REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Senate

Pasay City

Journal

SESSION NO. 9

Monday, August 15, 2016

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SESSION NO. 9
Monday, August 15, 2016

CALL TO ORDER

At 3:24 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III, called the session to order.

PRAYER

Sen. Richard J. Gordon led the prayer, entitled "Prayer for the Philippines," to wit:

Almighty Father,
Bless our nation and make it true
To the ideals of our forefathers
Of freedom and justice
and brotherhood for all.

Protect us, Father,
From internal strife and foreign aggression,
From typhoons and disasters,
From ignorance, fear and confusion.

Enlighten us, Father,
Give us discernment and courage,
As we ponder decisions affecting
the lives of our people
And the future of this country.

Make our people aware of their rich heritage;
Realizing not only their rights
But also their duties
And responsibilities as proud citizens.

Make this great land and all its people
Know clearly Your will,
That they may fulfill the destiny
ordained for us
In the salvation of the nations,
And the restoring of all things in His Name.

Amen.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The Senate Choir led the singing of the national anthem.

ROLL CALL

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary of the Senate, Atty. Lutgardo B. Barbo, called the roll, to which the following senators responded:

Angara, S.	Legarda, L.
Aquino, P. B. IV B.	Pacquiao, E. M. D.
Binay, M. L. N. S.	Pangilinan, F. N.
Cayetano, A. P. C. S.	Pimentel III, A. K.
De Lima, L. M.	Poe, G.
Drilon, F. M.	Recto, R. G.
Ejercito, J. V. G.	Sotto III, V. C.
Gatchalian, W.	Trillanes IV, A. F.
Gordon, R. J.	Villanueva, J.
Honasan, G. B.	Villar, C. A.
Hontiveros, R. B.	Zubiri, J. M. F.
Lacson, P. M.	

With 23 senators present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum.

Senator Escudero was on "official business" as indicated in the August 15, 2016 letter of the Senator's chief of staff.

APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the Journal of Session No. 8 (August 10, 2016) and considered it approved.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR SOTTO

Senator Sotto manifested for the record that the term of office of the senators who were elected to the Commission on Appointments shall commence effective July 1, 2016, consistent with Section 1 of the Rules of the Commission on Appointments.

MOTION OF SENATOR HONTIVEROS

On behalf of the group of four senators, namely, Senators Angara, Ejercito, Villanueva and herself, Senator Hontiveros moved for the reconsideration of the election of members of the Senate Electoral Tribunal last August 10, 2016, on the ground that as far as her group was concerned, the rule on proportional representation was not fully complied with because under the Rules of the Senate, they are entitled to one seat.

Concurring with the statement of Senator Hontiveros, Senator Villanueva seconded the motion.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR ZUBIRI

At this juncture, Senator Zubiri asked that the Chamber meet in an all-senators caucus to privately discuss the motion as it entails the removal of some members of the Majority from the membership of the SET.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, the session was suspended for an all-senators' caucus.

It was 3:31 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:58 p.m., the session was resumed.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE MOTION OF SENATOR HONTIVEROS

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of the motion of Senator Hontiveros.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Secretary of the Senate read the following bills which the Chair referred to the committees hereunder indicated:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

Senate Bill No. 801, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT BY PROVIDING INCENTIVES FOR THE MANUFACTURE, ASSEMBLY, CONVERSION AND IMPORTATION OF ELECTRIC, HYBRID AND OTHER GREEN VEHICLES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Ways and Means; and Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship

Senate Bill No. 802, entitled

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE GRANT OF UNEMPLOYMENT OR INVOLUNTARY SEPARATION BENEFITS TO ELIGIBLE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM (SSS), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8282, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS SOCIAL SECURITY ACT OF 1997

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; and Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development

Senate Bill No. 803, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE RIGHTS OF GOVERNMENT SERVICE

INSURANCE SYSTEM (GSIS) MEMBERS, PROVIDING THEM ADDITIONAL REPRESENTATION IN THE GSIS BOARD, ENSURING PROMPT PAYMENT OF ALL THEIR BENEFITS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; and Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation

Senate Bill No. 804, entitled

AN ACT AUGMENTING THE PHILHEALTH FUND FOR UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE COVERAGE AND IMPROVING PHILHEALTH BENEFIT PACKAGES BY EARMARKING THE PHILIPPINE CHARITY SWEEPSTAKES OFFICE CHARITY FUND FOR SUCH PURPOSE, THEREBY AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1169, AS AMENDED BY BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 42

