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JOURNAL NO. 64
Monday, February 19, 2018

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CALL TO ORDER

At 4:00 p.m., Deputy Speaker Frederick “Erick” F. Abueg 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, Rep. Lorna C. Silverio led the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Thereupon, on motion of Rep. Arnel U. Ty, there being no objection, the Chair directed the Secretary General to call the Roll and the following Members were present:

Abayon
Abellanosa
Abu
Abueg
Acharon
Acop
Acosta-Alba
Advincula
Agarao
Aggabao
Aglipay-Villar
Albano
Alejano
Almario
Almonte
Alonte
Alvarez (F.)
Alvarez (P.)
Amante
Amatong
Andaya
Antonino
Antonio
Aquino-Magsaysay
Aragones
Arcillas
Arenas
Atienza
Bag-ao
Barzaga
Bataoil
Batocabe
Bautista-Bandigan

Belaro
Belmonte (F.)
Belmonte (J.C.)
Benitez
Bertiz
Biazon
Billones
Biron
Bolilia
Bondoc
Bordado
Bravo (A.)
Bravo (M.V.)
Brosas
Bulut-Begtang
Cagas
Calalang
Calderon
Campos
Canama
Cari
Castelo
Castro (F.L.)
Castro (F.H.)
Celeste
Chavez
Chipeco
Collantes
Cortes
Cortuna
Cosalan
Crisologo
Cua
Cuaresma
Cueva
Dalipe
Datol
Daza
De Jesus
de Venecia
De Vera
Defensor
Del Mar
Deloso-Montalla
Durano
Dy
Elago
Enverga
Eriguel
Ermita-Buhain
Escudero
Espina

Espino	Nieto
Eusebio	Noel
Evardone	Nogralas (J.J.)
Fariñas	Nolasco
Fernando	Nuñez-Malanyaon
Ferrer (L.)	Oaminal
Ferriol-Pascual	Ocampo
Flores	Olivarez
Fortun	Ong (H.)
Fortuno	Ortega (P.)
Garbin	Ortega (V.N.)
Garcia (G.)	Pacquiao
Garcia (J.E.)	Paduano
Garin (S.)	Pancho
Gasataya	Panganiban
Gatchalian	Panotes
Geron	Papandayan
Go (M.)	Pimentel
Gomez	Pineda
Gonzaga	Primicias-Agabas
Gonzales (A.P.)	Radaza
Gonzales (A.D.)	Ramirez-Sato
Gonzalez	Ramos
Hernandez	Relampagos
Herrera-Dy	Revilla
Hofer	Roa-Puno
Jalosjos	Robes
Kho	Rocamora
Khonghun	Rodriguez (I.)
Labadlabad	Rodriguez (M.)
Lacson	Roman
Lagman	Romero
Lanete	Romualdo
Lazatin	Roque
Leachon	Sacdalan
Limkaichong	Salimbangon
Lobregat	Salo
Lopez (B.)	Salon
Lopez (C.)	Sangcopan
Lopez (M.L.)	Santos-Recto
Loyola	Sarmiento (C.)
Macapagal-Arroyo	Sarmiento (E.M.)
Maceda	Savellano
Madrona	Siao
Malapitan	Silverio
Manalo	Suansing (E.)
Mangaoang	Suansing (H.)
Mangudadatu (Z.)	Suarez
Marcoleta	Tambunting
Marcos	Tan (A.)
Mariño	Tan (M.)
Marquez	Tejada
Martinez	Tiangco
Matugas	Tinio
Mending	Tolentino
Mercado	Tugna
Mirasol	Tupas
Montoro	Ty

Umali
Unabia
Ungab
Unico
Uy (J.)
Uy (R.)
Uybarreta
Vargas
Vargas-Alfonso
Velasco
Velasco-Catera
Velo
Vergara
Villanueva
Villarica
Villarin
Violago
Yap (A.)
Yap (M.)
Yap (V.)
Yu
Zamora (M.C.)
Zamora (R.)
Zarate
Zubiri

With 226 Members responding to the Call, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum. (See Appendix)

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

Considering that copies of the Journal of the previous session had been distributed to the Members, on motion of Representative Ty, there being no objection, the Body approved Journal No. 63, dated February 14, 2018.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

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

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

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 7167, entitled:

“AN ACT POSTPONING THE MAY 14, 2018 BARANGAY AND SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN ELECTIONS, AMENDING

FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9164, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9340, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10656, REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10923 AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10952 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Umali

TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

House Bill No. 7168, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE 'METRO RAILWAYS TRANSIT REGULATORY BOARD' TO PROMOTE THE EXTENSIVE USE OF OUR RAILWAYS THROUGH A RATIONAL PAYMENT SYSTEM, TO FOSTER AND IMPOSE THE APPROPRIATE FARE RATES, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Romero

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION, THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 7169, entitled:

“AN ACT TO PRESCRIBE THE FOOD GUIDE PYRAMID LABELLING FOR FOODS”

By Representative Kho

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 7170, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SEPARATE DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE IN DAVAO CITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE THIRD DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE TO HAVE JURISDICTION OVER THE FORTY-SIX BARANGAYS COMPRISING THE SECOND LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT”

By Representative Garcia-Albano

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 7171, entitled:

“AN ACT REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT 10912, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2016'”

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

TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 1681, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE KASAMAKA INITIATIVE AS A NATIONAL GRASS-ROOTS-BASED ADVOCACY PROGRAM FOR FINANCIAL INCLUSION IN EVERY BARANGAY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT; EMPOWERING THE PEOPLE AFFORDABLE ACCESS TO INCLUSIVE DIGITAL FINANCE SUCH AS MICROSAVINGS, MICROINSURANCE, MICROINVESTMENT AND MICROCREDIT, SHIELDING THEM FROM PREDATORY LENDER OR 5-6 OPERATORS IN SUPPORT OF PRESIDENT RODRIGO R. DUTERTE'S INITIATIVE IN REDUCING POVERTY BY 2020”

By Representative Revilla

TO THE COMMITTEE ON POVERTY ALLEVIATION

House Resolution No. 1682, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE SHORTAGE IN GOVERNMENT-SUBSIDIZED RICE AS RECENTLY ALLEGED BY THE NATIONAL FOOD ADMINISTRATION (NFA) FOLLOWING RELIEF OPERATIONS FOR VICTIMS OF STRIFE AND TYPHOONS IN 2017 AND IMMEDIATELY PUT IN PLACE COUNTER-MEASURES IN ORDER TO EFFECTIVELY ADDRESS THE DEARTH”

By Representative Castelo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1683, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION IN AID OF LEGISLATION BY THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE ALLEGED ULTRAVIRES ACTS BY PHILIPPINE NATIONAL OIL COMPANY PRESIDENT REUBEN LISTA”

By Representative Suarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1684, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SECURITY AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION IN AID OF LEGISLATION INTO THE WIDESPREAD STONING INCIDENTS HAPPENING IN MANY PARTS OF THE COUNTRY WHICH PUT INTO QUESTION THE CAPABILITY OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO GUARANTEE THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC”

By Representative Savellano

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1685, entitled:

“RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE EFFORTS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE NAYONG FILIPINO FOUNDATION, INC. RELATIVE TO THE MANAGEMENT OF THE PROPERTIES UNDER ITS ADMINISTRATION, INCLUDING ITS LAND IN THE ENTERTAINMENT CITY A PORTION OF WHICH HAS ALLEGEDLY BEEN LEASED AND THE REMAINDER

THEREOF PRESENTLY PROPOSED TO BE DEVELOPED UNDER A PPP SCHEME”

By Representatives Pineda, Romero, Belmonte (R.), Canama, Salo, Lopez (B.), Villarin, Bertiz, Montoro, Belaro, Lacson, Mending, Uybarreta, Salon and Lopez (M.L.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1686, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD AND THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD SECURITY TO EXERCISE ITS FUNCTIONS AND INVESTIGATE IN AID OF LEGISLATION CONCERNING THE POSSIBLE EXISTENCE OF A SHORTAGE IN THE GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIZED RICE THROUGH THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY (NFA)”

By Representative Geron

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Message dated February 12, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed Senate Bill No. 1620, entitled:

“AN ACT ABOLISHING THE ROAD BOARD, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8794”

in which it requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

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

Message dated February 12, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed Senate Bill No. 1662, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8049 TO STRENGTHEN THE LAW ON HAZING AND REGULATE OTHER FORMS OF INITIATION RITES OF FRATERNITIES, SORORITIES, AND

