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Plenary Affairs Bureau

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CALL TO ORDER

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

NATIONAL ANTHEM AND PRAYER

Pursuant to Section 73, Rule XI of the amended Provisional Rules of the House, the Members sang the National Anthem and thereafter, Rep. Ann K. Hofer delivered an invocation.

ROLL CALL

Thereupon, on motion of Rep. Christopher V.P. De Venecia, there being no objection, the Chair directed the Secretary General to call the Roll and the following Members were present:

Abaya
Abayon
Abellanosa
Abu
Abueg
Acharon
Acop
Acosta
Acosta-Alba
Advincula
Agarao
Aggabao
Aglipay-Villar
Albano
Alcala
Alejano
Almario
Almonte
Alvarez (F.)
Alvarez (M.)
Alvarez (P.)
Amante
Amatong
Andaya
Angara-Castillo
Antonio
Aquino-Magsaysay
Aragones
Arbison
Arcillas
Arenas
Atienza

Aumentado
Bag-ao
Bagatsing
Banal
Barbers
Barzaga
Bataoil
Batocabe
Bautista-Bandigan
Belaro
Belmonte (F.)
Belmonte (J.C.)
Belmonte (R.)
Benitez
Bernos
Bertiz
Biazon
Billones
Biron
Bolilia
Bondoc
Bordado
Bravo (A.)
Bravo (M.V.)
Brosas
Bulut-Begtang
Cagas
Calderon
Calixto-Rubiano
Caminero
Campos
Cari
Casilao
Castelo
Castro (F.L.)
Castro (F.H.)
Catamco
Cayetano
Celeste
Cerafica
Cerilles
Chavez
Chipeco
Cojuangco
Collantes
Cortes
Cortuna
Cuaresma
Cueva
Dalipe
Datol

Daza	Laogan
De Jesus	Lazatin
De Venecia	Limkaichong
De Vera	Lobregat
Defensor	Lopez (B.)
Del Mar	Lopez (C.)
Del Rosario	Lopez (M.L.)
Deloso-Montalla	Loyola
Dimaporo (A.)	Macapagal-Arroyo
Dimaporo (M.K.)	Maceda
Duavit	Madrona
Durano	Malapitan
Dy	Manalo
Enverga	Mangudadatu (Z.)
Erice	Marcoleta
Eriguel	Marcos
Ermita-Buhain	Mariño
Escudero	Marquez
Espina	Martinez
Espino	Matugas
Evardone	Mendoza
Fariñas	Mercado
Fernando	Mirasol
Ferrer (J.)	Montoro
Ferriol-Pascual	Nava
Flores	Nieto
Fortun	Noel
Fortuno	Nogralas (J.J.)
Garbin	Nogralas (K.A.)
Garcia (G.)	Nolasco
Garcia (J.E.)	Ocampo
Garcia-Albano	Olivarez
Garin (R.)	Ong (E.)
Garin (S.)	Ong (H.)
Gasataya	Ortega (P.)
Gatchalian	Pacquiao
Geron	Paduano
Go (A.C.)	Palma
Go (M.)	Pancho
Gomez	Panganiban
Gonzaga	Panotes
Gonzales (A.P.)	Papandayan
Gonzales (A.D.)	Pichay
Gonzalez	Pimentel
Gullas	Pineda
Hernandez	Primicias-Agabas
Herrera-Dy	Quimbo
Hofer	Radaza
Jalosjos	Ramirez-Sato
Javier	Ramos
Kho	Relampagos
Khonghun	Revilla
Labadlabad	Roa-Puno
Lacson	Robes
Lagman	Rodriguez (I.)
Lanete	Rodriguez (M.)

Romualdez
Romualdo
Roque (H.)
Sacdalan
Sagarbarria
Sahali
Salimbangon
Salo
Salon
Sambar
Sandoval
Santos-Recto
Sarmiento (C.)
Sarmiento (E.M.)
Savellano
Sema
Siao
Silverio
Singson
Suansing (E.)
Suansing (H.)
Suarez
Sy-Alvarado
Tambunting
Tan (A.)
Tan (M.)
Tan (S.)
Tejada
Teves
Tiangco
Ting
Tinio
Tolentino
Treñas
Tugna
Ty
Umali
Unabia
Ungab
Uy (J.)
Uy (R.)
Uybarreta
Vargas
Vargas-Alfonso
Velarde
Velasco
Velasco-Catera
Velo
Vergara
Villafuerte
Villanueva
Villaraza-Suarez
Villarica
Violago
Yap (A.)
Yap (M.)