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; and Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 805, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MULTIPURPOSE GYM IN ALL MUNICIPALITIES AND CITIES TO SERVE AS EVACUATION CENTER DURING TIMES OF CALAMITY OR DISASTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Public Works; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 806, entitled

AN ACT EXTENDING THE RENT CONTROL PERIOD OF RESIDENTIAL UNITS, AMENDING THEREBY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9653 ENTITLED: AN ACT ESTABLISHING REFORMS IN THE REGULATION OF RENT OF CERTAIN RESIDENTIAL UNITS, PROVIDING THE MECHANISMS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement

Senate Bill No. 807, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING TO THREE THOUSAND PESOS (P3,000) THE MONTHLY PERSONNEL ECONOMIC RELIEF ALLOWANCE (PERA) GRANTED TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Finance; and Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation

Senate Bill No. 808, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING AUTOMATIC PHILHEALTH COVERAGE FOR ALL WOMEN ABOUT TO GIVE BIRTH AND THEIR NEWBORN CHILDREN, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7875, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10606, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE ACT OF 2013," PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Health and Demography; and Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality

Senate Bill No. 809, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING ADDITIONAL

BENEFITS TO FAMILIES WITH DEPENDENTS, SUPPORTING SPOUSES, AGING PARENTS, AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Ways and Means; and Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development

Senate Bill No. 810, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT BY INCREASING THE SHARE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS IN THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE TAXES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 284 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Local Government; and Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 811, entitled

AN ACT MODERNIZING HEALTHCARE AND HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE BY EARMARKING THE ENTIRE PHILIPPINE CHARITY SWEEPSTAKES OFFICE CHARITY FUND FOR SUCH PURPOSE, THEREBY AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1169, AS AMENDED BY BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 42

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 812, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE GRANT OF A TEACHING SUPPLIES ALLOWANCE FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 813, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE FAIR AND EQUITABLE ALLOCATION OF FARM-TO-MARKET ROADS PROJECTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; Public Works; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 814, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE SPECIAL MASS TRANSIT SYSTEM SUPPORT FUND TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL AND LONG-TERM FUNDING TO PRIORITY MASS TRANSIT PROJECTS IN THE GREATER METRO MANILA AREA, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 7 AND 8 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8794, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MOTOR VEHICLE USER'S CHARGE ACT OF 2000

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Public Works; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 815, entitled

AN ACT ORDAINING A BILL OF RIGHTS FOR TAXPAYERS

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 816, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FREE WI-FI INTERNET ACCESS IN PUBLIC BUILDINGS, TRANSPORT TERMINALS AND PARKS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Science and Technology; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 817, entitled

AN ACT INCREASING THE EXCISE TAX ON MINERALS, MINERAL PRODUCTS AND QUARRY RESOURCES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 818, entitled

AN ACT MODERNIZING HEALTHCARE AND HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE, PROVIDING FUNDS FROM THE ANNUAL VALUE-ADDED TAX COLLECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Ways and Means; and Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 819, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING FREE TERTIARY EDUCATION TO THE TOP FIVE PERCENT (5%) GRADUATES OF PUBLIC SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOLS PURSUING A DEGREE IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, MATHEMATICS AND ENGINEERING

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 820, entitled

AN ACT TO EXPAND THE COVERAGE OF MICRO ENTERPRISES AS BENEFICIARIES OF THE MAGNA CARTA FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES OR REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6977, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8289 AND FURTHER AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9501

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship

Senate Bill No. 821, entitled

AN ACT EXCLUDING 13TH MONTH PAY FROM THE COMPUTATION OF TAXABLE INCOME AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 32 (B) (7) (e) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8424 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 822, entitled

AN ACT TO INCLUDE IN THE COMPUTATION OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE ALLOTMENT (IRA), ALL THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE TAXES COLLECTED BY THE BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE AND THE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 284 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Local Government; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 823, entitled

AN ACT ACCELERATING UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE COVERAGE AND

IMPROVING PHILHEALTH BENEFIT PACKAGES BY EARMARKING THE ENTIRE PHILIPPINE CHARITY SWEEPSTAKES OFFICE CHARITY FUND FOR SUCH PURPOSE, THEREBY AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1169, AS AMENDED BY BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 42

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; Health and Demography; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 824, entitled