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS, PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

in which it requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated February 13, 2018, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on February 12, 2018 approved the Conference Committee Report of the Bicameral Conference Committee on the disagreeing provisions of Senate Bill No. 1354, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH POLICY FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENHANCING THE DELIVERY OF INTEGRATED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, PROMOTING AND PROTECTING PERSONS UTILIZING PSYCHIATRIC, NEUROLOGIC AND PSYCHOSOCIAL HEALTH SERVICES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

and House Bill No. 6452, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH POLICY FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENHANCING THE DELIVERY OF INTEGRATED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, PROMOTING AND PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS UTILIZING PSYCHIATRIC, NEUROLOGIC AND PSYCHOSOCIAL HEALTH SERVICES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter dated January 19, 2018 of Roman G. Del Rosario, Presiding Justice, Court of Tax Appeals, submitting to the House of Representatives the Quarterly Financial and Physical Accomplishment Reports of the Court of Tax Appeals for the 4th Quarter ending December 31, 2017, to wit:

1. Statement of Cumulative Allotments, Obligations Incurred and Unobligated Balances;

2. Detailed Statement of Cumulative Expenditures/Obligations Incurred, Obligations Liquidated/Disbursements and Unliquidated Obligations;
3. Report on the Results of Expended Appropriations;
4. Financial Report of Operation;
5. Physical Accomplishment Report; and
6. Summary of Notice of Cash Allocations (NCA).

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated January 22, 2018 of Gen. Ricardo R. Visaya (Ret.), Administrator, National Irrigation Administration, submitting to the House of Representatives the CY 2017 Fourth Quarter Progress Report of NIA CARP-IC for Mindanao Sustainable Agrarian and Agriculture Development (MinSAAD) Project.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

Letter dated January 24, 2018 of Nestor A. Espenilla, Jr., Governor, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, submitting to the House of Representatives their Report to Congress on Public Sector Foreign Loans approved by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP): Fourth Quarter 2017 and the entire year.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

Letter dated January 24, 2018 of Eduardo M. Año, Officer-in-Charge, Department of the Interior and Local Government, submitting the Statement of Allotments, Obligations and Balances (Current and Continuing Appropriations) of the Office of the Secretary, as of December 31, 2017, in compliance with Section 91 of the General Provisions of Republic Act No. 10924.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated February 12, 2018 of Roger E. Dino, Deputy Director, Office of the General Counsel

and Legal Services, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, furnishing the House of Representatives duly certified and authenticated BSP issuances, to wit:

Circular No. 995 dated 5 February 2018; and

Circular Letter No. 2018-009 dated 6 February 2018.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report by the Committee on Justice (Committee Report No. 607), re H.B. No. 7179, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO MAYLEEN TING”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 4656

Sponsors: Representatives Umali, Macapagal-Arroyo and Lazatin

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Justice (Committee Report No. 608), re H.B. No. 7180, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO FATHER JULIAN C. MAZANA”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 5405

Sponsors: Representatives Umali, Tiangco, Fuentebella, Noel, Ferrer (J.) and Castro (F.H.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Natural Resources (Committee Report No. 609), re H.B. No. 7184, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE FOREST BOUNDARY OF THE PROVINCE OF TARLAC”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 6060

Sponsors: Representatives Ty, Yap (V.), Cojuangco and Villanueva

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Population and Family Relations (Committee Report No. 610), re H.B. No. 7185, entitled:

“AN ACT RECOGNIZING THE FOREIGN DECREE OF TERMINATION OF MARRIAGE AND ALLOWING ITS SUBSEQUENT REGISTRATION WITH THE PHILIPPINE CIVIL REGISTRY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 209, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FAMILY CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 6446

Sponsors: Representatives Aragonés and Cayetano

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Cooperatives Development (Committee Report No. 611), re H.R. No. 120, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON COOPERATIVES DEVELOPMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGED VIOLATIONS IN THE CONTRACTS BETWEEN OIL PALM PLANTATION COOPERATIVES IN SOUTHERN PALAWAN AND AGUMIL PHILS., INC. WHICH PUT COOPERATIVES IN HUGE DEBTS AND DISPLACED FARMERS FROM THEIR OWN LANDS”

informing the House of its findings and recommendations

Sponsors: Representatives Geron, Bravo (A.), Canama, Montoro, Acosta, Palma, Paduano, Aquino-Magsaysay and Salon

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Cooperatives Development (Committee Report No. 612), re H.R. No. 1688, entitled:

“RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE ACES CREDIT DEVELOPMENT INCORPORATED MULTIPURPOSE COOPERA-

TIVE (ACDIMPC) FOR ITS OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS AND LEADERSHIP IN THE UPLIFTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF ITS MEMBERS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE”

recommending its adoption in substitution of House Resolution No. 1365

Sponsors: Representatives Geron, Bravo (A.) and Canama

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Civil Service and Professional Regulation and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 613), re H.B. No. 7191, entitled:

“AN ACT REGULATING THE PRACTICE OF THE CRIMINOLOGY PROFESSION IN THE PHILIPPINES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT 6506, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'AN ACT CREATING THE BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR CRIMINOLOGISTS IN THE PHILIPPINES' ”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 1123

Sponsors: Representatives Mariño, Nograles (K.A.), Alejano and Rodríguez (M.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Human Rights and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 614), re H.B. No. 7193, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING A FRAMEWORK FOR THE RIGHT TO ADEQUATE FOOD, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 61, 256, 1645 and 3938

Sponsors: Representatives Nograles (K.A.), Nograles (J.J.), Roque (H.), Villarica, Bagao and Deloso-Montalla

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Thereupon, on motion of Rep. Ron P. Salo, there being no objection, the Chair recognized Rep. Edcel C. Lagman on a question of personal and collective privilege.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE OF REPRESENTATIVE LAGMAN

Representative Lagman adverted to the speech of Deputy Speaker Gwendolyn F. Garcia on February 14, 2018 which repeatedly scored him for criticizing Speaker Pantaleon D. Alvarez' position of not enforcing the Ombudsman's decision to dismiss her for grave misconduct with perpetual disqualification from the government service, because it could be invalid and only the House can discipline or dismiss its Members.

Initially, Representative Lagman recalled a February 12, 2017 briefing where the media sought the Magnificent 7 opposition group's reaction to the Speaker's announcement on the issue. He said that without mentioning the name of Deputy Speaker Garcia or insisting that she should be removed, he told the media that (1) under the Rules of Procedure of the Office of the Ombudsman, its decision is immediately executory despite a pending motion for reconsideration; and (2) the Constitution does not exempt Members of Congress and Judiciary from the investigatory jurisdiction of the Ombudsman, even as the power of the House to discipline or expel its Members is not exclusive. It was in that context, he added, that he had asked what Constitution Speaker Alvarez was referring to. He has nothing personal against Deputy Speaker Garcia, he stressed, and what they discussed were purely legal and ethical questions.

In support of his arguments, he subsequently cited and explained the following to the Body: (1) provisions of the 1987 Constitution about the investigatory jurisdiction and function of the Office of the Ombudsman; (2) provisions of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 6770 or the Ombudsman Act of 1989 which provide for the Ombudsman's jurisdiction over all administrative complaints and the executory nature of the Ombudsman's decision despite pending motions for reconsideration or appeal; and (3) R.A. No. 3019, as amended, or the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act which covers all public officers and employees, including Members of Congress, without any exception.

Nevertheless, he also cited the unconstitutionality of some provisions of R.A. No. 6770 which provide for the removal of a deputy or special pros-

ecutor by the Office of the President and which exempt Members of Congress and the Judiciary from the disciplinary authority of the Ombudsman.

EXTENSION OF THE TIME OF REPRESENTATIVE LAGMAN

At this point, the Chair reminded Representative Lagman to wind up with his speech; but upon the request of the latter, there being no objection, the Chair extended his time for 10 minutes.

QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE OF REPRESENTATIVE LAGMAN (Continuation)

Representative Lagman thereafter pointed out that three incumbent Members of the House had voluntarily submitted to the jurisdiction of the Office of the Ombudsman.

Whereupon, he emphasized that the fundamental issue is whether Deputy Speaker Garcia would submit to the decision of the Ombudsman despite a pending motion for reconsideration or appeal. Stressing that public office is a public trust, he asked whether she was calling for the Members' exemption from this salutary principle when she asked them to stand together for their immunity from the Ombudsman's alleged encroachment. He concluded that the ball was now in Speaker Alvarez' court and whether he freezes it or throws it out of bounds is his accountability.

REFERRAL OF REPRESENTATIVE LAGMAN'S QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE

On motion of Representative Salo, there being no objection, the Body referred Representative Lagman's question of privilege to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Representative Salo then acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Reps. Sabiniano S. Canama and Anthony M. Bravo, Ph.D.

