



**Journal  
of the  
House of Representatives**

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION  
2016 - 2017**

**JOURNAL NO. 68  
Wednesday, February 8, 2017**

Prepared by the  
**JOURNAL SERVICE**  
Plenary Affairs Bureau

**JOURNAL NO. 68**  
**Wednesday, February 8, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**NATIONAL ANTHEM AND PRAYER**

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

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

On successive motions of Representative Oscar “Richard” S. Garin Jr., 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**

Subsequently, on motion of Rep. Garin (R.), 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 and a Committee Report, which were referred to the appropriate Committees as hereunder indicated:

**BILLS ON FIRST READING**

House Bill No. 4904, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING THE REPUBLIC ACT 8178, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'AGRICULTURAL TARIFFICATION ACT' AND PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 4, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS, 'PROCLAIMING THE CREATION OF THE NATIONAL GRAINS AUTHORITY AND APPROVING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Yap (A.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
AND FOOD

House Bill No. 4905, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 2 AND 3 (B) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8794, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'AN ACT IMPOSING A

MOTOR VEHICLE USER'S CHARGE ON OWNERS OF ALL TYPES OF MOTOR VEHICLES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES' ”

By Representative Del Rosario

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS  
AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4906, entitled:

“AN ACT EXTENDING FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO THE DELTA BROADCASTING SYSTEM, INC. TO ESTABLISH, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS WITHIN THE PHILIPPINES UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7723”

By Representative Velasco

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE  
FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 4907, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING IGBARAS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – ALAMEDA EXTENSION IN BARANGAY ALAMEDA, MUNICIPALITY OF IGBARAS, PROVINCE OF ILOILO FROM IGBARAS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS ALAMEDA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Garin (O.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION  
AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4908, entitled:

“AN ACT SEPARATING DON FELIX SERRA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – LOMBOYAN EXTENSION IN BARANGAY LOMBOYAN, MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JOAQUIN, PROVINCE OF ILOILO FROM DON FELIX SERRA NATIONAL HIGH

SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS STA. ANA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Garin (O.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4909, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MONTH OF AUGUST AS THE START OF THE ACADEMIC YEAR IN ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Garin (O.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4910, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROAD STRETCHING FROM BARANGAY PARARA, MUNICIPALITY OF TIGBAUAN TO BARANGAY JAMOG, MUNICIPALITY OF LEON, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOILO INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Garin (O.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4911, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROAD STRETCHING FROM BARANGAY CAMANGAHAN TO BARANGAY NAHAPAY, ALL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF GUIMBAL, PROVINCE OF ILOILO INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Garin (O.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4912, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROAD STRETCHING FROM BARANGAY STA. MONICA, MUNICIPALITY OF OTON TO BARANGAY CORDOVA, MUNICIPALITY OF TIGBAUAN, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOILO INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Garin (O.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4913, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROAD STRETCHING FROM BARANGAY BOTONG TO BARANGAY BATUAN, ALL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF OTON, PROVINCE OF ILOILO INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Garin (O.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4914, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A MUNICIPAL TRIAL COURT FOR THE MUNICIPALITY OF TIGBAUAN, PROVINCE OF ILOILO, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Garin (O.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 4915, entitled:

“AN ACT NAMING THE ILOILO CITY – DUMANGAS COASTAL ROAD IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOILO AS CONGRESSMAN NARCISO DOLAR MONFORT HIGHWAY”

By Representative Garin (O.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4916, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROAD STRETCHING FROM BARANGAY FIVE (5) TO BARANGAY IGCABUGAO, ALL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF IGBARAS, PROVINCE OF ILOILO INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Garin (O.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4917, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROAD STRETCHING FROM BARANGAY SIBUCAUAN, MUNICIPALITY OF TUBUNGAN TO BARANGAY IGCABUGAO, MUNICIPALITY OF IGBARAS, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOILO INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Garin (O.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4918, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROAD STRETCHING FROM BARANGAY IG-TUBA, MUNICIPALITY OF MIAGAO TO BARANGAY IGTALONGON, MUNICIPALITY OF IGBARAS, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOILO INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Garin (O.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4919, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROAD STRETCHING FROM BARANGAY QUIANAN TO BARANGAY BAD-AS, ALL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JOAQUIN,

PROVINCE OF ILOILO INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Garin (O.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4920, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE ROAD STRETCHING FROM BARANGAY POBLACION EAST TO BARANGAY ALEGRE, ALL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF OTON, PROVINCE OF ILOILO INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Garin (O.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

House Bill No. 4921, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISION OF REPUBLIC ACT 9593, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE TOURISM ACT OF 2009, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Pichay

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 4922, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING THE IMPLEMENTATION BY BRAND OWNERS OF MANAGEMENT PLANS THAT PROVIDE REFUND VALUES FOR CERTAIN BEVERAGE CONTAINERS”

By Representative Rocamora

TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECOLOGY

House Bill No. 4926, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS - SIARGAO”

By Representative Matugas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4928, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING UNION ORGANIZATION AND DISALLOWING CANCELLATION OF UNION REGISTRATION, 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. 4929, entitled:

“AN ACT PROMOTING THE WELFARE OF WORKERS IN THE WELLNESS SPA, BEAUTY SALON, FITNESS GYM AND RELATED BUSINESS BY FACILITATING THEIR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SSS, FURTHER AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1161, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SOCIAL SECURITY LAW, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Mendoza

TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 4930, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE SEPARATION PAY OF EMPLOYEES TERMINATED DUE TO DISEASE, PROVIDING CONDITIONS FOR SUCH TERMINATION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE 284 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Mendoza