AN ACT IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION BY AUGMENTING THE BUDGET FOR THE K TO 12 OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED), PROVIDING FUNDS FROM THE PHILIPPINE AMUSEMENT AND GAMING CORPORATION (PAGCOR) INCOME, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1869, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9487

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; and Education, Arts and Culture

Senate Bill No. 825, entitled

AN ACT EXEMPTING MARGINAL INCOME EARNERS FROM INCOME TAX AND VALUE-ADDED TAX, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 22, 24, 109 (1) AND 236 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 826, entitled

AN ACT EXCLUDING OVERTIME PAY FROM THE COMPUTATION OF TAXABLE INCOME AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 32 (B) (7) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8424, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 827, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING THE DIRECT REMITTANCE TO THE HOST LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS OF THEIR FORTY PERCENT (40%) SHARE DERIVED FROM THE NATIONAL WEALTH AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 293 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Local Government; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 828, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING THE TREATMENT AND ERADICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 12 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7875, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10606, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT INSTITUTING A NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM FOR ALL FILIPINOS AND ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION FOR THE PURPOSE"

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 829, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING NATIONAL

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES FROM REQUIRING THE SUBMISSION OF A PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY CERTIFIED BIRTH CERTIFICATE ISSUED WITHIN THE PAST SIX (6) MONTHS

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee On Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation

Senate Bill No. 830, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE CANCER CENTER, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Health and Demography; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 831, entitled

AN ACT TO GUARANTEE THE HEALTH AND NUTRITION OF CHILDREN PROTECTING THEM FROM MALNUTRITION BY ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND NUTRITION PROGRAM, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Health and Demography; Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 832, entitled

AN ACT EXCLUDING THE PERFORMANCE-BASED BONUS FROM THE COMPUTATION OF TAXABLE INCOME AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTION 32 (B) (7) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8424, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 833, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING ALL PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS TO PREPARE AND IMPLEMENT A LAND USE DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN FOR THE OPTIMUM UTILIZATION OF ITS RESOURCES IN ADDRESSING BASIC EDUCATION FACILITY SHORTAGES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Public Works

Senate Bill No. 834, entitled

AN ACT RESERVING TO GOVERNMENT THE EXCLUSIVE AUTHORITY TO IMPORT RICE TO FURTHER ENSURE FOOD SECURITY AND PROTECT DOMESTIC PRODUCERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 4, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE NATIONAL GRAINS AUTHORITY ACT," AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Agriculture and Food

Senate Bill No. 835, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING A SIMPLIFIED TAX COMPLIANCE SYSTEM, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTIONS 51(A), 52(A), 57, 58, 74, 75, 76, 77, 114(A), 128, 232(A) AND 235 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 836, entitled

AN ACT EXPANDING THE PURPOSES AND APPLICATION OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION FUND, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 272 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Local Government; and Education, Arts and Culture

Senate Bill No. 837, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND THE GOVERNOR OF THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS TO APPEAR BEFORE CONGRESS SEMI-ANNUALLY TO REPORT ON THE STATUS AND DIRECTIONS OF THE FISCAL AND MONETARY POLICIES OF THE STATE

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Finance; and Economic Affairs

Senate Bill No. 838, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING BROADER PROTECTION TO CONSUMERS AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7394, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CONSUMER ACT OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship

Senate Bill No. 839, entitled

AN ACT EXEMPTING TOLLWAY OPERATIONS FROM THE VALUE ADDED TAX, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTIONS 108 AND 109 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 840, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA FOR THE ROAD TRANSPORTATION SECTOR

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Public Services

Senate Bill No. 841, entitled

AN ACT PROTECTING CONSUMERS FROM UNREASONABLE FEE INCREASES BY PROVIDING FOR A CONSUMER GROUP REPRESENTATION IN THE GOVERNING BOARDS OF GOVERNMENT REGULATORY BODIES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THEIR RESPECTIVE CHARTERS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Public Services

Senate Bill No. 842, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING HEALTHCARE FACILITIES TO PROVIDE A PRICE LIST OF ITS HEALTHCARE SERVICES INCLUDING INCIDENTAL EXPENSES AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES THAT CAN BE CHARGED IN THE MEDICAL BILL

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 843, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING LOCAL