Yu
Zamora (M.C.)
Zamora (R.)
Zarate
Zubiri

With 256 Members responding to the Call, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum. (See also the Appendix)

DEFERMENT OF THE APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

On motion of Representative De Venecia, there being no objection, the Body deferred the approval of the Journal of the previous session.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

On further motion of Representative De Venecia, 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 Communications and Committee Reports, which were referred to the appropriate Committees or consigned to the Archives as hereunder indicated:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 6091, entitled:

“AN ACT REMOVING THE RESTRICTIONS IN THE REGISTRATION OF LAND TITLES UNDER SECTIONS 118, 119, AND OTHER RESTRICTIONS AGAINST ENCUMBRANCE OR ALIENATION ON FREE PATENTS ISSUED UNDER SECTION 44 OF COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 141 OR THE PUBLIC LAND ACT, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Hernandez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

House Bill No. 6092, entitled:

“AN ACT IMPLEMENTING JOURNALISM COURSE AS MANDATORY SUBJECT IN THE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, TO STRENGTHEN THE JOURNALISM SKILLS OF THE YOUTH AS A BASIC

TOOL TO PRESERVE OUR FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AS PART OF DEMOCRACY, AND PROMOTE RESPONSIBLE AND ETHICAL SOCIAL MEDIA FOR THE BETTERMENT OF OUR COUNTRY, UNDER TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Sy-Alvarado

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 6093, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE TOURISM RESILIENCY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM UNDER THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENTERPRISE ZONE AUTHORITY (TIEZA), PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Gomez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM

House Bill No. 6094, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8495, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE MECHANICAL ENGINEERING ACT OF 1998”

By Representative Del Rosario

TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Bill No. 6095, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MANDATORY PERIOD TO RELOCATE SQUATTERS, GRANTING DISTURBANCE FEE AND TAX EXEMPTION TO OWNERS OF ILLEGALLY OCCUPIED RESIDENTIAL LANDS, AND PENALIZING VIOLATIONS THEREOF”

By Representative Del Rosario

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

House Bill No. 6096, entitled:

“AN ACT RENAMING PANLAYAAN TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL AS SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III SCHOOL OF ARTS & TRADES (SHESAT) AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Bravo (A.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 1156, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE/S TO UNDERTAKE A REVIEW ON REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED 9511, ALSO KNOWN AS LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISE OF THE NATIONAL GRID CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES (NGCP) AS WELL AS ITS FEBRUARY 2008 CONCESSION AGREEMENT WITH THE POWER SECTOR ASSETS AND LIABILITIES MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (PSALM), NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION (TRANSCO), AND RELATED TRANSACTION AGREEMENTS AND CONTRACTS, AND INVESTIGATE THEREON, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE ALLEGEDLY ILLEGAL, ANOMALOUS, AND UNAUTHORIZED ACTS OF THE NATIONAL GRID CORPORATION OF THE PHILIPPINES CONTRARY TO REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED 9511, CONCESSION AGREEMENT AND RELATED LAWS AND AGREEMENTS OR CONTRACTS, AND TO RECOMMEND APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL ACTION”

By Representative Evardone

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1157, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE IGLESIA NI CRISTO ON THEIR ONE HUNDRED THIRD (103RD) ANNIVERSARY ON JULY 27, 2017”

By Representative Silverio

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1158, entitled:

“RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE NATIONAL ELECTRIFICATION ADMINISTRATION AND THE NATIONAL ELECTRIFICATION AWARENESS MONTH”

By Representative Velasco

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1159, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEMISE OF VETERAN DIRECTOR SOCRATES HERNANDEZ TOPACIO ALSO KNOWN AS 'SOXIE TOPACIO'”

By Representative Olivarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1160, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEMISE OF MS. PRESENTACION ‘PRESY’ LOPEZ-PSINAKIS, BOARD MEMBER OF ABS-CBN”