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 4931, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTING WORKER'S CLAIM AS STATUTORY FIRST LIEN ON THE ASSETS OF THE BANKRUPT EMPLOYER,

AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE ARTICLE 110 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. 4932, entitled:

“AN ACT PROTECTING EMPLOYEES IN CASES OF MERGER OR CONSOLIDATION, SALE OR TRANSFER OF ALL OR SUBSTANTIALLY ALL ASSETS OR BUSINESSES OF THEIR EMPLOYERS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Mendoza

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

House Bill No. 4933, entitled:

“AN ACT FIXING THE PROBATIONARY PERIOD OF EMPLOYMENT OF ACADEMIC PERSONNEL IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS, AMENDING FOR THAT 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. 4936, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY LITAN, MUNICIPALITY OF GUIPOS, PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR, TO BE KNOWN AS LITAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF”

By Representative Cerilles

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 4939, entitled:

“AN ACT EXEMPTING PHILIPPINE SEA SALT FROM MANDATORY IODIZATION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8172, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT FOR SALT IODIZATION NATIONWIDE (ASIN), AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Salo and Lacson

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 4945, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 517 BY CONVERTING THE LABUAN PUBLIC HOSPITAL IN ZAMBOANGA CITY INTO A LEVEL II GENERAL HOSPITAL TO BE KNOWN AS LABUAN GENERAL HOSPITAL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Lobregat

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

#### RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 740, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING WESLEY SO, PHILIPPINE BORN 23-YEAR-OLD GRANDMASTER, FOR WINNING THE WORLD'S STRONGEST CHESS TOURNAMENT, THE TATA STEEL CHESS TOURNAMENT 79<sup>TH</sup> EDITION AND RANKING WORLD NO. 2 IN THE PROCESS”

By Representative Castelo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 741, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND SAFETY TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE INTELLIGENCE GATHERED BY THE DEFENSE SECRETARY INDICATING THE ESTABLISHMENT BY THE INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST GROUP ISLAMIC STATE OF A

BASE OR *WILAYAT* (PROVINCE) IN CENTRAL MINDANAO BY TAPPING THE ABU SAYYAF AND RALLYING THE MAUTE GROUP”

By Representative Castelo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 742, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING AGNES JAKOSALEM, A 51-YEAR-OLD FILIPINA, FOR BEING THE FIRST FILIPINA EVER TO BE CROWNED MS. GRANDMA UNIVERSE 2017 IN A PAGEANT HELD IN SOFIA, BULGARIA ON JANUARY 22, 2017”

By Representative Castelo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 743, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE EXEMPLARY EFFORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM (DOT), PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP), AND OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, THAT LED TO THE SUCCESSFUL HOLDING OF THE MS. UNIVERSE PAGEANT IN OUR COUNTRY”

By Representative Alejano

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 744, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON HOW LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS GIVE EXEMPTIONS FROM PAYMENT OF LOCAL TAXES, TO CERTAIN CORPORATIONS”

By Representative Atienza

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 745, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE RECENT ATTACKS MADE BY THE NPA

WHILE A MUTUALLY DECLARED UNILATERAL CEASEFIRE IS IN PLACE AND TO URGE BOTH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES (GRP) AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE PHILIPPINES-NEW PEOPLE'S ARMY-NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FRONT (CPP-NPA-NDF) TO CONTINUE WITH THE PEACE TALKS IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THE GAINS OF THE PEACE PROCESS AND TO REMOVE THE HINDRANCES IN ATTAINING A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN THE COUNTRY”

By Representative Alejano

TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PEACE,  
RECONCILIATION AND UNITY

### ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

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

Rep. Mario Vittorio "Marvey" A. Mariño for House Bill No. 4273;

Rep. Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas for House Bill No. 4825;

Rep. Bernadette "BH" Herrera-Dy for House Bills No. 4105 and 4526;

Reps. Alfredo A. Garbin Jr. and Eleanor C. Bulut-Begtang for House Bill No. 516;

Rep. Jose Antonio "Kuya Jonathan" R. Sy-Alvarado for House Bills No. 4051, 4765, 4766, 4813, and 4887;

Rep. Evelina G. Escudero for House Bill No. 4800;

Rep. Joaquin M. Chipeco Jr. for House Bill No. 82;

Rep. Nancy A. Catamco for House Bills No. 2282 and 4742;

Reps. Eric L. Olivarez, Joel Mayo Z. Almario, Arcadio H. Gorriceta, Romeo M. Acop, Arnel U. Ty, and Ricardo "RJ" T. Belmonte Jr. for House Bill No. 4742;

Rep. Ma. Lucille L. Nava, M.D. for House Bills No. 3556, 3557, 3632, 3945, 4127, 4526, and 4742;

Rep. Gwendolyn F. Garcia for House Bill No. 458;

Rep. Gerald Anthony "Samsam" V. Gullas Jr. for House Bill No. 4767;

Rep. Gil "Kabarangay" P. Acosta for House Bills No. 4761 and 4762;

Reps. Maximo B. Rodriguez Jr. and Johnny Ty Pimentel for House Bill No. 180;

Rep. Maria Vida Espinosa Bravo for House Bills No. 2529, 3652, 3784, 3834, 3835, and 4344;

Rep. Estrellita B. Suansing for House Bill No. 3399;

Rep. Micaela S. Violago for House Bills No. 1221, 1230, 1232, and 2930;

Rep. Carmelo "Jon" B. Lazatin II for House Bills No. 4273 and 4742;

Rep. Mauyag "Jun" B. Papandayan Jr. for House Bill No. 1858;

Reps. Jesus Nonato Sacdalan, Arnel U. Ty, Ron P. Salo, and Teodoro "Ted" G. Montoro for House Bill No. 4689;

Rep. Salvador B. Belaro Jr. for House Bill No. 4526; and

Reps. Arcadio H. Gorriceta, Enrico A. Pineda, Ron P. Salo, Frederick W. Siao, Marisol C. Panotes, and Jose "Pingping" I. Tejada for House Bill No. 4174.

