) would agree with his observation as a former Chairperson of the Committee on Appropriations that while the desire of Congress is to give salary increases every year, it has to first consider the sources therefor. He traced the history of the Salary Standardization Laws and recalled that during the Ramos and Macapagal-Arroyo Administrations, salary increases were coupled with an increase in the value-added tax; were given to one sector at a time; and although it was assured after several years that another round of salary standardization would be in the offing for another sector, there would be a tendency to increase tax collections.

Representative Nograles agreed with Representative Andaya's observations.

On motion of Representative Gonzales (A.P.), the Chair recognized Rep. Frances L. Castro for her interpellation.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)**

Representative Castro first discussed with Representative Nograles (K.A.) the effects of the proposed salary increase for the MUP on their retirement benefits; as well as the seeming distortion in the salary scale, as prepared by the DBM, between rank-and-file personnel and officers.

Thereupon, Representative Castro stressed the need to explain the swift and huge increase in the salaries of uniformed personnel as she pointed out that civilian personnel are also affected by the increasing cost of goods and services.

The Sponsor clarified that the increase in the salaries of other government employees was still under study and would depend on the increase in government revenues such as those that could be raised with the proposed tax reform bill. He assured his colleague, who emphasized that no one should be left behind, that he will coordinate with the DBM about the matter.

**TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD
OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE**

There being no more interpellations, on successive motions of Representative Defensor, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate on House Joint Resolution No. 18; and proceeded to the period of amendments.

**AMENDMENTS OF
REPRESENTATIVE DEFENSOR**

As proposed by Representative Defensor and accepted by the Sponsor, there being no objection, the Body approved amendments on pages 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the measure.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT
OF REPRESENTATIVE TINIO**

Representative Tinio, recognized by the Chair upon Representative Defensor's motion, proposed an amendment in Sections 1 and 2 of the measure.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair suspended the session at 6:59 p.m. upon Representative Defensor's motion.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 7:00 p.m.

**PROPOSED AMENDMENT
OF REPRESENTATIVE TINIO
(Continuation)**

The Sponsor did not accept the aforecited proposal of Representative Tinio.

**REMARKS OF
REPRESENTATIVE DEFENSOR**

Representative Defensor remarked that Representative Tinio's proposed amendment could be accommodated in an impending bill on another round of salary standardization; and requested his colleague to forego with the same to give way to the approval of the instant measure.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE TINIO

Representative Tinio stated that it is on record that he made a concrete proposal and it was rejected by the Sponsor.

**TERMINATION OF THE
PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS**

There being no other Committee and individual amendments, on motion of Representative Defensor, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of amendments on House Joint Resolution No. 18.

**APPROVAL ON SECOND READING
OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION
NO. 18, AS AMENDED**

On further motion of Representative Defensor, there being no objection, the Body approved House Joint Resolution No. 18, as amended, on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting.

**REFERRAL OF HOUSE RESOLUTIONS ON
INQUIRIES IN AID OF LEGISLATION**

In accordance with the Rules governing inquiries, in aid of legislation, on motion of Representative Defensor, there being no objection, the Body approved to refer the following House Resolutions to the appropriate Committees hereunder indicated:

1. House Resolution No. 1460, on the proliferation of the off-dock Container Yard/Container Freight Stations (CY/CFS) in the Philippines causing an imperil on the Bureau of Customs' capacity to closely supervise and control these sensitive areas of customs operations – to the Committee on Ways and Means;
2. House Resolution No. 1464, on the implementation of Proclamation No. 518 (S. 1990) – to the Committee on Housing and Urban Development;
3. House Resolution No. 1468, on the continued proliferation of illegal drugs in correctional facilities as well as to identify government officials and/or employees involved in the illegal drug trade – to the Committee on Dangerous Drugs;
4. House Resolution No. 1474, on the extent of the country's foreign debt – to the Committees on Ways and Means; and Appropriations;
5. House Resolution No. 1480, on the implementation of road projects in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) by the Department of Public Works and Highways in comparison to the ARMM Regional Government – to the Committee on Public Works and Highways;
6. House Resolution No. 1481, on the recent use of a Long-Range Audio Device (LRAD) against protesters marching to-

wards the Philippine International Convention Center on November 13, 2017 – to the Committee on Public Order and Safety; and

7. House Resolution No. 1485, on the reported anomalies and corruption in the issuance of Overseas Employment Certificates to overseas Filipino workers by the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration – to the Committee on Overseas Workers Affairs.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

On further motion of Representative Defensor, there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until four o'clock in the afternoon of Monday, December 11, 2017.