GOVERNMENT UNITS BY INCREASING TO FIFTY PERCENT (50%) THE ANNUAL INTERNAL REVENUE ALLOTMENT SHARE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Local Government; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 844, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE SPECIAL MASS TRANSIT SYSTEM SUPPORT FUND, REALLOCATING THE DISPOSITION OF MONIES COLLECTED FROM THE MOTOR VEHICLE USER'S CHARGE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 7 AND 8 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8794, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MOTOR VEHICLE USER'S CHARGE ACT OF 2000

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Public Works; Public Services; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 845, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FUNDING SUPPORT FOR UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE COVERAGE AND IMPROVING PHILHEALTH BENEFIT PACKAGES BY ALLOCATING SEVENTY PERCENT (70%) OF THE PHILIPPINE CHARITY SWEEPSTAKES OFFICE CHARITY FUND FOR SUCH PURPOSE, THEREBY AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1169, AS AMENDED BY BATAS PAMBANSA BLG. 42

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; and Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 846, entitled

AN ACT EXEMPTING PUBLIC UTILITY VEHICLES FROM THE MOTOR VEHICLE USER'S CHARGE AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 2 AND 3 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8794, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "MOTOR VEHICLE USER'S CHARGE ACT OF 2000"

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Public Works; and Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 847, entitled

AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE AMUSEMENT AND GAMING COMMISSION (PAGCOM), AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Games and Amusement; Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 848, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING TELECOMMUNICATION COMPANIES FROM IMPOSING AN EXPIRATION PERIOD ON THE VALIDITY OF PREPAID CALL AND TEXT CARDS AND THE FORFEITURE OF LOAD CREDITS THEREOF

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Public Services; and Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship

Senate Bill No. 849, entitled

AN ACT ADVANCING THE RIGHTS OF STREET CHILDREN BY STRENGTHENING THE BARANGAY COUNCIL FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN (BCPC) AND ESTABLISHING AN INCENTIVES SYSTEM FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGED IN THE PROMOTION OF

THE WELFARE OF STREET CHILDREN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality; Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; and Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 850, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING REFORMS TO FURTHER PROTECT AND DEVELOP THE NURSING PROFESSION, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER 9173, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE NURSING ACT OF 2002

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; Health and Demography; and Finance

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Deputy Secretary for Legislation, Atty. Edwin B. Bellen, read the following Senate bills which the Chair referred to the committees hereunder indicated:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

Senate Bill No. 851, entitled

AN ACT MODERNIZING PUBLIC HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE, PROVIDING FUNDS FROM THE PHILIPPINE AMUSEMENT AND GAMING CORPORATION (PAGCOR) INCOME, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1869, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9487

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises; and Health and Demography

Senate Bill No. 852, entitled

AN ACT TO RECONSTRUCT AND REHABILITATE THE EXISTING 479-KILOMETER PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RAILWAYS LINE FROM SAN FERNANDO, LA UNION TO LEGAZPI CITY, ALBAY, PROVIDING FUNDS FROM THE ANNUAL VALUE-ADDED TAX COLLECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Ways and Means; and Public Services

Senate Bill No. 853, entitled

AN ACT TO PROMOTE FAIR TRADE IN THE OIL INDUSTRY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8479, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE DOWNSTREAM OIL DEREGULATION ACT OF 1998

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Energy; and Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship

Senate Bill No. 854, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING EMPLOYEES THREE DAYS PAID LEAVE TO ATTEND SCHOOL-RELATED ACTIVITIES OF THEIR CHILDREN

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation

Senate Bill No. 855, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE UTILIZATION OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) IN ALL PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS AND

HIGH SCHOOLS PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Science and Technology; Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 856, entitled

AN ACT MODERNIZING AGRICULTURE, PROVIDING FUNDS FROM THE ANNUAL VALUE-ADDED TAX COLLECTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Ways and Means; and Agriculture and Food

Senate Bill No. 857, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING TAX RELIEF TO THE LABOR SECTOR BY EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF EXCLUSIONS FROM GROSS INCOME AND INCREASING THE AMOUNTS OF *DE MINIMIS* BENEFITS EXEMPT FROM TAX AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 32(B) AND 33 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 858, entitled

AN ACT SETTING A CEILING TO THE INDEBTEDNESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES TO ENSURE MACRO-ECONOMIC STABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Finance; and Economic Affairs

Senate Bill No. 859, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE REVISION OF THE CHARTER OF THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS (BSP) BY AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7653, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE NEW CENTRAL BANK ACT"

