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CALL TO ORDER

At 4:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Fredenil “Fred” H. Castro 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

On motion of Representative Vincent “Bingbong” P. Crisologo, there being no objection, the Body deferred the calling of the Roll.

DEFERMENT OF THE READING OF THE JOURNAL

Likewise, on motion of Rep. Crisologo, there being no objection, the Body deferred the reading of the Journal of the previous session.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

Subsequently, on motion of Rep. Crisologo, 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 a Communication, which were referred to the appropriate Committees as hereunder indicated:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 4526, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF PALAWAN AS THE CRUISE SHIP CAPITAL OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Acosta, Abueg and Alvarez (F.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 4527, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING ALL DEEP-WELL OWNERS AND OPERATORS, INCLUDING APPLICANTS FOR WATER EXTRACTION PERMITS TO INCORPORATE, CONSTRUCT AND INSTALL ARTIFICIAL RECHARGE WELLS SO THAT THE WATER THEY EXTRACT FROM THE AQUIFERS WILL BE REPLENISHED THUS HELPING MITIGATE THE EFFECTS OF THE EL NIÑO, CLIMATE CHANGE AND OTHER PROBLEMS ON FRESH WATER, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Savellano

TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4528, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE NATIONAL RAINWATER HARVESTING BOARD UNDER THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROMOTION, DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION OF RAINWATER HARVESTING TECHNOLOGY AS A MEASURE TO MITIGATE THE EFFECTS BROUGHT ABOUT BY CLIMATE CHANGE AND EXTREME WEATHER PHENOMENA LIKE SUPER TYPHOONS AND THE EL NIÑO THAT ARE THE CAUSES OF DOWNSTREAM FLOODING, SEVERE DROUGHT AND OTHER PROBLEMS ON FRESH WATER, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Savellano

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 4529, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF CLAIMS THAT MAY BE APPROVED AND GRANTED BY THE BOARD OF CLAIMS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7309,

AN ACT CREATING THE BOARD OF CLAIMS UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF UNJUST IMPRISONMENT OR DETENTION AND VICTIMS OF VIOLENT CRIMES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Campos

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4530, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE INSTITUTE OF SPORTS, DEFINING ITS POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Dimaporo (M.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 4531, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR EMPLOYMENT TO INDIGENTS IN RURAL AREAS”

By Representative Ramos

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 4532, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE NEGROS ISLAND REGION TO BE KNOWN AS REGION XVIII”

By Representatives Paduano and Teves

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 4533, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7699, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'PORTABILITY LAW' ”

By Representative Roque (H.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

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

Rep. Manuel Jose "Mannix" M. Dalipe for House Bills No. 31, 62, 104, 1981 and 4340;

Rep. Gus S. Tambunting for House Bill No. 2658;

Reps. Ronald M. Cosalan and Roy M. Loyola for House Bill No. 4174;

Rep. Raul V. Del Mar for House Bills No. 1858, 4093 and 4174;

Reps. Teodoro "Ted" G. Montoro and Aniceto "John" D. Bertiz III for House Bills No. 2930, 3946 and 4110;

Rep. Ma. Lourdes R. Aggabao for House Bills No. 2930 and 4110;

Reps. Maria Carmen S. Zamora and Amado T. Espino Jr. for House Bill No. 3946;

Rep. Sherwin N. Tugna for House Bill No. 4110;

Rep. Roy M. Loyola for House Bill No. 2792;

Rep. Edgar R. Erice for House Bills No. 516, 1858, 2286 and 2798;

Rep. Jose Antonio "Kuya Jonathan" R. Sy-Alvarado for House Bills No. 4370 and 4487;

Rep. Christopher S. Co for House Resolution No. 607;

Rep. Mario Vittorio "Marvey" A. Mariño for House Bills No. 3858, 3943 and 4337;

Rep. Rose Marie "Baby" J. Arenas for House Bill No. 4113;

Rep. Christopher "Toff" Vera Perez De Venecia for House Bills No. 2448, 2458, 2464 and 2465; and

Rep. Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas for House Bills No. 1530 and 4334.

COMMUNICATION

Letter dated November 7, 2016 of Roland A. Rey, Regional Director, Commission on Audit, Regional Office No. V, submitting copies of the CY 2015 Annual Audit Reports (AAR) on the following:

1. Bulan Water District, Bulan, Sorsogon; and
2. JH Cerilles State College-System, Mati, San Miguel, Zamboanga del Sur.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

THE PRIVILEGE HOUR

With leave of the House, on motion of Rep. Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas, there being no objection, the Chair declared a Privilege Hour.

On motion of Rep. Primicias-Agabas, the Chair recognized Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate who delivered the following privilege speech:

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. ZARATE

Ginoong Speaker, pumanaw ang pinunong pulitikal na si Bernabe Ocasla noong nakaraang linggo. Matapos po siyang ma-comatose ng tatlong araw, at matapos tumigil ang kanyang puso ng maikatlong ulit, binawian siya ng buhay sa isang pampublikong ospital dito sa Kamaynilaan.