It was 7:04 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

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

Approved on December 11, 2017

DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED

Printed copies of the following measures were distributed to the Members during the session:

1. House Bill No. 3222, entitled:
“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL VISION SCREENING PROGRAM FOR KINDERGARTEN PUPILS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”
2. House Bill No. 6604, entitled:
“AN ACT REGULATING THE RATES OF POLITICAL PROPAGANDA ON TELEVISION, RADIO AND PRINT

DURING AN ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN PERIOD, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 11 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9006, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'FAIR ELECTION ACT' ”

3. House Bill No. 6714, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF FOOD TECHNOLOGY IN THE PHILIPPINES, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE BOARD OF FOOD TECHNOLOGY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

4. House Bill No. 6585, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING BARANGAY TALA IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ORANI, PROVINCE OF BATAAN AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

5. House Bill No. 6602, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE HERACLEO CASCO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ANNEX IN BARANGAY SAN ISIDRO, MUNICIPALITY OF STA. MARIA, PROVINCE OF DAVAO OCCIDENTAL FROM THE HERACLEO CASCO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS PEDRO MARISCAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

6. House Bill No. 6603, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE KALBAY NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL ANNEX IN BARANGAY SUGAL, MUNICIPALITY OF JOSE ABAD SANTOS, PROVINCE OF DAVAO OCCIDENTAL FROM THE KALBAY NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS EMELIANO S. FONTANARES SR. NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

7. House Bill No. 6681, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE PORTA VEGA BEACH AND THE SHORELINES OF BARANGAYS T.R. YANGCO, CADULAN AND DIVISORIA, ALL LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF DIMASALANG, PROVINCE OF MASBATE AN ECOTOURISM SITE, ESTABLISHING THE PORTA VEGA ECOTOURISM COUNCIL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

8. House Bill No. 6682, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE LI-MAHONG CHANNEL LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LINGAYEN, PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN A TOURIST SPOT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

9. House Bill No. 6683, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF LA UNION A TOURIST DESTINATION AND THE 'SURFING CAPITAL OF THE NORTH', PROVIDING FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

10. House Bill No. 6711, entitled:

“AN ACT UPGRADING THE DR. PAULINO J. GARCIA MEMORIAL RESEARCH AND MEDICAL CENTER EXTENSION HOSPITAL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TALAVERA, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIJA, TO A LEVEL II HOSPITAL AND INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY FROM FIFTY (50) TO ONE HUNDRED (100) BEDS TO BE NOW KNOWN AS THE TALAVERA GENERAL HOSPITAL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

11. House Bill No. 6740, entitled:

“AN ACT UPGRADING THE LABUAN PUBLIC HOSPITAL IN ZAMBOANGA CITY INTO A LEVEL II HOSPITAL TO BE KNOWN AS THE LABUAN GENERAL HOSPITAL, INCREASING ITS BED CAPACITY FOR GENERAL CARE SERVICES

TO ONE HUNDRED (100), AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

12. House Bill No. 6742, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE ZAMBOANGA CITY MEDICAL CENTER IN ZAMBOANGA CITY FROM FIVE HUNDRED (500) TO EIGHT HUNDRED (800) BEDS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7272, AS AMENDED, ENTITLED 'AN ACT CONVERTING THE ZAMBOANGA REGIONAL HOSPITAL IN ZAMBOANGA CITY INTO ZAMBOANGA CITY MEDICAL CENTER, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

Congress of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Philippines

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE
Journal No. 45
Wednesday, December 06, 2017

ABAYA	*	BELMONTE (R.)	DEFENSOR
**** ABAYON	*****	BENITEZ	DEL MAR
ABELLANOSA	*	BERNOS	** DEL ROSARIO
ABU	*****	BERTIZ	* DELOSO-MONTALLA
*** ABUEG		BIAZON	DIMAPORO (A.)
ACHARON	*****	BILLONES	DIMAPORO (M.K.)
*** ACOP	*****	BIRON	***** DUAVIT
**** ACOSTA		BOLILIA	***** DURANO
ACOSTA-ALBA		BONDOC	***** DY
***** ADIONG		BORDADO	ELAGO
ADVINCULA	***	BRAVO (A.)	***** ENVERGA
***** AGARAO		BRAVO (M.V.)	ERICE
AGGABAO		BROSAS	*** ERIGUEL
AGLIPAY-VILLAR	*	BULUT-BEGTANG	ERMITA-BUHAIN
** ALBANO	*	CAGAS	ESCUDERO
***** ALCALA		CALDERON	**** ESPINA
ALEJANO	**	CALIXTO-RUBIANO	ESPINO
*** ALMARIO		CAMINERO	ESTRELLA
ALMONTE		CAMPOS	* EUSEBIO
**** ALONTE		CANAMA	EVARDONE
ALVAREZ (F.)	****	CARI	** FARIÑAS
***** ALVAREZ (M.)		CASILAO	* FERNANDO
ALVAREZ (P.)		CASTELO	FERRER (J.)
AMANTE		CASTRO (F.L.)	FERRER (L.)
AMATONG	**	CASTRO (F.H.)	FERRIOL-PASCUAL
ANDAYA	****	CATAMCO	**** FLOIRENDO
* ANGARA-CASTILLO	****	CAYETANO	FLORES
***** ANTONINO	****	CELESTE	FORTUN
***** ANTONIO		CERAFICA	FORTUNO
AQUINO-MAGSAYSAY		CERILLES	FUENTEBELLA
ARAGONES	****	CHAVEZ	GARBIN
ARBISON		CHIPECO	*** GARCIA (G.)
ARCILLAS		CO	GARCIA (J.E.)
*** ARENAS		COJUANGCO	GARCIA-ALBANO
ATIENZA		COLLANTES	***** GARIN (R.)
***** AUMENTADO		CORTES	*** GARIN (S.)
***** BAG-AO	***	CORTUNA	GASATAYA
***** BAGATSING		COSALAN	GATCHALIAN
**** BAGUILAT	**	CRISOLOGO	* GERON
***** BANAL	**	CUA	***** GO (A.C.)
***** BARBERS		CUARESMA	GO (M.)
***** BARZAGA		CUEVA	GOMEZ
BATAOIL		DALIPE	*** GONZAGA
BATOCABE		DATOL	GONZALES (A.P.)
BAUTISTA-BANDIGAN	*	DAZA	*** GONZALES (A.D.)
BELARO	****	DE JESUS	GONZALEZ
***** BELMONTE (F.)		DE VENECIA	**** GORRICETA
*** BELMONTE (J.C.)	**	DE VERA	**** GULLAS

