



Journal
of the
House of Representatives

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION
2016 - 2017

JOURNAL NO. 48
Wednesday, November 23, 2016

Prepared by the
JOURNAL SERVICE
Plenary Affairs Bureau

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CALL TO ORDER

At 4:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Raneo “Ranie” E. Abu 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.

**DEFERMENT OF THE ROLL CALL
AND THE APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL**

On successive motions of Representative Jose Enrique “Joet” S. Garcia III, there being no objection, the Body deferred the calling of the Roll and the approval of the Journal of the previous session.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

On motion of Rep. Garcia (J.E.), 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, including the Communications which were referred to the appropriate Committees as hereunder indicated:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 4408, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING AN ENERGY DISASTER TRUST FUND FOR ELECTRIC CO-OPERATIVES AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representatives Uybarreta and Batocabe

TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Bill No. 4409, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE BULUAN – BANBAN – DAGA – PUGUIN – SACPII PROVINCIAL ROAD IN THE PROVINCE OF APAYAO INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Bulut-Begtang

**TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS
AND HIGHWAYS**

House Bill No. 4410, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) TO INCLUDE IN ITS ANNUAL APPROVED BUDGET AN ALLOCATION INTENDED FOR TRAININGS AND PROGRAMS FOR THE DRUG DEPENDENTS THAT WERE ALREADY REHABILITATED”

By Representatives Paduano, Belmonte (J.) and Crisologo

**TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND
TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

House Bill No. 4411, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL CLINICS TO INFORM THEIR PATIENTS OF THEIR RIGHT TO BUY DRUGS AND MEDICINES FROM OUTSIDE THE HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL CLINIC PHARMACY”

By Representative Romero

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4412, entitled:

“AN ACT ENHANCING REVENUE ADMINISTRATION AND COLLECTION BY GRANTING AN AMNESTY ON ALL ACCRUED PENALTIES AND CHARGES OF BUSINESSES WHICH CEASED TO OPERATE WITHOUT CLEARANCE FROM THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT”

By Representative Gatchalian

**TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND
MEANS**

House Bill No. 4413, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING MAY 17 OF EVERY YEAR AS THE NATIONAL DAY AGAINST HOMOPHOBIA AND TRANSPHOBIA, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Zarate

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND
GENDER EQUALITY

House Bill No. 4414, entitled:

“AN ACT DEFINING DISCRIMINATION ON
THE BASIS OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION
AND GENDER IDENTITY AND PROVID-
ING PENALTIES THEREFOR”

By Representative Zarate

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND
GENDER EQUALITY

House Bill No. 4415, entitled:

“AN ACT RECOGNIZING AND INSTITU-
TIONALIZING INDIGENOUS PEOPLES’
EDUCATIONAL SYSTEMS WITHIN THE
PHILIPPINE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM,
PROMULGATING THE PROCEDURES
FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT, RECOGNI-
TION, MANAGEMENT AND EVALUA-
TION OF IP SCHOOLS, APPROPRIATING
THE NECESSARY GOVERNMENT
FUNDS, FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, IN-
CENTIVES AND SUPPORT THEREFORE
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Baguilat

TO THE COMMITTEE ON INDIGENOUS
CULTURAL COMMUNITIES AND INDIG-
ENOUS PEOPLES

House Bill No. 4416, entitled:

“AN ACT TO PROMOTE THE WELL-BEING
AND HEALTH OF THE CITIZENS
THROUGH THE CREATION OF COMMU-
NITY FITNESS CENTERS IN ALL BA-
RANGAYS NATIONWIDE AND APPRO-
PRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE”

By Representative Abayon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4417, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CORREC-
TIONAL NURSERY PROGRAM IN ALL
CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR
WOMEN, APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PUR-
POSES”

By Representative Abayon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4418, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR FREE MEDICINE
AND OTHER BASIC MEDICAL SUPPLIES
TO ANY PRIVATE PERSON OR INDIVID-
UAL INJURED OR WOUNDED DURING A
MILITARY OR GOVERNMENT OPERA-
TION”

By Representative Abayon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4419, entitled:

“AN ACT TO PROHIBIT THE GOVERNMENT
FROM ALLOWING ANY NON-GOVERN-
MENT ENTITY FROM OCCUPYING ANY
BUILDING, OFFICE OR OTHER PREM-
ISES WHERE GOVERNMENTAL FUNC-
TIONS ARE BEING PERFORMED”

By Representative Abayon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE
AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 4420, entitled:

“AN ACT LIFTING THE HEIGHT RE-
STRICTIONS FOR APPLICANTS TO THE
ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Abayon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DE-
FENSE AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 4421, entitled:

“AN ACT TO PROHIBIT PROFITEERING
AND FRAUD RELATING TO MILITARY
ACTION, RELIEF, AND RECONSTRUC-
TION EFFORTS, AND FOR OTHER PUR-
POSES”

By Representative Abayon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DE-
FENSE AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 4422, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING URBAN FARMING
AND PROVIDING FUNDS AND INCEN-
TIVES THEREFOR”

By Representative Abayon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4423, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING TAX INCENTIVES TO CORPORATIONS, PARTNERSHIPS, ORGANIZATIONS, AND OTHER JURIDICAL ENTITIES FOR USING AND PROMOTING THE USE OF ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY BAGS, SUPPORTING SUCH EFFORTS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Abayon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 4424, entitled:

“AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL FLOOD RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CONSORTIUM TO PLAN, COORDINATE, CONDUCT, AND SHARE RESEARCH ON FLOODING, FLOOD PREVENTION, AND OTHER FLOOD-RELATED ISSUES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Abayon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4425, entitled:

“AN ACT MAKING AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINES ACCESSIBLE TO THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED INDIVIDUALS”

By Representative Abayon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

House Bill No. 4426, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING NATIONAL CEMETERIES AND PROVIDING FUNDS FOR THEIR MAINTENANCE THEREOF”

By Representative Abayon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4427, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER 292, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF 1987, BY GRANTING THE PHILIPPINE MILITARY ACADEMY (PMA) THE POWER TO CONFER MASTERAL DEGREES UPON OFFICERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP)”

By Representative Abayon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 4428, entitled:

“AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN THE OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS IN THE PHILIPPINE EMBASSY IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, PRESCRIBING ITS FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Abayon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 4429, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6981 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A WITNESS PROTECTION, SECURITY AND BENEFIT PROGRAM AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Abayon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4430, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING THAT A TREE BE PLANTED FOR EVERY CHILD BORN IN THE PHILIPPINES, PROVIDING A FRAMEWORK FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Abayon

TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON REFORESTATION

House Bill No. 4431, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 385 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1460, AS AMENDED BY PRESIDENTIAL DECREE 1455, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE INSURANCE CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Abayon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

House Bill No. 4432, entitled:

“AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CURRICULUM FOR TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR PUBLIC SECTOR

EMPLOYEES ON EMERGENCY AND
DISASTER PREPAREDNESS”

By Representative Abayon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE
AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 4433, entitled:

“AN ACT PENALIZING THE CHARGING OF
TAXI FARES WHICH ARE HIGHER THAN
THE OFFICIAL RATES, THE FAILURE TO
USE THE TAXI METERS, OR THE RE-
FUSAL TO CARRY TAXI PASSENGERS,
WITHOUT CAUSE, TO THEIR PLACES
OF DESTINATION”

By Representative Abayon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTA-
TION

House Bill No. 4434, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY
FOR TERTIARY GENERAL HEALTH
CARE OF DR. JOSE N. RODRIGUEZ ME-
MORIAL HOSPITAL AND SANITARIUM
FROM TWO HUNDRED (200) TO EIGHT
HUNDRED (800) BEDS, AND APPROPRI-
ATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING
FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 9420, ENTITLED 'AN ACT CONVERT-
ING TWO HUNDRED (200) BEDS) OF
THE 2,000-BED DR. JOSE N. RODRIGUEZ
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AND SANITA-
RIUM FOR TERTIARY GENERAL
HEALTH CARE, APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES' ”

By Representative Malapitan

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4435, entitled:

“AN ACT UPGRADING THE JOSE R. REYES
MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER
(JRRMMC) INTO A DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH (DOH) NATIONAL CENTER
FOR TRAUMA, CANCER AND DERMA-
TOLOGY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR”

By Representatives Nieto, Maceda, Tan (A.),
Lopez (C.), Lopez (M.), Ocampo and Bag-
atsing

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4436, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTY FOR
THE DETENTION OF PATIENTS IN HOS-
PITALS AND MEDICAL CLINICS ON
GROUNDS OF NONPAYMENT OF HOSPI-
TAL BILLS OR MEDICAL EXPENSES,
THEREBY AMENDING SECTION 3 OF
R.A. 9439”

By Representative Antonio

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4437, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING TAX INCENTIVES TO
INDIVIDUALS AND CORPORATIONS
GIVING DONATIONS, CONTRIBUTIONS,
AND GRANTS TO FILIPINO PERFORM-
ERS WHO HAVE WON INTERNATIONAL
COMPETITIONS”

By Representative Antonio

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND
MEANS

House Bill No. 4438, entitled:

“AN ACT FOR THE STEWARDSHIP AND
CONSERVATION OF BUILT CULTURAL
HERITAGE”

By Representative Savellano

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCA-
TION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4439, entitled:

“AN ACT CHANGING THE NAME OF THE
MALITA DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF MALITA, PROVINCE
OF DAVAO OCCIDENTAL TO DAVAO OC-
CIDENTAL PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL, IN-
CREASING THE BED CAPACITY FROM
TWENTY-FIVE (25) BEDS TO ONE HUN-
DRED (100) BEDS, AND APPROPRIAT-
ING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Bautista-Bandigan

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4440, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE AUTHORIZED
BED CAPACITY OF THE TOMAS
LACHICA DISTRICT HOSPITAL IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF JOSE ABAD SAN-
TOS, PROVINCE OF DAVAO OCCI-
DENTAL FROM TWENTY-FIVE (25)

BEDS TO FIFTY (50) BEDS, UPGRADING THE MEDICAL FACILITIES, IMPROVING HEALTH-CARE SERVICES THEREIN, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Bautista-Bandigan

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4441, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE CANITOAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – PAGATPAT ANNEX IN BARANGAY PAGATPAT, CITY OF CAGAYAN DE ORO, FROM THE CANITOAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS PAGATPAT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Uy (R.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4442, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE TAGLIMAO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – TUMPAGON ANNEX IN BARANGAY TUMPAGON, CITY OF CAGAYAN DE ORO, FROM THE TAGLIMAO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS TUMPAGON NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Uy (R.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4443, entitled:

“AN ACT EXPANDING THE LIABILITIES OF INDIRECT EMPLOYERS IN JOB CONTRACTING, COVERING OTHER BENEFITS DUE THEIR EMPLOYEES, FOR THIS PURPOSE AMENDING ARTICLE 106 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representatives Nieto, Maceda, Santos-Recto, Tan (A.), Lagman, Elago, Atienza and Laogan

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 4444, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING WORKERS RIGHT TO SECURITY OF TENURE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 106 TO 109 OF BOOK III, ARTICLES 294 [279] TO 296 [281] OF BOOK VI, AND ARTICLE 303 [288] OF BOOK VII, OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Mendoza

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 4445, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING COOPERATIVE MEMBER-WORKERS THE RIGHT TO SELF-ORGANIZATION, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Mendoza

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 4446, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN EFFICIENT SYSTEM TO STRENGTHEN WORKERS’ RIGHT TO SELF-ORGANIZATION AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Mendoza

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 4447, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE WORKERS’ RIGHT TO STRIKE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DE-

CREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Mendoza

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 4448, entitled:

“AN ACT ALLOWING ALIENS TO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT TO SELF-ORGANIZATION AND WITHDRAWING REGULATION OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE TO TRADE UNIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Mendoza

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 4449, entitled:

“AN ACT BANNING THE IMPORTATION, MANUFACTURE, PROCESSING, USE OR DISTRIBUTION IN COMMERCE OF ASBESTOS AND ASBESTOS-CONTAINING PRODUCTS”

By Representative Mendoza

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4450, entitled:

“AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE NATIONAL RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND EXTENSION CENTER FOR BANANA, AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATIONS OF FUNDS THEREFORE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Mendoza

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4451, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE AERIAL SPRAYING OF PESTICIDES AND FUNGICIDES ON AGRICULTURAL CROPS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF”

By Representative Mendoza

TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 4452, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING INCENTIVES FOR THE MANUFACTURE, ASSEMBLY, CONVERSION AND IMPORTATION OF ELECTRIC, HYBRID AND OTHER ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Yap (A.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 4453, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING AND INSTITUTIONALIZING A COMPULSORY EVALUATION OF SKILLS CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS”