Sixty-six years old po si Ka Oca, at labinglima sa mga taong ito ay ginugol niya sa pagkakapiit sa bilangguan. Siya po ay partially deaf, partially blind, at mayroong hypertension. Ngunit, para sa mga anak ni Ka Oca, ang marahas na kalagayan sa bilangguan, ang kawalan ng sapat at napapanahong atensyong medikal, at lalo na ang malubhang kawalan ng katarungan ay ang dahilan ng pagpanaw ng kanilang ama. Estado ang pumatay kay Ka Oca, Ginoong Speaker.

Isa si Ka Oca sa mga bilanggong pulitikal na matagal na nating ipinapanawagan ang agarang pagpapalaya, hindi lamang sa mabigat na dahilang gawa-gawa ang kasong ipinaratang sa kanila, kundi sa mga batayang humanitarian. Isa si Ka Oca sa mga detinidong pulitikal na may edad na at may karamdaman na karapat-dapat nang agad na palayain ng ating pamahalaan. Ginoong Speaker, isang malaking inhustisya ang pagkamatay ni Bernabe "Ka Oca" Ocasla. Ang kanyang lakas at kalayaan ay matagal niyang iginugol para sa mga kapwa niya magsasaka bilang lider at organisador nila sa Western Samar. Isang kabalintunaan na ganito -- mamatay nang hindi naibabalik ang

kalayaang ipinagkait sa kanya ng pamahalaan -- ang sinapit ng isang lider-pesante na matagal nang nagtanggol sa karapatan ng mga magsasaka sa kanilang lupang sakahan.

Nais ko pong hiramin ang mga salita ni Atty. Edre Olalia, isa sa mga abogado ng mga bilanggong pulitikal nang kanyang tinuring at sinabi,

"Political prisoner Bernabe Ocasla is dead. He was in a coma after a heart attack/stroke Friday in jail. He was among many other ailing political detainees that should have been released on humanitarian grounds as agreed during the peace negotiations and as promised by the government for the longest time.

But sorry for him, he is obscure, faceless, and powerless unlike other high and mighty prisoners who walk free with no sweat to play Candy Crush, have staycations in hospitals, watch boxing matches, attend children's graduations, celebrate birthdays, have dental check-ups or treat their LBM.

There is no justice."

Walang hustisya. At patuloy ang kawalan ng hustisya, Ginoong Speaker, sa patuloy na pagkakapiit ng mga bilanggong pulitikal sa iba't ibang bahagi ng ating bansa.

Ika-labintatlo na si Ka Oca sa mga bilanggong pulitikal na namatay sa bilangguan. Sana, siya na po ang maging huli, Ginoong Speaker.

Nitong nakaraang araw ay ibinalita sa atin na dalawa na namang bilanggong pulitikal ang dinala sa ospital. Si Apolonio Barado, ngayon ay 62 taong gulang na, ay ikinulong noon pang 2001 sa New Bilibid Prison. Siya ay dati nang inatake sa puso sa piitan at may sakit na hypertension at diabetes. Samantala, si Amelia Pond, 64 taong gulang at isang guro at tagapagsaliksik ng mga paaralang lumad sa Mindanao na ipiniit noon lamang ika-16 ng Agosto, ay nagpapagaling sa ospital matapos operahan sa kanyang gulugod.

Panawagan namin, Ginoong Speaker, na sila ay bigyan ng karampatang atensyong medikal at agarang palayain. Gayundin, ipinapanawagan namin ang agad na pagpapalaya ng 130 pang bilanggong pulitikal na may mga karamdaman sa iba't ibang bahagi ng kanilang katawan. Huwag na nating hintayin na ikamatay ng mga bilanggong pulitikal ang inhustisyang nagkakait sa kanila ng kanilang kalayaan.

Ginoong Speaker, sa kasalukuyan ay may 400 bilanggong pulitikal, mahigit-kumulang, na nakapiit sa iba't ibang bahagi ng ating bansa. Dapat nating mapagtanto na ang pagkakaroon ng mga

bilanggong pulitikal sa isang bansa ay tanda ng kawalang demokrasya at tahasang paglabag sa karapatang pantao. Kaya naman, Ginoong Speaker, dapat nating mariing kundenahin ang pagsampa ng mga gawa-gawang kasong kriminal sa mga aktibista, magsasaka, manggagawa, katutubo, at mga miyembro ng mga rebolusyonaryong grupo dahil lamang sa kanilang pulitikal na paninindigan.

Malugod ho nating tinanggap, Ginoong Speaker, ang pahayag ng administrasyon ni Pangulong Rodrigo "Digong" Roa Duterte sa pagpapalaya sa lahat ng mga bilanggong pulitikal. Sa katunayan, malaki ang kaibahan ng pahayag na ito ni Pangulong Duterte kumpara sa mga nagdaang administrasyong Arroyo at Aquino na lansak na lumalabag sa kasunduan sa usapang pangkapayapaan at pagpapalaya sa mga bilanggong pulitikal. Ang hindi pagpapalaya sa mga bilanggong pulitikal ay isa sa mga mabigat na dahilan kung bakit hindi umuusad ang usapang pangkapayapaan sa kanilang panunungkulan.