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies; and Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 860, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL MARICULTURE PROGRAM, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 861, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE DELINEATION OF THE SPECIFIC FOREST LIMITS OF THE PUBLIC DOMAIN AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Environment and Natural Resources; Local Government; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 862, entitled

AN ACT MANDATING THE ANNUAL PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF ALL CONTINGENT LIABILITIES INCURRED BY ALL NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, GOVERN-

MENT-OWNED OR -CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS, GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, AND OTHER GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Finance

Senate Bill No. 863, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A BILL OF RIGHTS FOR AIR PASSENGERS, PENALIZING VIOLATIONS THEREOF, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Public Services; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 864, entitled

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF PARCELS OF LAND IN BARANGAY KRUS NA LIGAS, QUEZON CITY TO ITS LEGITIMATE AND QUALIFIED RESIDENTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9500, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES CHARTER OF 2008

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement

Senate Bill No. 865, entitled

AN ACT DECLARING JULY 27 OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL NATIONAL NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN COMMEMORATION OF THE FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF THE IGLESIA NI CRISTO IN THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

Senate Bill No. 866, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING THE EASE OF DOING BUSINESS BY MANDATING THE AUTOMATIC APPROVAL OF BUSINESS PERMIT APPLICATIONS AFTER THIRTY DAYS OF INACTION AND EXTENDING THE VALIDITY PERIOD THEREOF

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship

Senate Bill No. 867, entitled

AN ACT INSTITUTING ESTATE TAX REFORM, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE SECTIONS 84, 86 (A), 89, 90 AND 97 OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Recto

To the Committee on Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 868, entitled

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS SERVICE OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE, AND FOR THIS PURPOSE AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE PNP LAW UNDER REPUBLIC ACT SIXTY NINE AND SEVENTY FIVE (RA 6975) AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT EIGHTY FIVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY ONE (RA 8551), AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs

Senate Bill No. 869, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING INTEGRATED URBAN FARMING TO ADDRESS FOOD SECURITY CONCERNS AND

LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 870, entitled

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICAL STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC SERVANTS

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 871, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4200, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT TO PROHIBIT AND PENALIZE WIRETAPPING AND OTHER RELATED VIOLATIONS OF THE PRIVACY OF COMMUNICATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committees on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs; and National Defense and Security

Senate Bill No. 872, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING SENIOR CITIZENS A MINIMUM OF FIVE PERCENT (5%) DISCOUNT ON THE FIRST 150 KILOWATT HOURS OF ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION AND ON THE FIRST 50 CUBIC METERS OF WATER CONSUMPTION, AND EXEMPTION FROM THE VALUE-ADDED TAX (VAT), AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9994, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE EXPANDED SENIOR CITIZENS' ACT OF 2010

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committees on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; and Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 873, entitled

AN ACT PENALIZING THE ILLICIT ENRICHMENT OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES FOR ACQUISITION OF PROPERTIES THROUGH UNLAWFUL MEANS

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation

Senate Bill No. 874, entitled

AN ACT TO ASSIST INDIGENT CANCER PATIENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES, ESTABLISHING FOR THE PURPOSE A CANCER ASSISTANCE FUND AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committees on Health and Demography; Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 875, entitled

AN ACT TO FURTHER ASSIST FILIPINO MIGRANT WORKERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8042, AS AMENDED

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Foreign Relations

Senate Bill No. 876, entitled

AN ACT TO ENHANCE CITIZENS' ACCESS TO GOVERNMENT INFORMATION AND SERVICES BY

ESTABLISHING A SYSTEM IN WHICH GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS ISSUED TO THE PUBLIC MUST BE WRITTEN CLEARLY, ORDAINING FOR THE PURPOSE A PLAIN WRITING FOR PHILIPPINE PUBLIC SERVICE ACT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSE

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committees on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 877, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (ICT) HUB IN EVERY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committees on Science and Technology; Local Government; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 878, entitled

AN ACT BROADENING THE OPPORTUNITIES OF FILIPINO YOUTH BY ALLOWING GRADUATES OF K-12 ENHANCED EDUCATION IN THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE PNP LAW, R.A. 6975 AS AMENDED BY R.A. 8551