By Representative Olivarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1161, entitled:

“RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION IN AID OF LEGISLATION BY THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE IMMEDIATE APPROVAL OF THE SEVEN POWER SUPPLY AGREEMENTS OF MERALCO BY THE ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION”

By Representative Suarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

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

Rep. Eleanor C. Bulut-Begtang for House Bills No. 3468, 5164, 5523, 5524, 5784, and 5808;

Rep. Jesulito A. Manalo for House Bills No. 3468, 5164, 5523, and 5549;

Rep. Lorna C. Silverio for House Bills No. 3468, 5164, 5523, and 5883, and House Resolution No. 1103;

Reps. Joey Sarte Salceda, Pablo C. Ortega, Jesus Nonato Sacdalan, Lorna P. Bautista-Bandigan, Abraham "Bambol" N. Tolentino, Franz E. Alvarez, Sandra Y. Eriguel, M.D., Elisa "Olga" T. Kho, Christopher V.P. De Venecia, Orestes T. Salon, Arthur R. Defensor Jr., Mario Vittorio "Marvey" A. Mariño, Ramon V.A. "Rav" Rocamora, Ferdinand L. Hernandez, Pedro B. Acharon Jr., and Teodoro "Ted" G. Montoro for House Bills No. 3468, 5164 and 5523;

Rep. Ricardo "RJ" T. Belmonte Jr. for House Bills No. 5750 and 5808;

Reps. Fernando V. Gonzalez and Jose Enrique "Joet" S. Garcia III for House Bills No. 5164 and 5523;

Rep. Leo Rafael M. Cueva for House Bills No. 5914 and 6042;

Rep. H. Harry L. Roque Jr. for House Bills No. 192, 193, 194, 1301, 1302, 1563, 2330, and 3771;

Reps. Ma. Lucille L. Nava, M.D., Frederick "Erick" F. Abueg, Imelda R. Marcos, Greg G. Gasataya, Julieta R. Cortuna, Harlin Neil J. Abayon III, and Roy M. Loyola for House Bill No. 5549;

Rep. Micaela S. Violago for House Bills No. 4111, 4590, 5359, 5378, 5458, 5479, and 5534, and House Resolutions No. 823 and 932;

Rep. Salvador B. Belaro Jr. for House Bills No. 5549, 5631, 5705, 5792, 5821, 5822, 5915, and 5918;

Rep. Nancy A. Catamco for House Bills No. 3468, 5164, 5523, 6040, 6042, 6043, 6044, 6047, 6057, and 6058;

Rep. Gabriel H. Bordado Jr. for House Bills No. 691, 5745, 5784, 5792, 5808, 6000, 6001, 6002, 6004, 6005, 6006, 6007, and 6008;

Rep. John Marvin "Yul Servo" C. Nieto for House Bills No. 921, 3468, 5164, 5523, 5588, 5836, 5845, 5846, 5873, 5916, 5931, 5947, 5948, 5963, and House Resolution No. 1048;

Rep. Evelina G. Escudero for House Bill No. 1795;

Rep. Luis Raymund F. Villafuerte Jr. for House Bill No. 5006;

Rep. Lorna P. Bautista-Bandigan for House Bill No. 263;

Rep. Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento for House Bill No. 4334;

Rep. Manuel Luis T. Lopez for House Bill No. 3152;

Rep. Strike B. Revilla for House Bills No. 6022, 6058, 6070, and 6090;

Rep. Jose Antonio "Kuya Jonathan" R. Sy-Alvarado for House Bills No. 5317, 5761, 5762, 5819, 5820, 5821, 5822, 5823, 5833, 5836, 5870, 5873, and 6020;

Rep. Francis Gerald A. Abaya for House Bills No. 2192, 2193, 2622, 2624, 4106, 4462, and 5524;

Rep. Rene L. Relampagos for House Bill No. 929;

Rep. Josephine Ramirez-Sato for House Bills No. 4503 and 4578;

Rep. Rose Marie "Baby" J. Arenas for House Bill No. 5405;

Rep. Karlo Alexei B. Nograles for House Bills No. 5078 and 5273;

Rep. Florida "Rida" P. Robes for House Bills No. 3468, 5164, 5523, 5709, and 5711;