Sa aktwal, sa kasalukuyan, 19 pa lamang ang lumaya mula sa pangakong ito ng administrasyon ni Pangulong Duterte. Habang papalapit ang Kapaskuhan ay nagiging mas mabigat ang pakiramdam sa kanilang patuloy na pagkakakulong at pagkakait na makapiling nila ang kanilang mga mahal sa buhay. Dapat ng wakasan, Ginoong Speaker, ang kawalang-inhustisyang ito.

Mula noong ika-tatlo ng Disyembre hanggang sa darating na Pandaigdigang Araw ng Karapatang Pantao o International Humanitarian Day sa December 10, bilang pakikiisa at protesta sa patuloy na pagpipiit ng mga bilanggong pulitikal, ay nagsasagawa ng solidarity fasting ang mga bilanggong pulitikal. Kasama sa fasting na ito ang 524 na mga karaniwang inmates o mga bilanggo, ang mga kaanak ng mga bilanggong pulitikal, at iba pang mga taga-suporta bilang simbolo ng protesta at pakikiisa.

Ang pagpapalaya ng mga detenidong pulitikal ay kagyat, tulad sa mga kaso gaya kay Ka Oca, Amelia Pond, at Apolonio Barado. Mabigat din ang implikasyong ito sa inaasam nating kapayapaang nakabatay sa hustisya.

Ginoong Speaker, linawin po natin, hindi isang pre-condition sa usaping pangkapayapaan ang pagpapalaya sa mga bilanggong pulitikal, nguni't katuparan ito sa ipinangako ng ating pamahalaan. Higit pa rito, ang pagpapalaya sa mga bilanggong pulitikal ay isang act of justice. Ito po ay sa kapamaraan ng hustisya. Nitong mga nakaraan, nakuhang parangalan ang isang tyrant at

diktador na kagaya ni Marcos ngunit binubusabos at binubulok sa kulungan ang mga tunay na tagapagtanggol sa karapatan ng ating mamamayan. Bawa't segundo ng pagkakapiit nila ay isang tahasang inhustisya at paglabag sa karapatang pantao.

Ginoong Speaker, hayaan po ninyong tapusin ko ang aking talumpati sa pagpaparalang kay Ka Oca at ng iba pang mga bilanggong pulitikal na hindi na nasilayan ang kanilang kalayaan, na pumanaw sa likod ng mga rehas. Hayaan ninyong basahin ko ang isang taludtod mula sa mga salita ng National Artist for Literature na si Amado Vera Hernandez na isa ring bilanggong pulitikal noong dekada 50 dahil sa kanyang pagtatanggol sa karapatan ng mga maralita. Kanya pong sinabi:

"May araw ding ang luha mo'y masasaid, matutuyo,

May araw ding di na luha sa mata mong namumugto

Ang dadaloy, kundi apoy, at apoy na kulay dugo, Samantalang ang dugo mo ay aserong kumukulo;

Sisigaw kang buong giting sa liyab ng libong sulo At ang lumang tanikala'y lalagutin mo ng punglo!"

Maraming salamat po, Ginoong Speaker, at magandang hapon sa ating lahat.

REFERRAL OF REP. ZARATE'S PRIVILEGE SPEECH

On motion of Rep. Francisco Jose F. Matugas II, there being no objection, the Body referred Rep. Zarate's privilege speech to the Committee on Rules.

SUSPENSION OF THE PRIVILEGE HOUR

On motion of Rep. Matugas, there being no objection, the Body suspended the Privilege Hour.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Rep. Matugas acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of guests of Reps. Manuel Jose "Mannix" M. Dalipe, Jonas C. Cortes, and Juliet Marie D. Ferrer.

RESUMPTION OF THE PRIVILEGE HOUR

On motion of Rep. Matugas, there being no objection, the Body resumed the Privilege Hour.

On motion of Rep. Matugas, the Chair recognized Rep. Arlene D. Brosas who delivered the following privilege speech:

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. BROSAS

I rise today on a question of personal and collective privilege as I ask each and everyone, “Where is justice? Sabi nga po, nasaan ang hustisya?”

Papalapit na ang ika-10 ng Disyembre, ang Pandaigdigang Araw para sa Karapatang Pantao. Noong Sabado ay nagsimula ang solidarity fast upang itambol ang panawagan para sa pagpapalaya ng mga bilanggong pulitikal.

Mula nang maipatupad ang Oplan Bayanihan sa ilalim ni Pangulong Aquino, lumobo ang bilang ng mga progresibo, aktibista, at mga rebolusyonaryong sinampahan ng gawa-gawang kasong kriminal, sa layuning sila ay patahimikin at pigilan sa pagtindig para sa mahihirap na mamamayan. Nananatiling nakapiit ang mahigit na 400 bilanggong pulitikal sa buong bansa, kabilang ang 33 kababaihan. Thirty-three all in all ang women political prisoners na mayroon tayo. Ang patuloy nilang pagkakapiit ay pagpapatuloy ng inhustisya. Nagkakasakit na ang marami. Ang ilan ay mga inang dapat ay nasa piling ng mga anak, at marami ang matatanda na at matagal ng dapat nakalaya, dahil pinilit silang magdusa ng higit pa sa taning na ihahatol na katumbas ng bintang na ikinaso sa kanila.