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs

Senate Bill No. 879, entitled

AN ACT REQUIRING MANDATORY ENVIRONMENT INSURANCE COVERAGE TO PROMOTE ECOLOGICAL PROTECTION

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Senate Bill No. 880, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR TAX EXEMPTIONS AND SUBSIDIES FOR THE LOCAL MUSIC INDUSTRY AND AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160 OR THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committees on Local Government; and Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 881, entitled

AN ACT TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS AND WELFARE OF FILIPINO SEAMEN AND SEA-BASED MIGRANT WORKERS, ESTABLISHING FOR THE PURPOSE A NATIONAL SEAFARERS ADMINISTRATION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; Foreign Relations; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 882, entitled

AN ACT PRESCRIBING ELECTRONIC OR ONLINE MODALITIES FOR THE PROMULGATION OF LAWS, RESOLUTIONS, RULE AND OTHER ISSUANCES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 18, 24 AND 25 CHAPTER 5, BOOK 1 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 292 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF 1987

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committee on Public Information and Mass Media

Senate Bill No. 883, entitled

AN ACT ENHANCING THE CAPABILITIES, MANDATE, AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

OF THE MOVIE AND TELEVISION REVIEW AND CLASSIFICATION BOARD (MTRCB), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE 1986

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

To the Committees on Public Information and Mass Media; and Ways and Means

Senate Bill No. 884, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES-SAN JUAN CAMPUS IN THE CITY OF SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA TO BE KNOWN AS "PUP-SAN JUAN CAMPUS" APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 885, entitled

AN ACT STRENGHTENING THE POLITICAL PARTY SYSTEM, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

To the Committees on Electoral Reforms and People's Participation; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 886, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING AN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS IN DISTRESS, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; Foreign Relations; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 887, entitled

AN ACT UPHOLDING THE RIGHT OF ACQUISITION BY QUALIFIED BENEFICIARIES OF GOVERNMENT-OWNED LANDS THEY ACTUALLY OCCUPY, AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7279, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING ACT OF 1992, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

To the Committee on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement

Senate Bill No. 888, entitled

AN ACT PRESCRIBING THE STRENGTHENING OF THE NATIONAL EXTENSION SYSTEM TO ACCELERATE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

To the Committees on Agriculture and Food; Local Government; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 889, entitled

AN ACT ADOPTING THE HIGHER PRESCRIBED PENALTY, INCLUDING DEATH, OF THE NATIONAL LAW OF AN ALIEN FOUND GUILTY OF TRAFFICKING DANGEROUS DRUGS AND OTHER SIMILAR SUBSTANCES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9165, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "COMPREHENSIVE DANGEROUS DRUGS ACT OF 2002"

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

To the Committees on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs; and Justice and Human Rights

Senate Bill No. 890, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SINGLE TRAFFIC TICKETING SYSTEM

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

To the Committee on Public Services

Senate Bill No. 891, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FREE MEDICINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR THE POOR AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

To the Committees on Health and Demography; Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 892, entitled

AN ACT EXPANDING THE PROHIBITED ACTS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN ON ACCOUNT OF SEX, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLES 135 AND 137 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 442, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

To the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; and Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality

Senate Bill No. 893, entitled

AN ACT CREATING A LOCAL HOUSING BOARD IN ALL CITIES AND FIRST TO THIRD CLASS MUNICIPALITIES, PROVIDING FOR ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

To the Committees on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement; and Local Government

Senate Bill No. 894, entitled

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR A HOUSING PROGRAM FOR TEACHERS

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

To the Committees on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement; Education, Arts and Culture; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 895, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR AN AUTOMATIC PAY INCREASE TO ANY MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES WHO IS DEPLOYED AWAY FROM THE MEMBER'S PERMANENT STATION OR, IN THE CASE OF A MEMBER OF A RESERVE COMPONENT OF THE ARMED FORCES, THE MEMBER'S HOME OF RECORD, ONCE THE DEPLOYMENT PERIOD EXCEEDS 180 DAYS OF CONTINUOUS DUTY

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

To the Committees on National Defense and Security; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 896, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE RIGHTS OF AIRLINE PASSENGERS BY PROVIDING STANDARDS FOR AIRLINE CARRIER SERVICES

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

To the Committee on Public Services

Senate Bill No. 897, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF POLITICAL DYNASTIES