Rep. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte for House Bill No. 5609;

Rep. Michael L. Romero, Ph.D. for House Bills No. 2286, 2627, 2628, and 2881;

Rep. Erico Aristotle C. Aumentado for House Bill No. 2881;

Rep. Estrellita B. Suansing for House Bill No. 4473;

Rep. Noel L. Villanueva for House Bill No. 4221;

Rep. Edward Vera Perez Maceda for House Bill No. 5818;

Rep. Harlin Neil J. Abayon III for House Bills No. 1204 and 6057;

Rep. Manuel Monsour T. Del Rosario III for House Bill No. 1003;

Rep. Gus S. Tambunting for House Bill No. 4101;

Rep. Scott Davies S. Lanete, M.D. for House Bill No. 5792;

Rep. Enrico A. Pineda for House Bills No. 25, 3468, 5164, and 5523;

Rep. Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas for House Bills No. 5745, 6039, and 6042;

Rep. Ron P. Salo for House Bills No. 3468, 5164, 5523, 5675, and 5792; and

Rep. Orestes T. Salon for House Bills No. 1855, 2473, and 5501.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter dated 02 August 2017 of Salvador C. Medialdea, Executive Secretary, Office of the President, Malacañang, transmitting two (2) original copies of Republic Act No. 10928 which was signed on even date by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, entitled:

“AN ACT EXTENDING THE VALIDITY OF PHILIPPINE PASSPORTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8239, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'PHILIPPINE PASSPORT ACT OF 1996', AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

TO THE ARCHIVES

Letter dated 02 August 2017 of Salvador C. Medialdea, Executive Secretary, Office of the President, Malacañang, transmitting two (2) original copies of Republic Act No. 10929 which was signed on even date by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE FREE INTERNET ACCESS PROGRAM IN PUBLIC PLACES IN THE COUNTRY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

TO THE ARCHIVES

Letter dated 02 August 2017 of Salvador C. Medialdea, Executive Secretary, Office of the President, Malacañang, transmitting two (2) original copies of Republic Act No. 10930 which was signed on even date by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, entitled:

“AN ACT RATIONALIZING AND STRENGTHENING THE POLICY REGARDING DRIVER’S LICENSE BY EXTENDING THE VALIDITY PERIOD OF DRIVERS’ LICENSES, AND PENALIZING ACTS IN VIOLATION OF ITS ISSUANCE AND APPLICATION, AMENDING FOR THOSE PURPOSES SECTION 23 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4136, AS AMENDED BY BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 398 AND EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 1011, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LAND TRANSPORTATION AND TRAFFIC CODE”

TO THE ARCHIVES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report by the Committee on Transportation (Committee Report No. 340), re H.B. No. 6112, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING THE INSTALLATION OF SAFETY MONITORING DEVICES IN PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLES AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 593, 755, 2305, 2742, 5104 and 5363

Sponsors: Representatives Sarmiento (C.), Velarde, Aglipay-Villar, Castelo and Olivarez

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report by the Committee on Health and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 341), re H.B. No. 6114, entitled:

“AN ACT INCREASING THE BED CAPACITY OF THE LUIS HORA MEMORIAL REGIONAL HOSPITAL FROM ONE HUNDRED (100) TO TWO HUNDRED (200) BEDS, UPGRADING THE SERVICE FACILITIES AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE THEREIN, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 282

Sponsors: Representatives Tan (A.), Dalog, Manaoang and Nograles (K.A.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative De Venecia, the session was suspended at 4:13 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 4:25 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 262 ON HOUSE BILL NO. 5745

Thereupon, on motion of Representative De Venecia, there being no objection, the Body resumed consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 5745 as embodied in Committee Report No. 262 and reported out by the Committees on Agriculture and Food, and Appropriations.

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

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE COCONUT FARMERS AND INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT TRUST FUND AND PROVIDING FOR ITS MANAGEMENT AND UTILIZATION.”

Whereupon, Rep. Gerald Anthony “Samsam” V. Gullas Jr. stated that the parliamentary status of the measure was that it was in the period of sponsorship and debate.