### COMMITTEE REPORT

Report by the Committee on Women and Gender Equality (Committee Report No. 101), re H.B. No. 4982, entitled:

“AN ACT PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR GENDER IDENTITY OR EXPRESSION (SOGIE) AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 51, 267, 949, 1034, 1108, 1451, 1854, 3245, 3555, 3701 and 4414

Sponsors: Representatives Aglipay-Villar, Bag-ao and Roman

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

## CHANGE OF REFERRAL OF CERTAIN MEASURES

On motion of Rep. Garin (R.), there being no objection, the Body changed the referral of the following measures:

1. House Bills No. 1200 and 1203 – from the Committee on Public Works and Highways to the Committee on Transportation;
2. House Bill No. 479 – from the Committee on Public Works and Highways to the Committees on Government Enterprises and Privatization, and Public Works and Highways;
3. House Bills No. 703 and 2075 - from the Committee on Public Works and Highways to the Committee on Government Enterprises and Privatization;
4. House Bill No. 2496 – from the Committee on Poverty Alleviation to the Special Committee on Food Security; and
5. House Resolution No. 294 – from the Committee on Public Works and Highways to the Committees on Government Enterprises and Privatization, and Public Works and Highways.

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

In accordance with the Rules governing inquiries in aid of legislation, on motion of Rep. Garin (R.), there being no objection, the Body approved to refer the following House Resolutions on inquiries in aid of legislation to the appropriate Committees hereunder indicated:

1. House Resolution No. 705, on the continuing deterioration of Laguna Lake – to the Committee on Ecology;
2. House Resolution No. 706, on the conditions, rights, and privileges of 11 student-cadets undergoing shipboard training who went missing after the maritime accident suffered by M/V Starlite Atlantic – to the

Committees on Higher and Technical Education, and Transportation;

3. House Resolution No. 707, on the sinking of the M/V Starlite Atlantic as it relates to maritime safety and to the case of one confirmed dead crew and 18 missing crew, 11 of which were student-cadets taking their on-the-job training on board the ill-fated ship -- to the Committees on Higher and Technical Education, and Transportation;
4. House Resolution No. 709, on the status of the initiatives being implemented by the Laguna Lake Development Authority and the government in general relative to the rehabilitation of Laguna de Bay – to the Committee on Ecology;
5. House Resolution No. 710, on the charging of parking fees on malls and other similar establishments including government facilities – to the Committee on Trade and Industry;
6. House Resolution No. 714, on the order of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to close down the Payatas dumpsite – to the Committee on Metro Manila Development;
7. House Resolution No. 720, on the abduction and murder of a South Korean businessman allegedly involving members of the Philippine National Police – to the Committee on Public Order and Safety;
8. House Resolution No. 721, on the strategy of the national government in preparing the whole citizenry to respond to national emergencies – to the Committee on National Defense and Security;
9. House Resolution No. 722, on the state of Philippine IT/computer science education and its impact on the Philippine software industry – to the Committee on Higher and Technical Education;
10. House Resolution No. 723, on the excessive airfares being collected by the Philippine Airlines and Cebu Pacific Air for



their Manila-Tacloban/Tacloban-Manila routes during peak season – to the Committee on Transportation;

11. House Resolution No. 724, on the lack of adequate guidelines in government agencies' coordination, monitoring, and updating of the country's disaster risk assessment systems – to the Committee on National Defense and Security;
12. House Resolution No. 725, on the impact of lifting the quantitative restriction on rice – to the Committee on Agriculture and Food;
13. House Resolution No. 726, on the January 20, 2017 extra-judicial killing of Alexander “Ka Sander” Ceballos, regional leader of National Federation of Sugar Workers in Murcia, Negros Occidental – to the Committee on Public Order and Safety;
14. House Resolution No. 727, on the January 20, 2017 extra-judicial killing of Veronico “Ka Nico” Delamente, a Lumad Mamanwa leader opposing the large-scale mining activities of the Claver Mineral Development Corporation in Claver, Surigao del Norte– to the Committee on Public Order and Safety; and
15. House Resolution No. 728, on the reported “phase-out deal” between the Department of Transportation, Land Transportation Office, and the STRADCOM Corporation, leading to settlement of an alleged government debt worth around ₱8 billion pesos – to the Committee on Transportation.

#### **SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

On motion of Rep. Garin (R.), the Chair suspended the session at 4:13 p.m.

#### **RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

The session resumed at 5:23 p.m.

#### **ROLL CALL**

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

Abaya  
Abayon  
Abellanos  
Abu  
Abueg  
Acharon  
Acop  
Acosta  
Acosta-Alba  
Adiong  
Aggabao  
Aglipay-Villar  
Albano  
Almonte  
Alonte  
Alvarez (F.)  
Alvarez (M.)  
Alvarez (P.)  
Amatong  
Angara-Castillo  
Antonio  
Aragones  
Arcillas  
Arenas  
Atienza  
Aumentado  
Bag-ao  
Bagatsing  
Bataoil  
Batocabe  
Belaro  
Belmonte (F.)  
Belmonte (J.C.)  
Bernos  
Bertiz  
Biazon  
Billones  
Bolilia  
Bondoc  
Bordado  
Bravo (A.)  
Bravo (M.V.)  
Brosas  
Calixto-Rubiano  
Campos  
Canama  
Casilao  
Castro (F.L.)  
Castro (F.H.)  
Catamco  
Cayetano  
Cerafica  
Cerilles  
Chipeco  
Cojuangco  
Collantes