By Representative Yap (A.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 4454, entitled:

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

By Representative Yap (A.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4455, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MULTI-SPECIES MARINE HATCHERY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF AJUY, PROVINCE OF ILOILO AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Tupas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4456, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MULTI-SPECIES MARINE HATCHERY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BAROTAC VIEJO, PROVINCE OF ILOILO AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Tupas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4457, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MULTI-SPECIES MARINE HATCHERY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BATAD, PROVINCE OF ILOILO AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Tupas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4458, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MULTI-SPECIES MARINE HATCHERY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARLES, PROVINCE OF ILOILO AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Tupas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4459, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MULTI-SPECIES MARINE HATCHERY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CONCEPCION, PROVINCE OF ILOILO AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Tupas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4460, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MULTI-SPECIES MARINE HATCHERY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ESTANCIA, PROVINCE OF ILOILO AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Tupas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4461, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A MULTI-SPECIES MARINE HATCHERY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN DIONISIO, PROVINCE OF ILOILO AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Tupas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4462, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE GOVERNMENT ARSENAL LOCATED IN CAMP GEN. ANTONIO LUNA, LAMAO, MUNICIPALITY OF LIMAY, PROVINCE OF BATAAN, INTO, AND CREATING AND ESTABLISHING THE SPECIAL ECONOMIC DEFENSE ZONE (SpEDZ), CREATING FOR THIS PURPOSE SPECIAL ECONOMIC DEFENSE ZONE AUTHORITY (SpEDZA), APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Garcia (J.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 4463, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE BATAAN HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Garcia (J.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4464, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO SUBIC BROADCASTING CORPORATION UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7511 ENTITLED 'AN ACT GRANTING THE SUBIC BROADCASTING CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN THE PHILIPPINES

AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES' FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT”

By Representative Hernandez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 4465, entitled:

“AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE LICENSING AND CONTROL OF DEALERS IN SECONDHAND GOODS AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH”

By Representatives Nieto, Maceda, Laogan, Romualdo, Zubiri and Tambunting

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 4466, entitled:

“AN ACT ABOLISHING THE ROAD BOARD AND TRANSFERRING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8794, THE LAW IMPOSING THE MOTOR VEHICLE USER’S CHARGE”

By Representative Go (A.C.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4467, entitled:

“AN ACT ALLOCATING FIVE PERCENT (5%) OF THE COLLECTIONS FROM THE MOTOR VEHICLE USER’S CHARGE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR THE INCLUSION OF DRIVER’S EDUCATION SUBJECTS IN THE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8794, THE LAW IMPOSING THE MOTOR VEHICLE USER’S CHARGE”

By Representative Go (A.C.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4468, entitled:

“AN ACT FURTHER AMENDING COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 146 OR THE PUBLIC SERVICE ACT, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Salceda

TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

With the permission of the Body, the following Members were made coauthors of the Bills and Resolutions hereunder indicated:

Rep. Delphine Gan Lee for House Bill No. 3010;

Rep. Carmelo "Jon" B. Lazatin II for House Bills No. 37, 38, 2318, 2319, 2447, 2450, 2474, 2953, 3782 and 3815;

Rep. Edward Vera Perez Maceda for House Bill No. 3946;

Rep. Jose "Pingping" I. Tejada for House Bill No. 558;

Reps. Ramon "Red" H. Durano VI, Jesus "Boying" F. Celeste, Gil "Kabarangay" P. Acosta, Elenita Milagros "Eileen" Ermita-Buhain, Robert Ace S. Barbers, Rolando "Klaxex" A. Uy, Orestes T. Salon, Deogracias Victor "DV" B. Savellano, Ricardo "RJ" T. Belmonte Jr., Abraham "Bambol" N. Tolentino, Jose L. Atienza Jr., Michael L. Romero, Ph.D., Jerry P. Treñas, Len B. Alonte-Naguiat and Leo Rafael M. Cueva for House Bill No. 4174;

Rep. Wilfredo S. Caminero for House Bills No. 3946 and 4117;

Rep. Rodel M. Batocabe for House Bills No. 875 and 1805;

Rep. Jose Antonio "Kuya Jonathan" R. Sy-Alvarado for House Bills No. 3976, 4140, 4141, 4174, 4210, 4342 and 4343 and House Resolution No. 492;

Rep. Maximo B. Rodriguez Jr. for House Bill No. 1115;

Reps. Ben P. Evardone, Wilfredo S. Caminero, Sitti Djalía A. Turabin-Hataman, Tom S. Villarín, Jorge T. Almonte, Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong, Orestes T. Salon, Henry C. Ong, Juliet Marie D. Ferrer, Julieta R. Cortuna, Ma. Theresa V. Collantes, Henry S. Oaminal and Gus S. Tambunting for House Bill No. 3305;

Reps. Gus S. Tambunting, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, Julieta R. Cortuna, Juliet Marie D. Ferrer, Henry C. Ong, Orestes T. Salon, Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong, Jorge T. Almonte, Tom S. Villarín, Sitti Djalia A. Turabin-Hataman and Wilfredo S. Caminero for House Bills No. 731, 2436, 3456 and 4283;

Reps. Ben P. Evardone, Wilfredo S. Caminero, Tom S. Villarín, Jorge T. Almonte, Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong, Orestes T. Salon, Ma. Theresa V. Collantes, Henry S. Oaminal, Juliet Marie D. Ferrer, Julieta R. Cortuna and Gus S. Tambunting for House Bills No. 492 and 3975;

Rep. Ferdinand L. Hernandez for House Bill No. 1858;

Rep. Julieta R. Cortuna for House Bill No. 492;

Rep. Pantaleon D. Alvarez for House Bills No. 3614 and 4218;

Rep. Strike B. Revilla for House Bill No. 426;

Rep. Benhur L. Salimbangon for House Bills No. 516, 1858, 2798 and 4093;

Rep. Arthur C. Yap for House Bill No. 516;

Reps. Vicente "Ching" S.E. Veloso and Deogracias Victor "DV" B. Savellano for House Bills No. 1667, 1668, 1669, 1670, 1671, 1672, 1675, 1677, 1678, 1679, 1680, 1681, 1682, 1683, 2228, 2234, 2235, 2236, 3130, 3133, 3134, 3819, 3820, 3821, 3822, 3823, 3824, 3826, 3827, 3828 and 3829;