*****	HERNANDEZ	***	OCAMPO		SILVERIO
	HERRERA-DY		OLIVAREZ		SINGSON
	HOFER		ONG (E.)		SUANSING (E.)
***	JALOSJOS		ONG (H.)	*****	SUANSING (H.)
*	JAVIER		ORTEGA (P.)	***	SUAREZ
	KHO		ORTEGA (V.N.)	*	SY-ALVARADO
	KHONGHUN		PACQUIAO	***	TAMBUNTING
	LABADLABAD		PADUANO		TAN (A.)
	LACSON		PALMA		TAN (M.)
*	LAGMAN		PANCHO	*****	TAN (S.)
	LANETE	***	PANGANIBAN		TEJADA
	LAOGAN	****	PANOTES		TEVES
*****	LAZATIN		PAPANDAYAN	*****	TIANGCO
	LEACHON		PICHAY		TING
	LEE	**	PIMENTEL		TINIO
*	LIMKAICHONG	**	PINEDA	***	TOLENTINO
	LOBREGAT	*	PLAZA	***	TREÑAS
	LOPEZ (B.)		PRIMICIAS-AGABAS	*	TUGNA
*****	LOPEZ (C.)	***	QUIMBO		TUPAS
	LOPEZ (M.L.)	****	RADAZA	***	TY
***	LOYOLA	***	RAMIREZ-SATO	***	UMALI
	MACAPAGAL-ARROYO		RAMOS		UNABIA
*	MACEDA		RELAMPAGOS		UNGAB
	MADRONA		REVILLA		UNICO
	MALAPITAN		ROA-PUNO		UY (J.)
	MANALO	****	ROBES		UY (R.)
***	MANGAOANG	****	ROCAMORA		UYBARRETA
*****	MANGUDADATU (S.)		RODRIGUEZ (I.)		VARGAS
	MANGUDADATU (Z.)	****	RODRIGUEZ (M.)	****	VARGAS-ALFONSO
***	MARCOLETA	*	ROMAN	****	VELARDE
*****	MARCOS		ROMERO	*	VELASCO
	MARIÑO	****	ROMUALDEZ	****	VELASCO-CATERA
	MARQUEZ	**	ROMUALDO	***	VELOSO
	MARTINEZ	****	ROQUE	****	VERGARA
****	MATUGAS	****	SACDALAN		VILLAFUERTE
*****	MELLANA	****	SAGARBARRIA	***	VILLANUEVA
***	MENDING	*	SAHALI	****	VILLARAZA-SUAREZ
*****	MENDOZA	****	SALCEDA		VILLARICA
***	MERCADO	***	SALIMBANGON	*	VILLARIN
*	MIRASOL	***	SALO	*	VIOLAGO
	MONTORO	****	SALON		YAP (A.)
****	NAVA		SAMBAR		YAP (M.)
*	NIETO		SANDOVAL		YAP (V.)
	NOEL	****	SANTOS-RECTO		YU
	NOGRALES (J.J.)	****	SARMIENTO (C.)	****	ZAMORA (M.C.)
	NOGRALES (K.A.)	****	SARMIENTO (E.M.)	***	ZAMORA (R.)
*	NOLASCO		SAVELLANO		ZARATE
	NUÑEZ-MALANYAON		SEMA		ZUBIRI
	OAMINAL		SIAO		

* Appeared after the Roll Call

** On official mission

*** Attending meetings of CA/HRET/Conference Committee/Committee meetings authorized by Committee on Rules

**** Officially notified the House, through the Secretariat, of their absence

***** Absent without notice

(Subject to correction/s that may appear in the Annual Journal)