On further motion of Representative Gullas, the Chair recognized Rep. Jose T. Panganiban Jr., CPA, LLB, Chairperson of the Committee on Agriculture and Food, to sponsor the measure, and Rep. Edcel C. Lagman for his interpellation.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

At this point, the session was suspended at 4:27 p.m., upon motion of Representative Gullas.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 4:32 p.m.

REMARKS OF REPRESENTATIVE GULLAS

Representative Gullas reiterated that the parliamentary status of the measure was that it was in the period of sponsorship and debate and on his motion, the Chair recognized anew Representatives Panganiban and Lagman to sponsor the measure and interpellate thereon, respectively.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE LAGMAN

At the outset, Representative Lagman expressed his gratitude to the Sponsor for submitting the documents he had requested. He clarified that he was in favor of the measure and intended to introduce pertinent amendments in the interest of the small coconut farmers.

Representatives Lagman and Panganiban then discussed the utilization of the coconut levy funds. While both agreed that the Supreme Court did not provide for a percentage allocation of the funds between the coconut farmers and the coconut industry, the former stressed that House Bill No. 5745 was a social justice measure and suggested an 80%-20% allocation in favor of the coconut farmers. The latter however stated that the coco levy funds were public funds which should be utilized as a whole and explained that the development of the coconut industry would redound to the benefit of the coconut farmers.

Representative Lagman thereafter traced the genesis of the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) and cited the creation of various pre-PCA offices, to stress that the government was developing the coconut industry and funding the same for the longest time with or without the coconut levy funds. He also cited the fact that the coconut farmers had always been languishing and had been forced to contribute to government coffers, to emphasize that a bias in their favor was reasonable and warranted. His colleague said that a proposed Ad Hoc Committee will prepare a Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan that included socio-economic programs for coconut farmers, but he opined that Congress had to set up parameters and guidelines on the powers that it was delegating to said Committee under Section 21 of the Bill.

After Representative Lagman reiterated that the coconut levy funds were divisible and were subject to Congress' discretion and that he wanted to introduce perfecting amendments to the Bill, he and Representative Panganiban compared the Declaration of Policy of the measure with the Senate version and with the definition of a coconut farmer in House Bill No. 6135 that the 16th Congress had passed on Third Reading. The former pointed out that the Senate's Declaration of Policy had a justifiable bias in favor of the coconut farmers. The latter said that the sponsoring Committee held a lengthy discussion on the definition of a coconut farmer depending on the hectareage of coconut land, but eventually decided not to make any such distinction.

Representative Lagman stressed that the Bill was a piece of social justice legislation that should directly benefit the coconut farmers owning less than five hectares of coconut land; while Representative Panganiban emphasized that all coconut farmers were equal stakeholders in the coconut industry regardless of the hectareage. After the Members agreed to find out whether the Senate version of the Bill had a cap on the hectareage, Representative Lagman said that he will propose an amendment disallowing the United Coconut Planters Bank from being designated as a depository bank of the coconut industry trust fund because it was a party to the imposition and utilization of the coconut levy funds

At this point, Representative Lagman requested the suspension of his interpellation until another date. He said that he wanted to question the funds given to the PCA and its predecessors even as he clarified that he was not against the use of same but merely wanted them to be rationalized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Representative De Venecia, the Chair suspended the session at 5:30 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

The session resumed at 5:34 p.m.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION ON SECOND READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5745

On motion of Representative De Venecia, there being no objection, the Body suspended the consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 5745.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Representative De Venecia acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the guests of Rep. Leopoldo N. Bataoil.

THE PRIVILEGE HOUR

The day being a Monday, on motion of Representative De Venecia, there being no objection, the Chair declared the Privilege Hour.

On further motion of Representative De Venecia, the Chair recognized Representative Bataoil for his privilege speech.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE BATAOIL

Representative Bataoil stood to manifest the clamor of the retirees of the Philippine National Police (PNP) regarding their pension arrearages as he dedicated his speech in honor of Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police (PC-INP) and PNP retirees; the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP); as well as the Pangasinan Police Retirees Association. He expressed sadness as many of them were in their sickbeds while others had already passed away, as they awaited the pension increases that they deserved for their lengthy, dedicated, and loyal service.