Cortes  
Crisologo  
Cua  
Cuaresma  
Cueva  
Dalipe  
De Jesus  
De Venecia  
De Vera  
Defensor  
Del Mar  
Del Rosario  
Durano  
Dy  
Elago  
Erice  
Eriguel  
Ermita-Buhain  
Escudero  
Estrella  
Eusebio  
Evardone  
Fariñas  
Fernando  
Ferrer (J.)  
Ferriol-Pascual  
Fortun  
Fortuno  
Fuentebella  
Garbin  
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  
Gullas  
Hernandez  
Herrera-Dy  
Hofer  
Javier  
Kho  
Khonghun  
Labadlabad  
Lacson  
Lagman  
Lanete  
Laogan  
Lazatin  
Lee  
Limkaichong  
Lobregat  
Lopez (B.)  
Lopez (C.)  
Lopez (M.L.)  
Macapagal-Arroyo  
Maceda  
Madrona  
Malapitan  
Manalo  
Mangaoang  
Marcoleta  
Mariño  
Martinez  
Mercado  
Mirasol  
Montoro  
Nava  
Nieto  
Noel  
Nuñez-Malanyaon  
Oaminal  
Olivarez  
Ong (E.)  
Ong (H.)  
Ortega (P.)  
Ortega (V.N.)  
Pacquiao  
Paduano  
Palma  
Pancho  
Panganiban  
Panotes  
Papandayan  
Pichay  
Pimentel  
Pineda  
Plaza  
Primicias-Agabas  
Quimbo  
Radaza  
Ramos  
Relampagos  
Roa-Puno  
Rocamora  
Rodriguez (I.)  
Rodriguez (M.)  
Romualdo  
Roque (H.)  
Roque (R.)  
Sacdalan  
Sagarbarria  
Sahali  
Salceda

Salo  
 Salon  
 Sambar  
 Sandoval  
 Santos-Recto  
 Sarmiento (C.)  
 Sarmiento (E.M.)  
 Savellano  
 Siao  
 Silverio  
 Singson  
 Suansing (E.)  
 Suansing (H.)  
 Suarez  
 Sy-Alvarado  
 Tambunting  
 Tan (A.)  
 Tan (M.)  
 Tejada  
 Teves  
 Tiangco  
 Ting  
 Tinio  
 Tugna  
 Tupas  
 Ty  
 Umali  
 Unabia  
 Ungab  
 Unico  
 Uy (J.)  
 Uy (R.)  
 Vargas  
 Vargas-Alfonso  
 Velasco  
 Veloso  
 Vergara  
 Villanueva  
 Villaraza-Suarez  
 Villarica  
 Villarín  
 Violago  
 Yap (A.)  
 Yap (M.)  
 Yu  
 Zarate  
 Zubiri

With 215 Members responding to the Call, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum. (See also Appendix 1)

#### **MANIFESTATION OF REP. ATIENZA**

Recognized by the Chair, Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. stated that according to his counters in the gallery, 192

Members were present in the Session Hall. As he asked for respect for one another and for the House Rules, he pointed out that a quorum of 147 Members was present anyway despite the Secretariat's erroneous count.

The Chair took note of the same.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 47 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 4727**

On motion of Representative Juan Pablo "Rimpy" P. Bondoc, there being no objection, the Body subsequently considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 4727, as embodied in Committee Report No. 47 and reported out by the Committee on Justice.

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

“AN ACT IMPOSING THE DEATH PENALTY ON CERTAIN HEINOUS CRIMES, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9346, ENTITLED 'AN ACT PROHIBITING THE IMPOSITION OF DEATH PENALTY IN THE PHILIPPINES', AND AMENDING ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'REVISED PENAL CODE', AND OTHER SPECIAL PENAL LAWS.”

On motion of Rep. Bondoc, the Chair recognized Rep. Reynaldo V. Umali, Committee on Justice Chairperson, to sponsor the same; and Rep. Edcel C. Lagman to interpellate thereon.

#### **INTERPELLATION OF REP. LAGMAN**

At the outset, Rep. Lagman cited his previous request to preface his interpellation with arguments against the death penalty. Speaking as the principal author and sponsor of Republic Act (RA) No. 9346 which abolished the death penalty in 2006, he stressed that the proponents of the instant measure should show its urgency and necessity. He remarked that the government should not reimpose the death penalty when scalawag cops were the felons and rogues in robes presided over the life or death of citizens, but implement police and justice reforms instead.

Rep. Lagman then discussed the aforementioned arguments, thus: the death penalty does not solve or deter crime but desecrates the right to life, exacerbates the culture of violence and the plight of marginalized sectors, promotes punitive instead of restorative justice,

and glosses over the fallibility of human justice. He added that while the 1987 Constitution provided for the restoration of the death penalty only for compelling reasons and heinous crimes, the “heinousness” of a crime was not determinative of the compelling reasons for reimposing the death penalty. He argued that the Philippines should abolish the death penalty as a State Party to several international covenants on civil and political rights; and that it would face serious economic, human rights, diplomatic, and political repercussions if it reimposed the same.

### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

After saying that his interpellation will not take long because he wanted to defer to Rep. Raul V. Del Mar who was the first Member to register for interpellations, Rep. Lagman moved for a recess; and there being no objection, the Chair suspended the session at 6:11 p.m.

### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 6:15 p.m.

### REMARKS OF REP. BONDOC

Upon resumption of session, Rep. Bondoc stated that the parliamentary status was that House Bill No. 4727 was in the period of sponsorship and debate; and upon his motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Umali to sponsor the measure and Rep. Lagman to continue his interpellation.