Kamakailan ay pumanaw si Bernabe Ocasla. Siya ang ika-13 bilanggong pulitikal na namatay habang nakadetine. Sa kasalukuyan ay nasa ospital rin sina Apolonio Barado, 62 years old, dahil sa pananakit ng dibdib, at si Amelia Pond, 64 years old, dahil sa operasyon sa kanyang spine at chronic renal infection. Si Amelia Pond ay isang guro sa paaralang lumad at inaresto gamit ang maling pangalan, gamit ang isang pekeng ID na itanim ng mga operatiba sa kanyang bag nito lamang Agosto 2016.

Ginoong Speaker, mga kapwa ko Kinatawan, hangad naming kababaihan ang hustisya at kapayapaan. Ang inabot ng dalawang yugto ng usapang pangkapayapaan ay aming kinalulugdan. Subalit walang kapayapaang makakamit kung walang katarungan. Dapat ay agad ng palayain ang lahat ng bilanggong pulitikal kasabay ng pag-usad ng negosasyong pangkapayapaan sa pagitan ng pamahalaan ng Pilipinas at ng National Democratic Front (NDF).

Naninindigan tayo na ang pagbibigay ng general amnesty para makalaya ang mga detinido ay makatarungan, at kinakailangang gampanan para sa sinserong pagsulong ng usapan. Hinihingi

namin ang inyong suporta para maisulong ang isang resolusyon na nananawagan ng pangkalahatang amnestiya para sa mga bilanggong pulitikal. Nawa’y suportahan rin ng Kapulungang ito ang panawagan ng mga kababaihang itigil ang “Oplan Bayanihan” na ang ibinubunsod ay red-baiting at vilification, mga walang batayang kriminal na pagpapatang sa mga aktibista at tagapagtaguyod ng karapatang pantao, at pagtukoy sa kanila bilang mga target ng mga vigilante, paramilitary, at mismo ng Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

Gayundin, aming ipinapanawagan ang paggalang ng mga sundalo sa napagkasunduang tigil-putusan. Ang pananatili ng mga bata-batalyong mga sundalo ng AFP sa mga komunidad ng mga mag-sasaka at katutubo ay nagdudulot ng maraming paglabag sa karapatang pantao.

I would like to call the attention of the House leadership on various resolutions authored and co-authored by this Representation seeking an investigation on various human rights abuses, including the sexual abuse of women in Kalinga communities, the death of a pregnant lumad in Bukidnon, and the closure of lumad schools in Sultan Kudarat. Let us promptly take action on these abuses, ignited by heightened military presence, reminiscent of the martial law years under the Marcos dictatorship. We call for vigilance for the protection of rights and civil liberties, amidst continuing drug-related deaths, increased police visibility, and loose comments and threats to suspend the writ of habeas corpus. We want all the remaining vestiges of martial law expunged. Palayain na ang lahat ng bilanggong pulitikal at lansagin ang “Oplan Bayanihan” tungo sa pagsulong ng usapang pangkapayapaan.

Maraming salamat at magandang hapon po sa ating lahat.

INTERPELLATION OF REP. DAZA

Upon recognition by the Chair, Rep. Raul A. Daza relayed his concern about Ms. Felicidad Caparan, a constituent currently detained at the Correctional Institution for Women in Norther Samar, and asked who was in charge of the list of political prisoners. Citing human rights groups KARAPATAN and SELDA, Rep. Brosas said that she will confirm if Ms. Caparan was in their list or will submit her name to them.

REFERRAL OF REP. BROSAS’ PRIVILEGE SPEECH

On motion of Rep. Matugas, there being no objection, the Body referred Rep. Brosas’ privilege speech as well as the interpellation thereon, to the Committee on Rules.

The Chair thereafter recognized Rep. Arnolfo “Arnie” A. Teves Jr., upon motion of Rep. Matugas, who delivered the following privilege speech:

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. TEVES

Good afternoon, everybody.

I rise again today because of a very disturbing incident that happened in South Wing Building this morning. There is a lady who works here in Congress by the name of Diday Pulido who has been harassing my staff. It has been the third time this morning that she has harassed my staff named Beng. She has been bullying and harassing her, and I don't think this type of person deserves a place in the House of Representatives.

All of us here, Representatives, Congressmen, and Congresswomen, no matter how we differ in our views, we stay civil. We don't hurt each other physically. We don't abuse each other verbally. We can argue for so many hours, but we always respect the other person.

This lady named Diday Pulido has been very “bastos” and it has been the third time today that it has happened. I wanted to talk to her boss. Apparently, her boss is not here who is a friend of mine -- Congresswoman Milagros Tan – and is a very nice lady. Hindi ko nga alam kung alam niya na bastos iyong tao niya.