THE PRIVILEGE HOUR

The day being a Monday, on successive motions of Representative Salo, there being no objection, the Chair then declared a Privilege Hour and recognized Rep. Ciriaco S. Calalang to deliver his privilege speech.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE CALALANG

Representative Calalang said that despite the current era of scientific advancement and technological innovation, Filipinos still suffer from the negative effects of bureaucracy and red tape. He called for data interconnectivity among government agencies to streamline their functions and thus facilitate the conduct of their transactions with the public. He noted that even with the passage of the Anti-Red Tape Act of 2007, each government agency maintains its own database and information system and thus requires an applicant to submit several documents, mostly the original copies thereof, for the issuance of clearances, licenses, passports, or identification cards.

In view of the citizens' demand for speed and real time in their dealings with the government, Representative Calalang then stressed the need for a dynamic and responsive way of governance through data interconnectivity and asked his colleagues to support the Philippine Data Interconnectivity Act.

REFERRAL OF REPRESENTATIVE CALALANG'S PRIVILEGE SPEECH

On motion of Representative Salo, there being no objection, the Body referred Representative Calalang's privilege speech to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

On further motion of Representative Salo, the Chair recognized Rep. Maximo B. Rodriguez Jr. to deliver his privilege speech.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE RODRIGUEZ (M.)

Representative Rodriguez decried Mindanao's meager share in the national budget from 2014 to 2017. While he acknowledged the increase in its share in the 2018 national budget, he said that it still pales in comparison with the National Capital Region's share and the nationwide allocation especially if one considers the huge number of poor families in his region. Citing facts and figures, he also said that despite the budget increases of several executive departments, Mindanao's allocations for the same were much smaller than those of Luzon.

Taking note of the fact that the President comes from Mindanao, Representative Rodriguez then expressed hope that Mindanao would finally receive a just and equal share in the national budget which will help it to develop and reach its potentials.

REFERRAL OF REPRESENTATIVE RODRIGUEZ'(M.) PRIVILEGE SPEECH

Thereafter, on motion of Representative Salo, there being no objection, the Body referred Representative Rodriguez' privilege speech to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

The Chair subsequently recognized Rep. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate to deliver his privilege speech, on motion of Representative Salo.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ZARATE

Speaking in Filipino, Representative Zarate took the floor in behalf of public-sector unions in general and the Consolidated Union of Employees (CUE) of the National Housing Authority (NHA) in particular.

After saying that government employees were also fighting for regularization and security of tenure and were experiencing contractualization like private employees, he decried (1) the NHA's suppression of the members of the CUE to assert the need for genuine and pro-poor housing services, and (2) the NHA Board Chairman's accusation that the CUE was a front of the Communist Party of the Philippines.

Representative Zarate then said that the right to form unions and to peaceably assemble were guaranteed by the Constitution; and pointed out that the NHA Chairman's pronouncement placed the lives of union members in danger of the fascist and tyrannical acts of the current administration. He adverted to the sexually-violent remarks that President Rodrigo Roa Duterte recently uttered against female rebels and the military's attacks against civilians especially the lumads in Mindanao; and said that these clearly show the capability of the government and its armed forces to commit persistent acts of violence against its citizens.

As he subsequently cited the harassment and intimidation of the members of the Confederation for Unity, Recognition and Advancement of Government Employees or COURAGE, Representative Zarate urged his colleagues to support the rights of government employees to form and join unions.

**REFERRAL OF REPRESENTATIVE
ZARATE'S PRIVILEGE SPEECH**

On motion of Representative Salo, there being no objection, the Body referred Representative Zarate's privilege speech to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

On further motion of Representative Salo, the Chair recognized Rep. Emmi A. De Jesus for her privilege speech.

**PRIVILEGE SPEECH
OF REPRESENTATIVE DE JESUS**

Speaking in Filipino, Representative De Jesus condemned the ongoing crackdown on old and smoke-belching jeepneys under the "Tanggal-Bulok, Tanggal-Usok" program.

She expressed apprehension that the jeepney phase-out and public utility vehicle (PUV) modernization program will lead to the corporatization of public transport where drivers and operators will be buried in debt as a result of buying new but expensive jeepney units while capitalists will profit from the same.

She explained how the phase-out of jeepneys will adversely affect various stakeholders including the drivers and operators themselves and their families, commuters, and students -- all of whom are already suffering from new taxes and the higher cost of goods and services.

Then stressing that no sufficient feasibility studies have been conducted about the program, Representative De Jesus said that the Gabriela Women's Party-List will fight against its implementation. She said that the government should instead focus on fixing the light rail transit system and public transportation services.