### INTERPELLATION OF REP. LAGMAN (Continuation)

The two Members debated on the constitutional provisions on the death penalty specifically Section 19 (1), Article III of the country’s Charter. Rep. Lagman said the death penalty had been abolished under the 1987 Constitution; and cited the phrase, “Neither shall death penalty be imposed” in the aforesaid provision. Stressing that his colleague should read the full text of the constitutional provision, Rep. Umali said that the death penalty was abolished for certain crimes and Congress was not limited to reimpose it for compelling reasons such as heinous crimes.

After continuing to exchange views on whether the death penalty had been abolished or merely suspended from 1986 to 1993 and on how the law on statutory construction should be interpreted, the Members discussed Congress’ power to restore the death penalty for two conditions, namely, compelling reasons and heinous crimes. They agreed that the two conditions were separate and concurrent; but while Rep. Lagman

opined that the heinousness of a crime was not determinative of a compelling reason, Rep. Umali explained that the death penalty should be imposed on heinous crimes because of their shocking and gruesome nature.

Reps. Lagman and Umali subsequently discussed the compelling reason of a high criminality rate, for the reimposition of the death penalty. The former said that there were other factors behind the same, and then adverted to the proceedings of the 1987 Constitutional Commission on heinous crimes. His colleague confirmed that the rate and volume of crime had decreased, except for murder; but said that regardless of statistics, Congress was limited to reimpose the death penalty for compelling reasons involving heinous crimes.

### MOTION OF REP. LAGMAN

Rep. Lagman then moved to suspend the consideration of House Bill No. 4727 until he was provided with some pertinent data.

### OBJECTION OF REP. BONDOC

With the Chair’s permission, Rep. Bondoc posed his objection to the motion and said that the need for data by a single Member did not preclude the Body from debating on the instant measure.

### INTERPELLATION OF REP. LAGMAN (Continuation)

Deciding to continue with his interpellation, Rep. Lagman asked the Sponsor for data on the criminality rate before the abolition of the death penalty. Reiterating that such was not a pre-condition for the debate, the Sponsor cited the case of *People of the Philippines vs. Echegaray* and said that he had already mentioned the four compelling reasons for the reimposition of death penalty.

### QUESTION OF QUORUM OF REP. ATIENZA

At this point, Rep. Atienza observed that there were not enough Members on the floor to discuss the most important and critical issue of the current Congress. He moved to call the Roll to establish a quorum and said that otherwise, he will move for the adjournment of session.

### ROLL CALL

Thereupon, Rep. Bondoc seconded Rep. Atienza’s motion, and there being no objection, the Chair directed the Secretary General to call the Roll and the following Members were present:

Abaya  
Abellanosa  
Abu  
Acharon  
Acop  
Acosta  
Acosta-Alba  
Adiong  
Aggabao  
Albano  
Almario  
Almonte  
Alonte  
Alvarez (M.)  
Alvarez (P.)  
Amatong  
Atienza  
Aumentado  
Bag-ao  
Bataoil  
Batocabe  
Belaro  
Bertiz  
Billones  
Bondoc  
Bordado  
Bravo (A.)  
Brosas  
Bulut-Begtang  
Castro (F.H.)  
Catamco  
Chipeco  
Cojuangco  
Cortes  
Cortuna  
Crisologo  
Cua  
Cuaresma  
Cueva  
Dalipe  
De Venecia  
De Vera  
Defensor  
Del Mar  
Del Rosario  
Elago  
Eusebio  
Fariñas  
Fernando  
Ferrer (J.)  
Floirendo  
Fortun  
Garbin  
Garcia (G.)  
Garcia (J.E.)  
Garcia-Albano  
Garin (R.)  
Gasataya  
Gatchalian  
Geron  
Go (M.)  
Gomez  
Gonzaga  
Gonzales (A.D.)  
Gonzalez  
Hernandez  
Herrera-Dy  
Hofer  
Javier  
Kho  
Labadlabad  
Lacson  
Lagman  
Lazatin  
Limkaichong  
Lobregat  
Lopez (B.)  
Loyola  
Macapagal-Arroyo  
Madrona  
Malapitan  
Manalo  
Mangaoang  
Marcoleta  
Mariño  
Martinez  
Mendoza  
Mercado  
Mirasol  
Montoro  
Nava  
Nieto  
Noel  
Nuñez-Malanyaon  
Oaminal  
Ocampo  
Ong (E.)  
Ong (H.)  
Ortega (V.N.)  
Pacquiao  
Paduano  
Palma  
Pancho  
Papandayan  
Pimentel  
Pineda  
Plaza  
Primicias-Agabas  
Quimbo  
Ramirez-Sato  
Roa-Puno  
Rocamora

Rodriguez (I.)  
 Rodriguez (M.)  
 Roman  
 Romualdo  
 Roque (H.)  
 Sacdalan  
 Sagarbarria  
 Salceda  
 Salimbangon  
 Salo  
 Salon  
 Sambar  
 Santos-Recto  
 Sarmiento (E.M.)  
 Savellano  
 Silverio  
 Singson  
 Tejada  
 Teves  
 Tiangco  
 Ting  
 Tinio  
 Tolentino  
 Treñas  
 Tugna  
 Tupas  
 Ty  
 Umali  
 Ungab  
 Unico  
 Uy (J.)  
 Vargas-Alfonso  
 Velasco  
 Veloso  
 Vergara  
 Villanueva  
 Villarica  
 Villarin  
 Violago  
 Yap (M.)  
 Yu  
 Zamora (R.)  
 Zarate  
 Zubiri

With 156 Members responding to the Call, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum. (See also Appendix 1)

#### REMARKS OF REP. ATIENZA

Rep. Atienza once again questioned the count of the Secretariat, saying that his gallery counters counted only 135 Members on the floor. He said that because 12 more Members were needed to establish a quorum, the Body will be out of order if it resumes its deliberations.