Sa tingin ko, dapat i-review ng House iyong coverage ng CCTV and I don't think na kailangan pang papasukin iyong babae na iyan dito. I think it is better that she be banned from Congress. Hindi talaga maganda iyong ginawa niya at I don't think we have a place in Congress for people like her. Paki-tingnan na lang iyong CCTV footage, Mr. Secretary General, kung puwede, at paki-imbetiga na lang iyong nangyari kanina dahil hindi lang kanina daw nangyari iyon; that was already the third time that it has happened.

Again, the House of Representatives has no place for people as “bastos” as Diday Pulido.

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. That is all for now.

REFERRAL OF REP. TEVES' PRIVILEGE SPEECH

On motion of Rep. Matugas, there being no objection, the Body referred Rep. Teves' privilege speech to the Committee on Rules.

Subsequently, on motion of Rep. Matugas, the Chair recognized Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago who delivered the following privilege speech:

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REP. ELAGO

Good day, fellow Legislators!

I am on a solidarity fast of no rice and lunch meals since December 3. Today is my fourth day of fasting in support of the #FastingChallenge to drumbeat the campaign to immediately release all political prisoners.

Early on, in our first State of the Nation Address in the 17th Congress, I brought along as one of my guests, Mrs. Ma. Concepcion Montajes, mother of a youth political prisoner named Maricon Montajes, in a move to further campaign for the immediate release of all political prisoners in the country. Maricon is one of at least 400 political prisoners or people arrested and detained for trumped-up charges due to their political beliefs in the country. She is facing trumped-up charges, including illegal possession of firearms and ammunition, and has been detained for over six years and we hope that political prisoners like her will be given freedom under the Duterte administration.

As KARAPATAN said in a statement, “We have reminded President Duterte and Dureza that the release of political prisoners should not merely be treated as a confidence-building measure in the formal peace talks, but as an obligation and show of adherence to the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law or CARHRIHL.

Now, I'd like to tell you more about two of our youth political prisoners, Guiller Cadano and Gerald Salonga, who were just newly freed yesterday at 1:00 p.m.. Ang nakakalungkot at hindi ko po makakalimutan ay ang kanilang salaysay hinggil sa kanilang paglaya at kung paano na-dismiss, naibasura ang mga charges laban sa kanila. Mahigit sa dalawang taon silang nagdusa sa loob ng kulungan, samantalang ang hearing kung saan dininig ang mga gawa-gawang kaso sa kanila ay hindi pa po tumagal sa 30 minuto. Dalawang taon silang nagdusa sa loob ng mga piitan para sa mga kaso na gawa-gawa at ni wala po silang kaalam-alam o ideya, at dalawang taon din ang nawala sa kanilang kabataan imbis na nakakapagsilbi sana sila sa ating bayan. At sa loob ng 30 minuto, doon lamang naresolba at nagkaroon ng pagkakataon na sila nga ay makalaya.

Sino ba si Guiller Cadano at Gerald Salonga? Ito po ay dalawang kabataan, parehong 25 years old, who were fresh graduates of the University of

the Philippines (UP)-Pampanga who were conducting a research study on the impact to farmers of the Dalton Pass East Alignment Road project in Carranglan, Nueva Ecija, in 2014. They were illegally arrested by military men of the Third Infantry Battalion under the Seventh Infantry Division on August 9, 2014 in Carranglan, Nueva Ecija. They faced false charges of illegal possession of firearms and explosives. Their captors accused them of being combatants of the New People's Army (NPA) and subjected them to physical and mental torture overnight. The two were detained in a district jail in San Jose City, Nueva Ecija and after almost two years, they were transferred to the provincial jail in Cabanatuan City.

Mr. Speaker, ang dalawang ito na nito lamang Linggo ay aking nabisita at kahapon ay nakalaya na, ay mayroon ding mensahe sa ating mga kapwakaabataan at sa lahat ng sumusuporta sa panawagan na palayain na ang lahat ng mga bilanggong pulitikal sa ating bansa.

Ang mensahe ni Gerald Salonga o Geary sa lahat ng mga kabataan ay, "Sa lahat ng aking kababata at sa mamamayang Filipino, noon, malimit nating maisantabi ang mga bagay na patungkol sa kahirapan, extrajudicial killings, political prisoners, at mga usaping ekonomiya sa Pilipinas, ngunit, ngayon, paborable ang kasalukuyang sitwasyon sa Pilipinas upang higit pa tayong mag-sikhay sa pag-aaral, maging mapanuri sa mga usapang pulitikal, at maging mapagmatyag sa mga isyu dahil tuluy-tuloy ang walang habas at walang kagatul-gatol na pagpatay at pasismo. Patuloy ang kahirapan, patuloy ang kasinungalingan, patuloy ang pagnanakaw sa kaban ng bayan at mas lumalala ang panggigipit sa masa; kaya ang hamon sa atin sa kasalukuyang panahon ay tumindig at lumaban, mag-aral at alamin ang kalagayan ng masa. Rock and roll." Mula kay Geary.