Rep. Richard C. Eusebio for House Bills No. 1668, 1669, 1672, 2234, 3133, 3819, 3821, 3822, 3824 and 3826;

Rep. Frederick W. Siao for House Bills No. 1667, 1668, 1669, 2236, 3133, 3821, 3824 and 3826;

Rep. Aniceto "John" D. Bertiz III for House Bills No. 1667, 1668, 1669, 1670, 1671, 1672, 1675, 1677, 1678, 1679, 1680, 1681, 1682, 1683, 2228, 2234, 2235, 2236, 3130, 3133, 3134, 3819, 3820, 3821, 3822, 3824, 3826, 3827, 3828 and 3829;

Rep. Melecio J. Yap Jr. for House Bills No. 1667, 1668, 1669, 1670 and 1677;

Rep. Jericho Jonas B. Nograles for House Bills No. 1667, 1668, 1669, 1670, 1672, 1675, 1677, 1678, 1679, 1680, 1681, 1682, 1683, 2228, 2234, 2235, 2236, 3133, 3134, 3819, 3820, 3822, 3823, 3824, 3826, 3827, 3828 and 3829;

Rep. Ma. Lucille L. Nava, M.D. for House Bills No. 875, 1667, 1668, 1669, 1670, 1671, 1672, 1677, 2228, 2234, 2235, 2236, 3130, 3820, 3821, 3822, 3824, 3826, 3827 and 3828;

Rep. Ma. Theresa V. Collantes for House Bills No. 1668, 1669, 1675, 1677, 2228, 2235, 3130, 3820, 3826 and 3827;

Rep. Horacio P. Suansing Jr. for House Bills No. 1667, 1668, 1669, 1677, 2228, 2234, 2235, 2236, 3130, 3133, 3820, 3821, 3822, 3824, 3826 and 3827;

Rep. Rene L. Relampagos for House Bills No. 37, 39, 40, 2447, 2449, 2454 and 2465;

Rep. Elisa "Olga" T. Kho for House Bills No. 37, 38, 39, 40, 2452 and 3560;

Rep. Raneo "Ranie" E. Abu for House Bills No. 36, 37, 2447, 2449, 2450, 2452, 2454, 2711, 2714, 2897 and 3682;

Rep. Micaela S. Violago for House Resolution No. 391;

Rep. Bernadette "BH" Herrera-Dy for House Bills No. 56, 1554, 1555, 2141, 3350, 3351, 3353, 3556, 3557 and 3632;

Rep. Harlin Neil J. Abayon III for House Bills No. 1615, 2862, 2863, 2864, 4087, 4088, 4089 and 4090; and

Rep. Jose T. Panganiban Jr., CPA, LLB. for House Bills No. 458, 515, 555, 558, 1378, 1536, 1537, 1555, 1554, 1836, 1853, 1859, 2141, 2264, 2265, 3181, 3435, 3457, 3458, 3459, 3556, 3557 and 3632.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter dated September 7, 2016 of Atty. Sheila U. Villa, Regional Director, Commission on Audit, Regional Office No. IV-B, submitting copies of the Annual Audit Report on the following Water Districts for the year ended December 31, 2015:

1. Naujan Water District, Oriental Mindoro;
2. Pinamalayan Water District, Oriental Mindoro;
3. Pola Water District, Oriental Mindoro;
4. Roxas Water District, Oriental Mindoro;

5. Odiongan Water District, Romblon;
6. Romblon Water District, Romblon;
7. Culion Palawan Water District, Palawan;
8. Puerto Princesa City Water District, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan;
9. Roxas Palawan Water District, Palawan;
10. Taytay Palawan Water District, Palawan;
11. Sablayan Water District, Occidental Mindoro; and
12. San Jose Water District, Occidental Mindoro.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated November 4, 2016 of Tomas M. Rodriguez, Assistant Regional Director, Office of the Regional Director, Region XI, Department of Public Works and Highways, submitting the Monthly Progress Status Reports for the month of October 2016 of projects implemented by their office.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

Letter dated November 14, 2016 of Delfin N. Lorenzana, Secretary, Department of National Defense, submitting the CY 2016 Second Quarter Report on the AFP Modernization Program.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Rep. Garcia (J.E.) acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Rep. H. Harry L. Roque Jr.

THE PRIVILEGE HOUR

With the unanimous consent of the House, on motion of Rep. Garcia (J.E.), there being no objection, the Chair declared the Privilege Hour.

On further motion of Rep. Garcia (J.E.), the Chair recognized Rep. Roque (H.) who delivered the following privilege speech:

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. ROQUE (H.)

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Majority Floor Leader.

Seven years and still no justice.

Esteemed colleagues of the House of Representatives, ladies and gentlemen, I rise before you today on a matter of personal and collective privilege. Exactly seven years ago today, court records indicate that an entourage of 58 persons aboard a convoy of cars and vans was stopped by armed men at a police checkpoint in Karuan, Ampatuan, Maguindanao. They were then herded to a remote hill in Sitio Masalay, a few kilometers away. When they reached the forlorn hill, court records again indicate that the 58 captives met a gruesome death in the hands of a blood-thirsty band which witnesses identified was led by then Datu Unsay Mayor Andal Ampatuan Jr., scion and namesake of the State-backed local despot, Andal Ampatuan Sr., who in his time ruled Maguindanao with an iron fist.

Of the 58 victims, 32 were journalists and media workers. The journalists and media workers joined the convoy to cover an entourage of women relatives of then Buluan Vice Mayor Esmael Mangudadatu led by his wife Genalyn. The Governor of Maguindanao is the brother of our colleague Congressman Mangudadatu of Maguindanao.

They were on their way to the Commission on Elections' office in Shariff Aguak to file the vice mayor's certificate of candidacy for provincial governor.

Evidence presented before the court would show that it was a grisly end for the convoy, put to a finish by the private army of strongman Andal Ampatuan Sr. whose son and namesake Andal Ampatuan Jr. was also vying for the post and did not want to see a rival to the post in Maguindanao.

Witnesses testified that most of the victims were thrown into nearby pits earlier dug ostensibly for the purpose by a backhoe owned by the provincial government of Maguindanao. When police investigators finally reached the scene many hours later, they also found buried with some of the victims in one of the pits, a couple of cars from the ill-fated convoy. Apparently, there had not been enough time for the murderous band to bury everything. A few bullet-riddled vans belonging to the convoy still stood near the pits, their doors open -- mute witnesses to a carnage that could only have happened because the administration helped maintain and arm a warlord family for its own political convenience.