**REFERRAL OF REPRESENTATIVE
DE JESUS' PRIVILEGE SPEECH**

On motion of Representative Salo, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Representative De Jesus to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

The Chair thereafter recognized Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago to deliver her privilege speech, upon Representative Salo's motion.

**PRIVILEGE SPEECH
OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO**

Representative Elago spoke about the right of the youth to admonish a profit-oriented system that prevents them from realizing their right to education. She also discussed the need to stop reprimanding students from joining protest actions because this isolates them from being aware of societal ills and the plight of the marginalized and oppressed.

Thereupon, she informed the Body that the youth and student sectors will conduct a nationwide action called Youth Quake 2.0 on February 23, 2018 to express a resolute commitment to fight for rights, freedom, and democracy for the Filipino people.

She encouraged the Members to stand in solidarity with the ranks of the voiceless and the oppressed and fight for genuine social reform and democracy. She further asked the youth to show the administration and its leaders that protest and learning in the classroom are not mutually exclusive but should complement each other.

**REFERRAL OF REPRESENTATIVE
ELAGO'S PRIVILEGE SPEECH**

On motion of Representative Salo, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Representative Elago to the Committee on Rules for its appropriate action.

TERMINATION OF THE PRIVILEGE HOUR

On motion of Representative Salo, there being no objection, the Body terminated the Privilege Hour.

**BUSINESS FOR THE DAY:
COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 599
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 7134**

On successive motions of Representative Salo, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 7134, as contained in Committee Report No. 599 and submitted by the Committees on Health, and Appropriations providing policies and prescribing procedures on surveillance and response to notifiable diseases, epidemics, and health events of public health concern; dispensed with the reading of the text thereof without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House; as concurred by Rep. Angelina "Helen" D.

L. Tan, M.D., Chairperson of the Committee on Health, adopted the Explanatory Note of House Bill No. 3163 as the sponsorship remarks on the measure; 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.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative Salo, the Chair suspended the session at 5:35 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:35 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

There being no other matters for the day, on motion of Representative Salo, there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until four o'clock in the afternoon of Tuesday, February 20, 2018.

It was 5:35 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

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

Approved on February 20, 2018.

Congress of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Philippines

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE*Journal No. 64***Monday, February 19, 2018**

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

***** GULLAS	*** OCAMPO	SILVERIO
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	TY
LOPEZ (M.L.)	RAMIREZ-SATO	*** UMALI
*** LOYOLA	RAMOS	UNABIA
MACAPAGAL-ARROYO	RELAMPAGOS	UNGAB
MACEDA	*** REVILLA	UNICO
MADRONA	ROA-PUNO	UY (J.)
MALAPITAN	ROBES	UY (R.)
MANALO	*** ROCAMORA	UYBARRETA
MANGAOANG	RODRIGUEZ (I.)	VARGAS
***** MANGUDADATU (S.)	RODRIGUEZ (M.)	VARGAS-ALFONSO
MANGUDADATU (Z.)	ROMAN	***** VELARDE
*** MARCOLETA	ROMERO	VELASCO
MARCOS	***** ROMUALDEZ	VELASCO-CATERA
MARIÑO	*** ROMUALDO	*** VELOSO
MARQUEZ	ROQUE	VERGARA
MARTINEZ	SACDALAN	***** VILLAFUERTE
MATUGAS	***** SAGARBARRIA	VILLANUEVA
***** MELLANA	***** SAHALI	***** VILLARAZA-SUAREZ
*** MENDING	***** SALCEDA	VILLARICA
***** MENDOZA	*** SALIMBANGON	VILLARIN
MERCADO	SALO	VIOLAGO
MIRASOL	SALON	YAP (A.)
MONTORO	***** SAMBAR	YAP (M.)
***** NAVA	***** SANDOVAL	YAP (V.)
NIETO	*** SANGCOPAN	YU
NOEL	SANTOS-RECTO	ZAMORA (M.C.)
NOGRALES (J.J.)	SARMIENTO (C.)	*** ZAMORA (R.)
***** NOGRALES (K.A.)	SARMIENTO (E.M.)	ZARATE
NOLASCO	SAVELLANO	ZUBIRI
NUÑEZ-MALANYAON	***** SEMA	
OAMINAL	SIAO	

* Appeared after the Roll Call

** On official mission

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

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

***** Absent without notice

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