At ito naman ang mula kay Guiller Cadano o Guilli, na siyang tawag ng kanyang mga kapwakaabataan at mga kaklase ay, "The long race to release all political prisoners is truly a difficult one, but every lap we finish is a small triumph we achieve. Each political prisoner we fought for release, each battle against State fascism, each struggle we march – all of this is a great leap forward for a brighter society ahead. Continue to serve the people no matter how hard each day." Mula kay Guilli.

Mr. Speaker, what greater injustice could there be than to be robbed of one's youth? To be jailed for one's beliefs? For political prisoners and their families, there is no greater change than regaining freedom, the company of loved ones, and continuing the struggle for a just and lasting peace. Ngayon po, sa darating na December 10, kung

kailan natin ipinagdiriwang at inaalala at ipinalalaban at patuloy na itataguyod ang mga karapatang pantao sa International Human Rights Day, the Filipino youth vows to intensify the campaign not only for the release of political prisoners but also on the importance of the peace negotiations to the youth and the Filipino people.

This Representation is more than willing to accompany you in jail visits to talk to, makipagkuwentuhan po, sa ating mga political prisoners; and you may also visit the solidarity fasting centers and peace tents by the Mendiola Peace Arch.

Maraming salamat sa inyong suporta; at sa lahat ng nakikiisa sa panawagan ng kagyat na pagpapalaya sa lahat ng mga bilanggong pulitikal at panawagan para sa makatarungan at pangmatalagalang kapayapaan.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REFERRAL OF REP. ELAGO'S PRIVILEGE SPEECH

Thereupon, on motion of Rep. Matugas, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Rep. Elago to the Committee on Rules.

TERMINATION OF THE PRIVILEGE HOUR

Thereafter, on motion of Rep. Matugas, there being no objection, the Body terminated the Privilege Hour.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Rep. Matugas acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of guests of Rep. Oscar "Richard" S. Garin Jr. and Deputy Speaker Sharon S. Garin; Deputy Speakers Gwendolyn F. Garcia and Castro (F.H.); and Rep. Lawrence H. Fortun.

ROLL CALL

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

Abaya
Abayon
Abellanosa
Abueg
Acharon
Acop
Acosta

Acosta-Alba
Adiong
Advincula
Agarao
Aggabao
Aglipay-Villar
Albano
Alejano
Almario
Almonte
Alonte-Naguiat
Alvarez (F.)
Alvarez (M.)
Alvarez (P.)
Amante
Amatong
Andaya
Angara-Castillo
Antonio
Aragones
Arcillas
Arenas
Atienza
Bag-ao
Bagatsing
Baguilat
Banal
Barzaga
Bataoil
Bautista-Bandigan
Belaro
Belmonte (F.)
Belmonte (J.C.)
Belmonte (R.)
Bertiz
Billones
Biron
Bolilia
Bondoc
Bordado
Bravo (A.)
Bravo (M.V.)
Brosas
Bulut-Begtang
Cagas
Calderon
Calixto-Rubiano
Caminero
Campos
Canama
Casilao
Castro (F.L.)
Castro (F.H.)
Catamco
Cayetano
Celeste
Cerafica
Cerilles
Chavez
Chipeco
Co
Cojuangco
Collantes
Cortes
Cosalan
Crisologo
Cua
Cuaresma
Cueva
Dalipe
Dalog
Daza
De Venecia
De Vera
Defensor
Del Mar
Deloso-Montalla
Dimaporo (A.)
Dimaporo (M.K.)
Durano
Dy
Elago
Enverga
Erice
Eriguel
Ermita-Buhain
Escudero
Espino
Estrella
Eusebio
Evardone
Fariñas
Ferrer (J.)
Ferrer (L.)
Ferriol-Pascual
Flores
Fortun
Fortuno
Fuentebella
Garcia (G.)
Garcia (J.E.)
Garcia-Albano
Garin (R.)
Garin (S.)
Gasataya
Geron
Go (A.C.)
Go (M.)
Gomez
Gonzaga
Gonzales (A.P.)
Gonzales (A.D.)