The killing of 32 journalists and media workers including the relatives of our colleagues was the worst single attack on press freedom in recorded history. It was also the worst spate of election-related violence in the Philippines since the martial law era. It also exposed the fractious nature of local politics cultivated by national leaders; and the brazenness with which key members of the Ampatuan clan masterminded and carried out the massacre, held unmistakable intimations of the power they wielded in the province, thanks to the rotten transactional ties that had “Hello Garci” scandal written all over it.

Today, seven years later, justice remains elusive for the families of the Maguindanao massacre victims. Not a single perpetrator has been convicted in court for the grisly crime. As it stands, what has been called the “trial of the century” and a “litmus test” for the Philippine judicial system has become a slow-turning and protracted one, mostly because of many procedural mistakes that could have been avoided had authorities only listened to good advice -- that, and political machinations getting in the way of a strategic and rational approach to prosecution.

Against such backdrop, the National Union of Journalists of the Philippines recently noted that the families of the massacre victims see their hope to find the satisfactory closure to the case within their lifetimes, dwindle rapidly. The NUJP further observes that such a sorry state of the cause for justice fuels the situation of impunity in the country, where the State appears complicit by its failure to prosecute the killings of journalists, the incidence of which is one of the highest in the world.

Seven years is a very long time. It is one year longer than a presidential term. It should have been good enough time to see an effort bloom, or to show that a promise made is a promise fulfilled. We cannot say the same thing with the cause for justice and attribution of accountability in the Maguindanao massacre. Some 197 persons had been charged for the massacre; four have died. Of the principal suspects, 28 bore the surname Ampatuan. Of the remaining 193 accused, 112 are detained and are facing trial before Branch 221 of the Quezon City Regional Trial Court presided by Judge Jocelyn Solis-Reyes; 81 others have not been arrested -- a situation that boggles the mind, considering that it has been seven years since the massacre happened. The latest arrest of a massacre suspect was of Akad Macaton last September 3. Prior to Macaton, suspect Denga Mentol, also known as Tho Cario and/or Ronnie Ofong, was arrested on November 17, 2015.

Victims were denied the satisfaction of seeing the mastermind, 74-year old Andal Sr., being found guilty by the court of the charges, as the clan

patriarch died of heart failure on July 17, 2015 while in detention. Until now, his family continues to swear by his innocence. Justice would have meant affording him prompt prosecution, the chance to be confronted decisively with the evidence of his alleged guilt.

Though he rode high on unprecedented goodwill among the Filipino electorate, President Benigno Aquino III miserably failed to deliver the campaign promise to secure justice for the Maguindanao massacre victims. His Secretary of Justice, Leila De Lima, failed the demands for the sound administration of justice as the prosecution of the case was left to every whim and caprice of political interests that hijacked the good work of public prosecutors. To begin with, she failed to bring scientific rationality to case management, simply continuing the unwieldy system set in place by her predecessor. We could have learned from the practice of international criminal tribunals against the shotgun prosecution of so many accused, but she refused to take counsel. Worse, she allowed a private prosecutor -- her classmate in law school -- for considerations about which we do not know, to take over the role of an unaccountable prosecutor general, undermining every so often the good judgment of the Department of Justice’s (DOJ’s) own state prosecutors.

As one of the lawyers for the families of the victims of the massacre, most of whom are represented today in this hall, I tried my best to advance their cause despite the many stumbling blocks along the way.

An early setback to our quest for justice was the death of a key witness to the massacre, Suwaib Upham, whose application into the Witness Protection Program we tried to facilitate. Upham, whom we called “Jesse,” was shot dead shortly after 8:00 p.m. on June 14, 2010, in Parang Municipality, Maguindanao, after waiting for months for the DOJ to admit him into the program. A member of the Ampatuan’s private army militia, Jesse testified that he was in fact recruited as a child soldier at the age of seven and agreed, testified, and admitted that he participated in the massacre but agreed to testify against the Ampatuans in exchange for government protection. He had agreed to testify against members of the powerful Ampatuan family, who were accused of the killings, for personal protection, a request that the DOJ, then under Agnes Devanadera, simply sat on.

Faced with the prospects of having to litigate the case for many, many years, I and my colleagues at the Center for International Law proposed that the trial court adopt the “first in, first out” rule. Under the FIFO, the court may already render judgment on the case of any accused over which all evidence—for and against—has already been heard.

The rationale is that the families of victims and the accused do not have to wait for the evidence concerning 197 accused, to be heard by the court to achieve justice, which could take a very long time. This is the fair rule respecting due process for both the families of the victims and the accused. There is nothing in the rule that prohibits the trial court from moving; but there is every reason, in the name of procedural and substantive due process for both the accused and the heirs of the victims of the Maguindanao massacre, to finish the trial as soon as possible.

The FIFO was meant to avoid constant recall to the witness stand of all witnesses already presented each time there is a newly-arrested and newly-arraigned accused. Assuming that each of the 103 unarrested accused claims the right to cross-examine their accusers one by one, by this measure, it would take a series of cross examinations at least 200 years to complete.

Indeed, none of the international tribunals of contemporary times -- even for those cases of mass slaughter where the victims, number by the hundreds, if not thousands -- have resorted to the wholesale prosecution of suspects.

The trial court could just not appreciate our point. Secretary De Lima's then favorite private prosecutors did not join our motion. Worse, they even misread it and claimed that it was meant to give the accused an escape clause by instituting a system calculated to dilute the prosecution's case for murder.

Mercifully, the Supreme Court subsequently adopted our proposal by issuing, for the first time in our legal history, a resolution to institutionalize it and to direct the trial court to implement it.

With FIFO in place, and assuming that the trial court refuses to abide by the defense's dilatory tactics, we hope to see convictions in the next two years.

To stress, FIFO was not a government initiative. It is a measure proposed by a civil society organization, the Center for International Law. It was, indeed, supported by Deputy Regional Prosecutor Peter L. Medalle, then head of the prosecution panel; Senior State Assistant Prosecutor Ma. Emilia L. Victorio, and Assistant State Prosecutor Susan Villanueva. They affixed their signatures to our motion to adopt FIFO for the first time in our legal history.

We also filed cases with the Office of the Ombudsman against the Ampatuan clan's plunder of the public coffers of billions of pesos in their many years of murderous reign in political power, a plunder fully documented by the Commission on Audit.