He thereafter traced the history of the PNP establishment and emphasized how policemen and soldiers lived up to difficulties and challenges despite budgetary constraints and meager resources. He said that good, dedicated, and brave policemen outnumbered those who were involved in nefarious activities and

cited the Metrobank Foundation's recognition of the country's outstanding policemen. He showed pictures of such policemen and police officers while in action, citing his colleagues, namely, Rep. Amado T. Espino Jr., who almost lost his life in a New People's Army (NPA) encounter and Rep. Romeo M. Acop who led an operation against the Kuratong Baleleng group.

As he further stressed the valor and loyalty of men in uniform, Rep. Bataoil explained that the adjustments in pension rates due to the implementation of the 2009 Salary Standardization Law, had not been paid to the PNP retirees because of lack of appropriations. He enjoined his colleagues to support House Resolution No. 1117 urging the Department of Budget and Management and the Department of the Interior and Local Government to immediately include the pension differentials of PNP retirees in the 2018 national budget and expedite its immediate release to the pensioners.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative De Venecia, the Chair recognized Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE ATIENZA

As he recalled the golden years of policemen who were keepers of peace and harmony and were respected by the community, Representative Atienza rued the fact that the pensions of PNP retirees had not yet been released. He stressed that law enforcers needed backing and motivation to continue serving the community and enjoined his colleagues to support the call of Representative Bataoil for the immediate release of their pensions considering the billions of unspent money in the PNP's 2017 budget. Citing the Mamasapano tragedy which claimed the lives of 44 Special Action Force personnel, he stated that he was committing his support in order to give justice, honor, and recognition to police retirees who have served their country well.

REFERRAL OF REPRESENTATIVE BATAOIL'S PRIVILEGE SPEECH

Thereupon, on motion of Representative De Venecia, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Representative Bataoil, as well as the interpellation thereon, to the Committee on Rules.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative De Venecia, the Chair recognized Rep. Maximo B. Rodriguez Jr. for his privilege speech.

**PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF
REPRESENTATIVE RODRIGUEZ (M.)**

Expressing support for the declaration of martial law in Mindanao and for the AFP and PNP troops fighting terrorists therein, Representative Rodriguez stressed the need to end the crisis considering its socio-economic impact. After citing the recommendations of the Mindanao Development Authority, he also proposed to restore livelihood as well as economic and transportation programs linking Marawi with the rest of Mindanao through Bangsamoro development corridors; promote special financing facilities for damaged businesses; and rebuild trust and review approaches to countering violent extremism.

Rep. Rodriguez sought the help of all concerned agencies including the AFP in order to provide concrete information, long-term plans and solutions, and adequate resources for the rehabilitation of Marawi City and achievement of peace and development in the region.

Thereafter, on motion of Representative De Venecia, the Chair recognized Rep. Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo for his interpellation.

**INTERPELLATION OF
REPRESENTATIVE DIMAPORO (M.K.)**

Representative Dimaporo said that according to the Secretary of Budget and Management, ₱5 billion for the remaining months of 2017 and ₱20 billion for 2018 had been earmarked for the rehabilitation of Marawi City. He urged the Body to be proactive in working with national line agencies to determine how the funds will be used.

Rep. Rodriguez (M.) stated that he had not yet seen any rehabilitation plan. He explained that he delivered his speech to make the agencies concerned evaluate their plans and inform Congress thereon so that the latter could sponsor pertinent amendments in the National Expenditure Program.

**REFERRAL OF REP. RODRIGUEZ' (M.)
PRIVILEGE SPEECH**

On motion of Representative De Venecia, there being no objection, the Body referred the privilege speech of Representative Rodriguez (M.) together with the interpellation to the Committee on Rules.

Subsequently, the Chair recognized Rep. France L. Castro to deliver her privilege speech, on motion of Representative De Venecia.

**PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF
REPRESENTATIVE CASTRO (F.L.)**

Representative Castro condemned the military operations, harassment, and killings involving (1) lumads or indigenous people (IP) communities in Mindanao who suffered from the environmental plunder of the natural resources of their ancestral lands; and (2) personnel and staff of alternative school systems who provided IPs with transformative and holistic education. She cited some schools such as the Alternative Learning Center for Agricultural and Livelihood Development (ALCADEV) and school networks such as the Salupongan International (SI) which, despite the lack of permits to operate, had been contributing to community-building and national development by promoting the social, political, and cultural wellbeing of the lumads. She also cited some of the military attacks, saying they worsened when martial law was declared in Mindanao; and condemned President Rodrigo Roa Duterte's threat to bomb lumad schools.