Gonzalez	Pineda
Gorriceta	Plaza
Gullas	Primicias-Agabas
Hernandez	Quimbo
Herrera-Dy	Radaza
Hofer	Ramos
Jalosjos	Revilla
Javier	Roa-Puno
Kho	Robes
Labadlabad	Rocamora
Lagman	Rodriguez (I.)
Lanete	Rodriguez (M.)
Laogan	Roman
Lazatin	Romero
Leachon	Romualdez
Lee	Roque (H.)
Limkaichong	Sagarbarria
Lobregat	Salceda
Lopez (B.)	Salo
Lopez (C.)	Salon
Lopez (M.L.)	Sambar
Macapagal-Arroyo	Sandoval
Maceda	Santos-Recto
Madrona	Sarmiento (C.)
Malapitan	Sarmiento (E.M.)
Manalo	Savellano
Mangaoang	Siao
Mangudadatu (S.)	Silverio
Mangudadatu (Z.)	Singson
Mariño	Suansing (E.)
Marquez	Suansing (H.)
Martinez	Suarez
Matugas	Sy-Alvarado
Mellana	Tambunting
Mending	Tan (A.)
Mercado	Tan (M.)
Mirasol	Tan (S.)
Montoro	Teves
Nava	Tiangco
Nieto	Ting
Noel	Tinio
Nogralas (J.J.)	Tugna
Nolasco	Turabin-Hataman
Nuñez-Malanyaon	Ty
Oaminal	Umali
Olivarez	Unabia
Ong (E.)	Ungab
Ortega (P.)	Unico
Ortega (V.N.)	Uy (J.)
Pacquiao	Uy (R.)
Palma	Uybarreta
Pancho	Vargas
Panganiban	Vargas-Alfonso
Panotes	Velasco
Pichay	Velasco-Catera
Pimentel	Veloso

Vergara
 Villanueva
 Villaraza-Suarez
 Villarica
 Villarin
 Violago
 Yap (A.)
 Yap (M.)
 Yap (V.)
 Yu
 Zamora (M.C.)
 Zarate

With 243 Members responding to the Call, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum. (See also Appendix 1)

**BUSINESS FOR THE DAY:
 COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 35
 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 4144**

On motion of Rep. Crisologo, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 4144 as embodied in Committee Report No. 35 and reported out by the Committee on Ways and Means.

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

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 145 (C) OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED.”

As copies of the Bill had been distributed to the Members, on motion of Rep. Crisologo, 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.

Thereafter, on motion of Rep. Crisologo, the Chair recognized Rep. Dakila Carlo E. Cua, Chairperson of the Committee on Ways and Means, for his sponsorship remarks.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REP. CUA

Upon request of Rep. Cua, and on motion of Rep. Crisologo, there being no objection, the Body approved to consider the Explanatory Note of House Bill No. 4144 as the sponsorship remarks on the measure.

On motion of Rep. Crisologo, the Chair subsequently recognized Rep. Edcel C. Lagman for his interpellation.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Castro (F.H.) relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Rolando G. Andaya Jr.

INTERPELLATION OF REP. LAGMAN

Reps. Lagman and Cua initially discussed the merits of House Bill No. 4144 that impelled the Committee on Ways and Means to approve it even if the unitary rate system under Republic Act (RA) No. 10351 or the Sin Tax Reform Act, would still have to be implemented in 2017.

As he remarked that the previous Congress had lengthily deliberated on the aforesaid law before passing it, Rep. Lagman said that he was not satisfied with Rep. Cua’s explanation on why the instant Bill was justified.

On joint motion of Reps. Lagman and Crisologo, there being no objection, the Chair recognized Deputy Speaker Pia S. Cayetano for a manifestation.

**MANIFESTATION OF
 DEPUTY SPEAKER CAYETANO**

Saying she was a sponsor of RA No. 10351, Deputy Speaker Cayetano asked that the unitary rate system under the Tax Reform Act be given a chance to be implemented because it aimed not only to raise revenues but also to protect the health of the people. She explained that although the two-tier tax system under House Bill No. 4144 would make cigarettes more available to poor consumers, it will negate various health laws and programs that protect the health of the public in general and the youth in particular. She thus asked that the instant measure be remanded to the Committee on Ways and Means in order to discuss health issues that had not been tackled in its hearings and that the Committee on Health also deliberate on it.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Deputy Speaker Cayetano, the Chair suspended the session at 5:05 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:16 p.m.

REMARKS OF REP. CRISOLOGO

Rep. Crisologo stated that the parliamentary status of the Bill was that it was in the period of interpellations; and upon his motion, the Chair recognize Rep. Lagman to resume his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REP. LAGMAN

(Continuation)

Rep. Lagman first asked on the history of RA No. 10351 in the Committee on Ways and Means. Rep. Cua recalled that the latter conducted around eight to 10 lengthy hearings to which were invited many resource persons and stakeholders including tobacco farmer groups, and private and public health experts; and said that he would furnish his colleague with a copy of the Department of Health's position paper thereon.

Rep. Lagman then stressed that Committee Report No. 35 on House Bill No. 4144 did not include the pros and cons of the resource persons that would justify the adoption of the measure, as required by the Rules of the House. Rep. Cua opined that the Committee had exhaustively deliberated thereon and that its report was sufficient in form, but nevertheless promised to provide the transcripts of the proceedings that his colleague requested.

Reps. Lagman and Cua subsequently debated on why the Committee decided to jettison the unitary excise tax system. The former opined that the alleged bias of such a system against tobacco farmers, was resolved when Congress passed the Sin Tax Reform Act while the latter disagreed and said that the Committee will submit a study thereon by the National Tobacco Administration.

They also debated on the health effects of selling cheaper but inferior-quality cigarettes as against premium cigarettes and tax collections, as a result of implementing a two-tier and unitary tax system, respectively. After Rep. Cua said that the Committee will provide the pertinent data, Rep. Lagman said that he will suspend interpellation until after receiving the same.