And yet, colleagues, Mr. Speaker, six years after we filed our complaints on behalf of our clients, we have yet to hear of any action from the Office of the Ombudsman; this, despite the fact that our evidence largely consists of COA reports.

Also, we caught the Anti-Money Laundering Council (AMLC) doing nothing despite many years of voluminous bank transactions by the Ampatuans that should have been red-flagged early on. Thus, we share in President Rodrigo Roa Duterte's own frustrations with the AMLC's discharge of its duties and functions.

May I remind our colleagues that when the AMLC was being grilled in plenary session during the budget deliberations, it lied before Congress and said that it had fully cooperated with Secretary Vit Aguirre on the on-going drug investigation. Apparently, until today, it has not done so.

The only semblance of immediate justice we have managed to win for our clients under the circumstances is a decision by the National Police Commission last year to dismiss from the service 21 police officers linked to the massacre.

Impunity continues because there has been no effective prosecution of the perpetrators. The Maguindanao Massacre was notorious because evidence abound and yet today, no one has yet been proven to be guilty. If we are unable to acquire justice for the 58 victims of the Maguindanao Massacre, how can we expect to acquire justice for the alleged 3,000 other individuals said to be victims of extra-legal killings? It is tempting to say that a new Task Force on Media Security created by President Duterte to investigate the killings of journalists may go the way of all such task forces created by past administrations that have come and gone.

But such is indeed the challenge to the Duterte administration. Effective remedy under international law engages both the obligation to investigate as well as to bring perpetrators promptly to justice.

Umaasa po kami, na dahil naging piskal naman po ang ating Presidente na napakatagal din, ay magkakaroon po ng solusyon dito sa napakadaming patayan ngunit mukhang wala pong napaparusahan.

The last thing we need today is yet another administrative monstrosity that does nothing but add yet another layer to an already complex and weighed-down government investigative machinery.

What should not be forgotten is that the Maguindanao Massacre is a slaughter of civilians

by State agents. Wala pong nasasakdal na hindi taong gobyerno, mayroon pong gobernador, mayroong dating gobernador, mga mayor, vice mayor, mga pulis, mga CVOs. Lahat po sila taong gobyerno. Thus, it is a class of gross human rights violations for which the State must answer, on top of the individual criminal responsibility of the perpetrators themselves.

Under international law, the Republic of the Philippines has a duty to provide compensation and satisfaction to the victims and their families. According to current international law, satisfaction covers public acknowledgment of the State's wrongdoings, along with concrete steps to repair the relationship between the victim and the State and the civil society as a whole.

It embraces symbolic measures taken for moral and collective reparation and arises in part from the duty to remember. This should include first, verification of the facts and full public disclosure of the truth to the extent that such disclosure does not cause further unnecessary harm or threaten the safety of the victim, witnesses, or others; second, the search for bodies of those who were killed or had disappeared and assistance in the identification and reburial of the bodies in accordance with the cultural practices of the families and communities; third, an official declaration or a judicial judgment restoring the dignity, reputation, and legal and social rights of the victim and of persons closely associated with the victims; fourth, apology, including public acknowledgment of the facts and acceptance of responsibility; fifth, judicial or administrative sanctions against persons responsible; sixth, commemoration and tributes to the victims; seventh, inclusion of an accurate account of the violations that have occurred in international human rights and humanitarian law training and in educational materials at all levels; and lastly, preventing the recurrence of violations.

Thus, at the very least, the State should institute a day of commemoration for the victims of the massacre and expand the commemoration to embrace all other victims of extra-legal killings.

Today, we filed a House Bill that would declare November 23 of every year as a day of remembrance for all victims of extra-legal killings.

But the State should not wait for the trial court to finish the murder case. It should already institute legal measures to ensure that the victims of the massacre are given reparations, as a gesture recognizing its complicity in the killings, as well as its firm resolve not to allow it to happen again.

We hope the administration of President Duterte will succeed where the past administrations failed, that is, to provide effective remedy to

victims of extra-legal killings, of which the Maguindanao Massacre is, to date, its most egregious example. Ang pag-asa po ng mga biktima na makamit ang katarungan, ay dahil halos lahat sila ay taga-Mindanao, at ang ating Presidente po ay taga-Mindanao din. Sana po, sa susunod na anim na taon na administrasyon ni Presidente Duterte ay makamit na ng mga biktima ng Maguindanao Massacre ang katarungan dahil kung hindi po, patuloy pa rin ang magiging patayan sa ating lipunan na nakikita na natin ngayon.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon to all of you.

REFERRAL OF REP. ROQUE'S (H.) PRIVILEGE SPEECH

On motion of Rep. Garcia (J.E.), there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Rep. Roque (H.) to the Committee on Rules.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

On motion of Rep. Garcia (J.E.), the Chair acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of guests of Rep. Erlpe John "Ping" M. Amante.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The session was suspended at 4:33 p.m., upon motion of Rep. Garcia (J.G.).

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 4:51 p.m.

ROLL CALL

On motion of Rep. Garcia (J.E.), there being no objection, the Chair directed the Secretary General to call the Roll and the following Members were present:

Abaya
Abayon
Abellanosa
Abu
Abueg
Acharon
Acop
Acosta
Acosta-Alba
Advincula
Aggabao
Albano
Alejano
Almario
Almonte

Alonte-Naguiat
Alvarez (F.)
Alvarez (M.)
Alvarez (P.)
Amatong
Angara-Castillo
Aragones
Arbison
Arenas
Atienza
Bag-ao
Bagatsing
Baguilat
Banal
Barzaga
Batocabe
Bautista-Bandigan
Belaro
Belmonte (F.)
Belmonte (J.C.)
Belmonte (R.)
Bernos
Bolilia
Bondoc
Bordado
Bravo (A.)
Bravo (M.V.)
Brosas
Bulut-Begtang
Caminero
Campos
Canama
Cari
Castelo
Castro (F.H.)
Catamco
Celeste
Cerafica
Cerilles
Chavez
Chipeco
Co
Cojuangco
Cortes
Cortuna
Crisologo
Cuaresma
Cueva
Dalipe
Dalog
Daza
De Jesus
De Venecia
De Vera
Del Mar
Deloso-Montalla
Dimaporo (M.K)
Durano
Dy
Elago
Enverga
Erice
Eriguel
Ermita-Buhain
Escudero
Espino
Estrella
Eusebio
Evardone
Fariñas
Ferrer (J.)
Ferrer (L.)
Ferriol-Pascual
Fortuno
Fuentebella
Garbin
Garcia (G.)
Garcia (J.E.)
Gasataya
Geron
Go (M.)
Gomez
Gonzaga
Gonzales (A.D.)
Gonzalez
Gullas
Hernandez
Herrera-Dy
Hofer
Jalosjos
Javier
Kho
Khonghun
Labadlabad
Lacson
Lagman
Lanete
Laogan
Lazatin
Lobregat
Lopez (B.)
Lopez (C.)
Lopez (M.L.)
Macapagal-Arroyo
Maceda
Madrona
Malapitan
Mangaoang
Mangudadatu (S.)
Marcoleta
Mariño
Marquez