Speaking on behalf of the IPs and alternative schools, Representative Castro challenged the current Administration to provide free and quality education to all and to end militarization as well as martial law.

EXTENSION OF THE PRIVILEGE HOUR

On motion of Representative De Venecia, there being no objection, the Body approved to extend the Privilege Hour for another 30 minutes.

Thereafter, on further motion of Representative De Venecia, the Chair recognized Rep. Dimaporo (M.K.) for his privilege speech.

**PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF
REPRESENTATIVE DIMAPORO (M.K.)**

Representative Dimaporo spoke about the inaction of the Department of Justice (DOJ) on three cases filed against Vice Mayor Lacson Lantud of Pantao Ragat, Lanao Del Norte in 2013 for violation of Presidential Decree (P.D.) No. 1866, as amended by Republic Act (R.A.) Nos. 8294 and 9516, regarding the illegal possession of firearms, ammunition, and explosives. He said that the raid on the Vice Mayor's cache of firearms can be considered as either the biggest successful law enforcement operation in the region at the time or a monumental disappointment in the application of law for the benefit of the general public's welfare. He cited the penalty provisions of the abovementioned laws and the follow-up efforts that he as well as his predecessor in the previous Congress had made.

Representative Dimaporo then said that he had filed a Resolution calling for an investigation on the matter and asked for the Body's support for the facilitation of the cases and observance of due process. He also appealed to the DOJ to intensify its role in the criminal justice system.

On motion of Representative De Venecia, the Chair recognized Rep. Abdullah D. Dimaporo for his interpellation.

INTERPELLATION OF REPRESENTATIVE DIMAPORO (A.)

To the queries of Representative Dimaporo (A.) on the history and background of Vice Mayor Lantud, Representative Dimaporo (M.K.) said that he was aware thereof and this included killings and acts of violence that the local official had allegedly committed especially against his political enemies.

To his colleague's question on what the authorities were doing about the matter, Rep. Dimaporo (M.K.) said that there was a clear-cut policy on handling violence, private armies, and warlords; and the police as well as Congress had done their part. He concluded that it was thus time for the courts and the DOJ to function.

REFERRAL OF REPRESENTATIVE DIMAPORO'S (M.K.) PRIVILEGE SPEECH

On motion of Representative De Venecia, there being no objection, the Body referred Representative Dimaporo's privilege speech together with the interpellation thereon to the Committee on Rules.

Thereafter, on further motion of Representative De Venecia, the Chair recognized Rep. Sarah Jane I. Elago for her privilege speech.

PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO

Adverting to the forthcoming celebration of International Youth Day 2017, Representative Elago thanked President Duterte for signing R.A. No. 10931 or the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act. She however urged the Body to be on guard and remain vigilant as regards the following: 1) the opposition of the country's economic managers to the

measure; 2) Budget Secretary Benjamin E. Diokno's declaration that he will make sure that not a single peso will be allocated for its implementation in the 2018 proposed budget; and 3) limitations to the law that may be inserted in the implementing rules and guidelines. Giving details on the inadequacy of government resources for education, she called on her colleagues to support the funding of R.A. No. 10931 and the adoption of a resolution that she will file thereon.

Representative Elago however said that free quality education was just one of the youth sector's advocacies. She stressed that they still had to fight for other causes such as the high cost of living; labor issues; and most especially, peace and order.

REFERRAL OF REPRESENTATIVE ELAGO'S PRIVILEGE SPEECH

On motion of Representative De Venecia, there being no objection, the Body referred Representative Elago's privilege speech to the Committee on Rules.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

Likewise, on motion of Representative De Venecia, there being no objection, the Body approved Journal No. 6, dated August 2, 2017.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

Subsequently, on motion of Representative De Venecia, there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until four o'clock in the afternoon of Tuesday, August 8, 2017.

It was 7:14 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

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

Approved on August 8, 2017.

Congress of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Philippines

MEMBERS' ATTENDANCE

Journal No. 7

Monday, August 07, 2017

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

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	***** 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	

* Appeared after the 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)