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Andaya relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Castro (F.H.).

On motion of Rep. Crisologo, the Chair recognized Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REP. ATIENZA

To Rep. Atienza's questions on the impact of the two-tier excise tax system, Rep. Cua explained that it would result in higher taxes than the unitary system and that data showed that higher taxes under the implementation of the Sin Tax Reform Act resulted in lower cigarette consumption. He affirmed Rep. Atienza's observation that the system would not only benefit planters of second-grade tobacco but also public health and government revenue.

Rep. Atienza then suggested that sin taxes be also imposed on other products such as intoxicating beverages; and expressed support for the instant measure.

On motion of Rep. Matugas, the Chair next recognized Rep. Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong for her interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REP. LIMKAICHONG

Rep. Limkaichong posed several clarificatory questions. Rep. Cua stated that the Committee will consider the merits of other bills referred to the Committee on Ways and Means such as Rep. Joey Sarte Salceda's House Bill No. 4575 of which she was a co-author and which proposed a higher tax under a unitary system. He pointed out that the Committee was not devaluing the sin tax but improving on it. He also explained that the Committee wanted to help the Duterte administration raise revenues in order to implement a comprehensive tax reform program for over-burdened taxpayers.

Thereafter, on motion of Rep. Matugas, the Chair recognized Rep. Tom S. Villarín for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REP. VILLARIN

Reps. Villarín and Cua discussed the efficiency of a unitary tax system as compared to a two-tier system; the downshift to cigarette products that are cheaper but more inferior; and the opportunities for tobacco farmers to shift to other crops and other means of livelihood as a result of higher taxes.

Rep. Villarín then proposed to broaden the discussion on taxes by considering other bills such as House Bill No. 4575 which sought higher taxes and by working together with the Committee on Health, thus coming up with a consolidated bill that would be more beneficial not only to the government but also to the tobacco industry. For his part, Rep. Cua said that he welcomed suggestions to improve House Bill No. 4144.

Thereafter, on motion of Rep. Matugas, the Chair recognized Deputy Speaker Andaya for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER ANDAYA

Initially clarifying that he was in favor of any revenue measure, Rep. Andaya inquired on the two-tiered

system's impact on tobacco farmers. Rep. Cua explained that the measure would provide alternative means of livelihood to said farmers while sustaining the tobacco industry and minimizing the prevalence of smoking, as well as increase the subsidy for tobacco farmers as provided for under RA No. 7171, entitled, "An Act to Promote the Development of the Farmers in the Virginia Tobacco-Producing Provinces."

Rep. Andaya ended his interpellation by advocating the earmarking of additional funds from sin tax revenues, for agriculture.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL NO. 4144

On motion of Rep. Matugas, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4144.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

On motion of Rep. Matugas, there being no objection, the Body approved Journal No. 51, dated December 5, 2016.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Rep. Matugas, the session was suspended at 6:54 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 6:55 p.m.

OMNIBUS APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF BILLS CALENDARED UNDER THE BUSINESS FOR THURSDAY AND FRIDAY

On an omnibus motion of Rep. Juan Pablo "Rimpy" P. Bondoc, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading the following Bills calendared under the Business for Thursday and Friday, as contained in various Committee Reports and submitted by the Committees concerned; 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; terminated the period of sponsorship and debate; terminated the period

of amendments in the absence of Committee and individual amendments; and approved the same on Second Reading through *viva voce* voting:

Submitted by the Committee on Local Government:

1. House Bill No. 938, as contained in Committee Report No. 21, dividing Barangay Tangos in the City of Navotas into two (2) distinct and independent barangays to be known as Barangays Tangos North and Tangos South;

Submitted by the Committees on Basic Education and Culture, and Appropriations:

2. House Bill No. 400, as contained in Committee Report No. 22, establishing the Emilio Jacinto National High School in Pasong Tamo, Quezon City, Metro Manila;
3. House Bill No. 4469, as contained in Committee Report No. 23, separating the Tublay School of Home Industries Extension in Tublay Central, Tublay, Benguet from the Tublay School of Home Industries Main, and converting it into an independent national high school to be known as Tublay National Trade High School;
4. House Bill No. 4524, as contained in Committee Report No. 31, converting the San Rafael National High School in the City of Navotas into the San Rafael Technological and Vocational High School;
5. House Bill No. 4597, as contained in Committee Report No. 32, establishing the SSS National High School in Concepcion Dos in the Second District of Marikina City;
6. House Bill No. 4598, as contained in Committee Report No. 33, establishing the Ligao City National Technical-Vocational High School in Nasisi, Ligao City, Albay; and
7. House Bill No. 4599, as contained in Committee Report No. 34, establishing the Pagadian City Science High School in Pagadian City, Zamboanga del Sur.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

On motion of Rep. Matugas, there being no objection, the Chair subsequently declared the session adjourned until four o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday, December 7, 2016.

It was 6:56 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

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

Approved on December 7, 2016

Congress of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Philippines

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE**Date: December 06, 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)