Martinez
 Matugas
 Mending
 Mirasol
 Montoro
 Nieto
 Nograles (K.A.)
 Nolasco
 Nuñez-Malanyaon
 Oaminal
 Ocampo
 Olivarez
 Ortega (P.)
 Pacquiao
 Palma
 Pancho
 Panganiban
 Panotes
 Papandayan
 Pichay
 Pimentel
 Pineda
 Plaza
 Primicias-Agabas
 Quimbo
 Ramirez-Sato
 Ramos
 Relampagos
 Revilla
 Roa-Puno
 Rodriguez (I.)
 Rodriguez (M.)
 Roman
 Romero
 Romualdez
 Romualdo
 Roque (H.)
 Roque (R.)
 Sacdalan
 Salon
 Sambar
 Sandoval
 Santos-Recto
 Sarmiento (C.)
 Sarmiento (E.M.)
 Savellano
 Singson
 Suansing (E.)
 Suansing (H.)
 Suarez
 Sy-Alvarado
 Tambunting
 Tan (M.)
 Teves
 Tiangco
 Ting

Tinio
 Tolentino
 Tugna
 Umali
 Ungab
 Unico
 Uy (R.)
 Uybarreta
 Vargas
 Vargas-Alfonso
 Velarde
 Velasco
 Velasco-Catera
 Veloso
 Vergara
 Villafuerte
 Villanueva
 Villarica
 Violago
 Yap (V.)
 Yu
 Zamora (R.)
 Zarate
 Zubiri

With 207 Members responding to the Call, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum. (See also Appendix 1)

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNALS

On subsequent motion of Rep. Garcia (J.E.), there being no objection, the Body approved Journals No. 46 and 47, dated November 21 and 22, 2016, respectively.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Rep. Garcia (J.E.) acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of guests of Reps. Rico B. Geron and Mark O. Go.

REFERRAL OF HOUSE RESOLUTIONS ON INQUIRIES IN AID OF LEGISLATION

On motion of Rep. Garcia (J.E.), there being no objection, the Body then approved to refer the following House Resolutions on inquiries in aid of legislation to the appropriate Committees specified hereunder:

1. House Resolution No. 540, on the illegal recruitment of and sexual harassment experienced by Filipino women workers in Qatar - to the Committee on Overseas Workers Affairs; and

2. House Resolution No. 541, on cases of illegal recruitment by Philtrust Overseas Recruitment Agency - to the Committee on Overseas Workers Affairs.

RECONSIDERATION OF THE REFERRAL OF HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 490

On motion of Rep. Garcia (J.E.), there being no objection, the Body reconsidered the referral of House Resolution No. 490 to the Committee on Youth and Sports Development and subsequently referred it to the Committee on Rules.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Rep. Raul A. Daza, the Chair suspended the session at 5:03 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:06 p.m.

ADOPTION OF CERTAIN HOUSE RESOLUTIONS

On successive motions of Rep. Garcia (J.E.), there being no objection, the Body considered the following House Resolutions; dispensed with the reading of the texts thereof without prejudice to their insertion into the Record of the House; and unanimously adopted the same by *viva voce* voting:

1. House Resolution No. 490, entitled: "A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING THE PHILIPPINE SEPAK TAKRAW TEAM FOR WINNING GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZE MEDALS IN THE 31ST KING'S CUP WORLD SEPAK TAKRAW CHAMPIONSHIPS HELD IN BANGKOK, THAILAND FROM OCTOBER 17 TO 23, 2016";
2. House Resolution No. 570, entitled: "RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING REPUBLICAN PARTY PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE DONALD JOHN TRUMP FOR HIS ELECTION AS THE 45TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA";
3. House Resolution No. 568, entitled: "RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING MS. KYLIE VERZOSA

FOR WINNING THE 2016 MISS INTERNATIONAL PAGEANT ON OCTOBER 27, 2016 IN TOKYO, JAPAN," in consolidation with House Resolutions No. 494, 498, 504, 508, 515, 528, and 536;

4. House Resolution No. 572, entitled: "RESOLUTION COMMENDING SENATOR EMANUEL D. PACQUIAO FOR HIS OVERWHELMING VICTORY AGAINST JESSIE VARGAS AND WINNING THE WORLD BOXING ORGANIZATION (WBO) WELTERWEIGHT TITLE AT THE THOMAS AND MACK CENTER IN LAS VEGAS, NEVADA," in consolidation with House Resolutions No. 492, 493, 495, 496, 497, 499, 500, 502, 507, 509, 511, 514, 516, 517, 519, 520, 524, 529, 531, 537, and 538;
5. House Resolution No. 567, entitled: "RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF HONORABLE JOEY D. HIZON, FORMER REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FIFTH DISTRICT OF THE CITY OF MANILA DURING THE ELEVENTH, TWELFTH, and THIRTEENTH CONGRESSES," in consolidation with House Resolution No. 564;
6. House Resolution No. 569, entitled: "RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF REPRESENTATIVE JUM JAINUDIN AKBAR, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LONE DISTRICT OF BASILAN," in consolidation with House Resolutions No. 543, 544, 548, 551, and 559;
7. House Resolution No. 571, entitled: "RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF MR. BENHUR VALDEZ LOPEZ, FATHER OF REPRESENTATIVE BENHUR B. LOPEZ JR. OF YACAP PARTY-LIST," in consolidation with House Resolution No. 560.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Rep. Garcia (J.E.), the Chair suspended the session at 5:14 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:16 p.m.