#### REMARKS OF MAJORITY LEADER FARIÑAS

With the permission of the Chair, Rep. Rodolfo C. Fariñas stated that the official count was 156 and a quorum was present.

#### REMARKS OF REP. BONDOC

Rep. Bondoc stated that the parliamentary status was that House Bill No. 4727 was in the period of sponsorship and debate. On his motion, the Chair recognized Reps. Umali and Lagman anew for sponsorship and interpellation, respectively.

#### INTERPELLATION OF REP. LAGMAN (Continuation)

Upon Rep. Lagman's request, Rep. Umali quoted a portion of the Supreme Court's decision in *People of the Philippines vs. Echegaray* as regards the upsurge of crimes.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Majority Leader Fariñas, the Chair suspended the session at 7:31 p.m.

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 7:33 p.m.

#### INTERPELLATION OF REP. LAGMAN (Continuation)

Thereupon, Rep. Lagman opined that what the aforesaid quotation meant was that escalating criminality was not a compelling reason to impose the death penalty. Rep. Umali however stressed that what was important was the daily instances of crime which even involved law enforcers.

#### REMINDER FROM THE CHAIR

At this point, the Chair cited Section 91 of the amended Provisional Rules of the House regarding the one-hour limit to speak in a debate on any question and requested Rep. Lagman to wind up his interpellation.

#### REMARKS OF REP. LAGMAN

Rep. Lagman maintained that he had not spoken for more than one hour in his interpellation. He stressed that the counting of his time should not include the time used by the Sponsor in stating his answers which were long whereas his questions were

short. He appealed to the Body to refer to the transcript of stenographic notes (TSNs) that would show the minutes that he had consumed.

#### REMARKS OF REP. UMALI

Rep. Umali however stressed that his answers were precise and concise and that he did not spend more than 30 minutes to respond to Rep. Lagman's questions.

#### REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

The Chair stated that she was only reminding Rep. Lagman of his time.

#### REMARKS OF REP. LAGMAN

Rep. Lagman suggested that the Body set a precedent of including only the interpellator's time in asking questions and excluding the Sponsor's time in answering the same, in the interpellator's time limit.

The Chair took note of the same.

#### POINT OF ORDER OF REP. BONDOC

Rep. Bondoc adverted to Section 91 of the House Rules as well. He opined that instead of considering Rep. Lagman's proposal for a precedent, the Body should take note of the fact that the clock showed that Rep. Lagman had taken one hour and 32 minutes in his interpellation and thus consumed time beyond the prescribed limit.

The Chair took note of the same.

#### REMARKS OF REP. LAGMAN

Rep. Lagman stated that the point of order was unwarranted because the TSNs and not the clock should be the basis of the time he had consumed. He remarked that the House leadership could gag him if that is what it wanted to do.

#### RULING OF THE CHAIR

The Chair ruled that Rep. Bondoc's point of order was well-taken.

#### REP. LAGMAN'S APPEAL FROM THE RULING OF THE CHAIR

Thereupon, Rep. Lagman appealed the ruling of the Chair as he explained that he had not consumed one hour and asked the Body to consult the transcripts which would show the number of minutes he had consumed.

#### REMARKS OF REP. BONDOC

With the permission of the Chair, Rep. Bondoc informed the Body that an appeal may be made and may be granted by the Chair subject to the five-minute rule. He then asked that the clock be reset for the appeal.

Thereupon, the Chair granted the appeal and gave Rep. Lagman five minutes to explain the same.

#### APPEAL OF REP. LAGMAN (Continuation)

Rep. Lagman stressed anew that the TSNs would show that he had not consumed one hour. He pointed out that even in Committee hearings, the time limit was pegged on the time used in asking questions. He reiterated that the time that the Sponsor used in answering his questions should not be used against him.

#### REMARKS OF MAJORITY LEADER FARIÑAS

With the permission of the Chair, Rep. Fariñas stated that the parliamentary status was that Rep. Bondoc raised a point of order which the Chair upheld in her ruling; and that Rep. Lagman appealed the same and explained his appeal. He then moved that the Body vote on Rep. Lagman's appeal, explaining that an *aye* vote will uphold the same and a *nay* vote would deny it.

#### MANIFESTATION OF REP. LAGMAN

At this point, Rep. Lagman manifested his desire to be recognized by the Chair before the voting on his appeal.

#### VIVA VOCE VOTING ON THE APPEAL OF REP. LAGMAN

The Chair subsequently called for a *viva voce* voting on Rep. Lagman's appeal from the ruling of the Chair, and with majority of the Members voting against it, the same was lost.

#### MANIFESTATION OF REP. LAGMAN

Rep. Lagman reiterated his previous manifestation to be recognized.

#### REMARKS OF REP. ATIENZA

For his part, Rep. Atienza remarked that the Chair did not ask who were in support of the aforesaid appeal.

**MOTION OF REP. BONDOC**

Rep. Bondoc, at this point, asked that the Chair recognize Rep. Raul V. Del Mar for his interpellation.

**REMARKS OF REP. LAGMAN**

Rep. Lagman stated that before the voting, he sought recognition from the Chair on a point of order but he was not recognized. He added that the action of the House was unwarranted because there was no quorum when the voting was done.

**REMARKS OF THE CHAIR**

The Chair stated that she had already recognized Rep. Del Mar and asked him to proceed with his interpellation.

**REMARKS OF REP. ATIENZA**

Before the Body proceeded with the same, Rep. Atienza requested a new voting. He pointed out that when the Chair asked for the vote for the affirmative during the previous voting, there was an ongoing discussion on the floor and she did not hear the correct vote.

**REMARKS OF THE CHAIR**

The Chair reiterated that Rep. Del Mar has the floor.

**REMARKS OF REP. ATIENZA**

Rep. Atienza stated that he was asking for the Chair's answer to his request and that he was ready for a denial of the same. He remarked that the Chair should not disregard a request from a Member, and was not presiding over the proceedings according to the House Rules.

**REMARKS OF REP. DEL MAR**

With leave of the Chair, Rep. Del Mar stated that he was just allowing a Member to question the Chair or Majority Leader. He added that he will not begin asking questions if there was a pending motion from Rep. Atienza, because he did not want to be disturbed during his interpellation.

**REMARKS OF THE CHAIR**

The Chair stated that there was no pending motion and asked Rep. Del Mar anew to proceed with his interpellation.

**REMARKS OF REP. ATIENZA**

Rep. Atienza reiterated his request for another voting on Rep. Lagman's appeal and for a fair ruling from the Chair, explaining that he was not able to participate when the *aye* votes were previously called because there was an ongoing discussion on the floor. He stated that he will accept a denial of the appeal but will consider the same as an abuse of authority.

**REMARKS OF MAJORITY LEADER FARIÑAS**

With the permission of the Chair, Rep. Fariñas disagreed with Rep. Atienza. He pointed out that before the voting, he had stated the parliamentary status on Rep. Lagman's appeal and the Chair had clearly stated the motion. He added that the Body had already voted on the appeal and thus had disposed of the same.

Rep. Fariñas then said that the Body will proceed with the next interpellator if Rep. Del Mar did not wish to interpellate the Sponsor.

**INTERPELLATION OF REP. DEL MAR**

Recognized anew by the Chair, Rep. Del Mar initially said that he coauthored RA No. 9346 prohibiting the imposition of the death penalty and supported the reasons cited by Rep. Lagman against House Bill No. 4727. He also quoted from Pope Francis's message to the World Coalition Against the Death Penalty in Oslo, Norway.

Reps. Del Mar and Umali then discussed Section 19 (1), Article III of the Constitution and Section 3 of House Bill No. 4727. The latter affirmed that Congress should give compelling reasons for imposing the death penalty even in the case of heinous crimes and clarified that the Bill's definition of heinous crime in the measure was adopted from the decision of the Supreme Court.

They next discussed the definition of heinous crimes. Rep. Vicente "Ching" S.E. Veloso, to whom Rep. Umali yielded the sponsorship of the instant Bill, said that the 21 crimes enumerated in the Bill were described in the Committee hearings as grievous, odious, and hateful offenses. Rep. Del Mar however stressed that the definition of each heinous crime should neither be generic nor collective.

They thereafter delved on whether the death penalty was abolished or merely suspended. In support of the latter position, Rep. Veloso cited the *Echegaray*



case and the discussions thereon in the 1986 Constitutional Commission (ConCom). Citing the provisions of the Constitution, Rep. Del Mar opined that (1) the provision for Congress' imposition of the death penalty was a future act, and (2) the use of the word "impose" instead of "resume" meant that something was not there in the first place.

#### QUERY OF REP. DEL MAR

At this point, Rep. Del Mar asked about his time, asking whether only the time spent for asking questions will be deducted therefrom as previously suggested by Rep. Lagman.

With the permission of the Chair, Rep. Bondoc said that Rep. Lagman's appeal was lost when it was put to a vote. Directing the Members' attention to the clocks posted inside the Session Hall which showed the running time by minutes, he said that (1) the timer will start as soon as the interpellator speaks; (2) Rep. Del Mar had consumed 29 minutes and had 31 more minutes according to Section 91 of the House Rules; and (3) the time that the Majority Leader consumed for making statements was included in Rep. Del Mar's time limit.

#### INTERPELLATION OF REP. DEL MAR (Continuation)

With the continuation of Rep. Del Mar's interpellation, Rep. Veloso then quoted from the Supreme Court's decision on the Leo Echegaray case.

#### POINT OF INFORMATION OF REP. LAGMAN

In response to Rep. Lagman's point of information, Rep. Bondoc affirmed that the interpellator's time will start as soon as he is recognized and will include all statements and discussions during his interpellation.

Rep. Bondoc then said that the Body had voted against Rep. Lagman's motion to include only the interpellator's questions in his time limit and had decided that the one-hour limit in the House Rules included the time of all the discussions during the interpellations. However, Rep. Lagman said that this was not the essence of the result of the voting.

The Chair took note of Rep. Lagman's statement and before recognizing Rep. Del Mar to continue with his interpellation, recognized Rep. Antonio L. Tinio for a parliamentary inquiry.

#### PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY OF REP. TINIO

Rep. Tinio considered as untenable the Chair's ruling that the interpellator's time limit as cited in the House Rules, will include the time consumed for answering questions as well as other interventions.

#### REMARKS OF MAJORITY LEADER FARIÑAS

Recognized by the Chair, Rep. Fariñas said that Rep. Tinio should not be recognized because he was not raising a point of order but was making an inquiry or manifestation. He said that Rep. Del Mar had the floor to continue his interpellation and could not be interrupted except for a point of order.

The Chair stated that Rep. Fariñas raised a valid point and recognized Rep. Del Mar anew.

#### INTERPELLATION OF REP. DEL MAR (Continuation)

Rep. Del Mar made the following observations about House Bill No. 4727, at this point: (1) it did not mention the new concept of limiting heinous crimes to grievous offenses like genocide or international terrorism; (2) it did not clearly define each heinous crime that it listed nor mention and explain the compelling reasons for imposing the death penalty for each crime; and (3) it will be deemed unconstitutional if it will not meet two conditions, namely, compelling reasons and heinous crimes. He also said that he was disturbed by Rep. Umali's unacceptable proposal to choose between death on one hand, and extra-judicial killings, rising criminality, or death on the other hand; as well as the Sponsor's statements about proof beyond reasonable doubt of the accused.