ELECTION OF MAJORITY MEMBERS TO CERTAIN COMMITTEES/SPECIAL COMMITTEES

On motion of Majority Leader Rodolfo C. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Body elected the following Members of the Majority to the Committees/Special Committees specified hereunder:

Committee on Banks and Financial Intermediaries

(as Member)

1. Rep. Rodolfo T. Albano III

Committee on Dangerous Drugs

(as Members)

1. Rep. Rodolfo T. Albano III
2. Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo vice Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte

Committee on Economic Affairs

(as Member)

1. Rep. Rodolfo T. Albano III

Committee on Energy

(as Member)

1. Rep. Rodolfo T. Albano III

Committee on Games and Amusements

(as Vice Chairperson)

1. Rep. Rodolfo T. Albano III

Committee on Good Government and Public Accountability

(as Vice Chairperson)

1. Rep. Rodolfo T. Albano III

Committee on Health

(as Member)

1. Rep. Rodolfo T. Albano III

Committee on Higher and Technical Education

(as Member)

1. Rep. Geraldine B. Roman vice Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte

Committee on Human Rights

(as Member)

1. Rep. Rodolfo T. Albano III

Committee on Justice

(as Member)

1. Rep. Rodolfo T. Albano III

Committee on Labor and Employment

(as Member)

1. Rep. Francis Gerald A. Abaya vice Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte

Committee on Metro Manila Development

(as Members)

1. Rep. Alexandria P. Gonzales
2. Rep. Cristal L. Bagatsing
3. Rep. Bayani F. Fernando
4. Rep. Eric L. Olivarez
5. Rep. Ronaldo B. Zamora
6. Rep. Arnel M. Cerafica

Committee on Natural Resources

(as Member)

1. Rep. Rodolfo T. Albano III

Committee on Population and Family Relations

(as Member)

- 1. Rep. Geraldine B. Roman vice Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte

Committee on Public Works and Highways

(as Member)

- 1. Rep. Rodolfo T. Albano III

Committee on Transportation

(as Members)

- 1. Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate
- 2. Rep. Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo vice Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte

Committee on Ways and Means

(as Member)

- 1. Rep. Rodolfo T. Albano III

Special Committee on Bases Conversion

(as Vice Chairperson)

- 1. Rep. Federico "Ricky" S. Sandoval II

Special Committee on Climate Change

(as Vice Chairperson)

- 1. Rep. Francis Gerald A. Abaya vice Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

Whereupon, on motion of Rep. Garcia (J.E.), there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until four o'clock in the afternoon of Monday, November 28, 2016.

It was 5:18 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

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

Approved on November 28, 2016.

Congress of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Philippines

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE**Date: November 23, 2016**

**** ABAD	BELMONTE (R.)	** DEFENSOR
ABAYA	**** BENITEZ	DEL MAR
ABAYON	BERNOS	**** DEL ROSARIO
ABELLANOSA	* BERTIZ	DELOSO-MONTALLA
ABU	**** BIAZON	**** DIMAPORO (A.)
ABUEG	** BILLONES	**** DIMAPORO (M.K.)
ACHARON	** BIRON	***** DUAVIT
ACOP	BOLILIA	DURANO
ACOSTA	BONDOC	DY
ACOSTA-ALBA	BORDADO	ELAGO
**** ADIONG	BRAVO (A.)	ENVERGA
ADVINCULA	BRAVO (M.V.)	ERICE
**** AGARAO	BROSAS	ERIGUEL
AGGABAO	BULUT-BEGTANG	ERMITA-BUHAIN
***** AGLIPAY-VILLAR	***** CAGAS	ESCUDERO
ALBANO	***** CALDERON	**** ESPINA
***** ALCALA	** CALIXTO-RUBIANO	ESPINO
ALEJANO	CAMINERO	ESTRELLA
ALMARIO	CAMPOS	EUSEBIO
ALMONTE	CANAMA	EVARDONE
ALONTE	CARI	FARIÑAS
ALVAREZ (F.)	**** CASILAO	** FERNANDO
ALVAREZ (M.)	CASTELO	FERRER (J.)
ALVAREZ (P.)	* CASTRO (F.L.)	FERRER (L.)
* AMANTE	CASTRO (F.H.)	FERRIOL-PASCUAL
AMATONG	CATAMCO	* FLOIRENDO
** ANDAYA	** CAYETANO	***** FLORES
ANGARA-CASTILLO	CELESTE	**** FORTUN
**** ANTONINO	CERAFICA	FORTUNO
* ANTONIO	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	DALOG	***** 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	OLIVAREZ	SINGSON
HERRERA-DY	***** ONG (E.)	SUANSING (E.)
HOFER	** ONG (H.)	SUANSING (H.)
JALOSJOS	ORTEGA (P.)	SUAREZ
JAVIER	**** ORTEGA (V.N.)	SY-ALVARADO
KHO	PACQUIAO	TAMBUNTING
KHONGHUN	**** PADUANO	** TAN (A.)
LABADLABAD	PALMA	TAN (M.)
LACSON	PANCHO	**** TAN (S.)
LAGMAN	PANGANIBAN	***** TEJADA
LANETE	PANOTES	TEVES
LAOGAN	PAPANDAYAN	TIANGCO
LAZATIN	PICHAY	TING
***** LEACHON	PIMENTEL	TINIO
* LEE	PINEDA	TOLENTINO
**** LIMKAICHONG	PLAZA	** TREÑAS
LOBREGAT	PRIMICIAS-AGABAS	TUGNA
LOPEZ (B.)	QUIMBO	* TUPAS
LOPEZ (C.)	* RADAZA	* TURABIN-HATAMAN
LOPEZ (M.L.)	RAMIREZ-SATO	* TY
*** LOYOLA	RAMOS	UMALI
MACAPAGAL-ARROYO	RELAMPAGOS	** UNABIA
MACEDA	REVILLA	UNGAB
MADRONA	ROA-PUNO	UNICO
MALAPITAN	* ROBES	* UY (J.)
* MANALO	**** ROCAMORA	UY (R.)
MANGAOANG	RODRIGUEZ (I.)	UYBARRETA
MANGUDADATU (S.)	RODRIGUEZ (M.)	VARGAS
***** MANGUDADATU (Z.)	ROMAN	VARGAS-ALFONSO
MARCOLETA	ROMERO	VELARDE
* MARCOS	ROMUALDEZ	VELASCO
MARIÑO	ROMUALDO	VELASCO-CATERA
MARQUEZ	ROQUE (H.)	VELOSO
MARTINEZ	ROQUE (R.)	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	
OCAMPO	***** SILVERIO	

* Appeared before/after Roll Call

** On official mission

*** Attended 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)