Furthermore, Rep. Del Mar opined that (1) the death penalty and lowering of the crime rate were not correlated; (2) the country did not need the death penalty but a complete overhaul and improvement of the criminal justice system; (3) life imprisonment was harsh enough for a prisoner; and (4) Congress should not begrudge the involvement of the church because the church and state shared the common objective of fighting crime.

Rep. Veloso cited the *Echegaray* case anew in explaining what constituted heinous crimes and the compelling reasons to impose the death penalty for the same.

**QUESTION OF QUORUM**

At this point, Rep. Atienza questioned the presence of a quorum and moved to adjourn the session.

**REMARKS OF REP. VELOSO**

Rep. Veloso however requested that he be allowed to answer first the concern of Rep. Del Mar.

**REMARKS OF REP. BONDOC**

Rep. Bondoc appealed to Rep. Atienza to let Reps. Del Mar and Veloso to finish with the interpellation considering that Rep. Del Mar had already consumed his time.

**REMARKS OF REP. DEL MAR**

Rep. Del Mar interjected by saying that his time has not yet been fully consumed and that it was alright to include in his time the Sponsor's replies to his questions but found it unfair to include in his time Rep. Bondoc's statements and Rep. Atienza's questioning of the quorum.

**QUESTION OF QUORUM OF REP. ATIENZA**

At this point, Rep. Atienza questioned the quorum and moved to adjourn the session.

**REMARKS OF REP. VELOSO**

Rep. Veloso then requested that he wanted to respond to Rep. Del Mar's statements; but Rep. Atienza said that a question of quorum was not debatable and that the House was not following the Rules anymore.

**REMARKS OF REP. BONDOC**

Appealing to Rep. Atienza, Rep. Bondoc explained that the leadership wanted to finish their debate even if Rep. Del Mar had already consumed his time.

**REMARKS OF REP. DEL MAR**

Rep. Del Mar however opined that his time had not yet been fully consumed. When Rep. Bondoc said that the clock showed that he had used up one hour and four minutes, he said that while it was fine with him to include in his time the answer of the Sponsor to his questions, he found it unfair to also include in his time the statements of the Majority Leader and Rep. Atienza.

**REMARKS OF REP. BONDOC**

Explaining that he was merely trying to get more time for Rep. Del Mar as there was a motion to adjourn, Rep. Bondoc then asked the Chair to let the debate continue.

**QUESTION OF QUORUM OF REP. ATIENZA**

Rep. Atienza however moved to adjourn the session in view of the inadequate number of Members on the floor and asked on the need to rush the deliberations.

**WITHDRAWAL OF REP. ATIENZA'S MOTION**

With the assurance that Rep. Veloso will just respond to Rep. Del Mar's concerns, Rep. Atienza momentarily withdrew his motion to adjourn.

**INTERPELLATION OF REP. DEL MAR  
(Continuation)**

Concluding his interpellation, Rep. Del Mar asked whether the death penalty rejected the belief of the majority on repentance, reform, and the dignity of human life. Rep. Veloso clarified that he was not establishing enmity with the church, House Bill No. 4727 was not being anti-God, and Catholic documents showed that the commandment against killing had exceptions.

**QUESTION OF QUORUM OF REP. ATIENZA**

Rep. Atienza then reiterated his motion to adjourn as there was no quorum present on the floor. He stressed that the Body could not continue listening to a distorted discussion on the doctrine and teachings of the church.

**REMARKS OF REP. BONDOC**

With the permission of the Chair, Rep. Bondoc appealed to Rep. Atienza to reconsider his motion considering that other Members had manifested their intent to interpellate on the measure.

**REMARKS OF REP. ATIENZA**

Rep. Atienza reiterated his motion, saying he could not listen to a continuing insult of the Catholic Church.

**REMARKS OF REP. VELOSO**

Rep. Veloso said that he was not insulting his own religion as he was a devout Catholic and that he would not tolerate a Member accusing him as an enemy of the church.

**REMARKS OF REP. ATIENZA**

Rep. Atienza pointed out that Rep. Veloso was misinterpreting the papal doctrine on killing to serve his purpose; and reiterated his previous motion.

**REMARKS OF REP. VELOSO**

Rep. Veloso stated that Rep. Atienza was not the one interpellating him and that he was just citing what Pope Pius V said in the book, *The Catechism of the Council of Trent*.

**APPROVAL OF THE JOURNALS**

On motion of Rep. Bondoc, there being no objection, the Body approved Journals No. 66 and 67, dated February 6, 2017 and February 7, 2017, respectively.

**ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION**

Rep. Bondoc then joined the motion of Rep. Atienza, and there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until four o'clock in the afternoon of Monday, February 13, 2017.

It was 9:04 p.m.

---

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

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

Approved on February 13, 2017

**DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED**

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

1. House Bill No. 4767, entitled:

“AN ACT EXTENDING THE VALIDITY OF THE PHILIPPINE PASSPORT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED EIGHT THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED THIRTY-NINE (R.A. NO. 8239), OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996'”

2. House Bill No. 4814, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING AMNESTY IN THE PAYMENT OF ESTATE TAX”

3. House Bill No. 4815, entitled:

“AN ACT SIMPLIFYING THE ESTATE TAX RATE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 84 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED”

4. House Bill No. 4682, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING A BARANGAY TO BE KNOWN AS BARANGAY CUMAWAS IN THE CITY OF BISLIG, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR”

Congress of the Philippines  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City, Philippines

**MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE**

**Date: February 08 and 08, 2017**

**** 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)