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

To the Committee on Electoral Reforms and People's Participation

Senate Bill No. 898, entitled

AN ACT DIRECTING THE REDUCTION OF ELECTRICITY RATES THROUGH THE UTILIZATION OF THE GOVERN-

MENT SHARE IN THE DISCOVERY, EXPLORATION, DEVELOPMENT AND/OR PRODUCTION OF INDIGENOUS SOURCES OF ENERGY FOR THE PURPOSE OF LOWERING THE COST OF ELECTRICITY

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

To the Committee on Energy

Senate Bill No. 899, entitled

AN ACT TO EXPAND AND REVITALIZE THE SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR GIFTED AND HANDICAPPED CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN THE PHILIPPINES

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

To the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Youth; Ways and Means; and Finance

Senate Bill No. 900, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS ACCESSIBILITY TO THE HEARING-IMPAIRED AND SPEECH-IMPAIRED

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor Ejercito

To the Committees on Public Services; and Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development

PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 98

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body considered Proposed Senate Resolution No. 98, entitled

RESOLUTION REPEALING SECTION 8 OF RESOLUTION NO. 5, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SENATE RULES OF PROCEDURE GOVERNING INQUIRIES IN AID OF LEGISLATION.

With the permission of the Body, only the title of the resolution was read without prejudice to the insertion of its full text into the *Record of the Senate*.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF SENATOR SOTTO

Preliminary, Senator Sotto stated that under Article VI, Section 21 of the Constitution, "The Senate or the House of Representatives or any of its respective committees may conduct inquiries in aid of legislation in accordance with its duly published rules and procedures."

He said that earlier, in the organizational meeting of the Committee on Rules, the committee members decided to review the Rules before having it published, and one particular rule that was discussed was Section 8 (*Preliminary Determination*) of Senate Resolution No. 5 (*Rules of Procedure Governing Inquiries in Aid of Legislation*) which provides that there must be concurrence of the majority of the members of the Committee before it can conduct any hearing on any bill, inquiry, or resolution.

He noted that in the last 20 years, it was only Senator De Lima who followed Section 8 and the Committee realized the difficulty of complying with the rule. It was for this reason, he said, that the Committee decided to remove Section 8 of Resolution No. 5 to reflect a long standing practice in the Senate and its committees.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR DE LIMA

At the outset, Senator De Lima acknowledged that, indeed, she followed the Rules strictly although at the back of her mind she was questioning why there is such a requirement because, to her, the rule was an unnecessary requirement that would unduly dilute the prerogative of the chair of a particular Senate committee. She said that it was good that the Committee on Rules has taken note of it and has proposed the amendment.

Asked by the Chair what prompted her to follow Section 8 of Senate Resolution No. 5, Senator De Lima replied that it was her filing of Proposed Senate Resolution No. 9 calling for the conduct of an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the spate of extrajudicial and summary killings in the country. She said that she strictly followed the Rules and conducted an initial determination during the organizational meeting of the Committee on Justice and Human Rights.

She reiterated her support for the amendment being proposed by Senator Sotto but manifested her desire to propose further amendment to

Section 8 of Resolution No. 5 particularly on the mode of publication.

Adverting to the last paragraph of Senate Resolution No. 98, Senator De Lima proposed to amend it by providing that the amendment to Resolution No. 5 shall take effect following its complete publication in a newspaper of general circulation instead of two newspapers of general circulation. She added that her proposed amendment will likewise do away with the seven-day requirement and speed up the effectivity of the amendment to Resolution No. 5.

Saying that she was not objecting to the posting of the Rules in the Senate website, she called the attention of the Body to Article II of the Civil Code which provides that laws, to be effective, including rules of general application, shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the publication in the *Official Gazette*. She explained that this specific provision of the Civil Code was amended by Executive Order No. 200 dated June 18, 1987, saying that laws shall take effect after 15 days following the completion of their publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines, unless it is otherwise provided.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF INTERPELLATIONS

There being no interpellation, the Body closed the period of interpellations and proceeded to the period of amendments.

DE LIMA AMENDMENT

Taking into consideration Senator De Lima's proposed amendment, upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Body approved to amend the second "resolved" clause of Proposed Senate Resolution No. 98, to read as follows:

RESOLVED, FURTHER THAT RESOLUTION NO. 5, AS AMENDED, SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY UPON PUBLICATION IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION AND SHALL REMAIN IN FORCE UNTIL AMENDED OR REPEALED. A COPY OF RESOLUTION NO. 5, AS AMENDED, SHALL BE POSTED ON THE OFFICIAL WEBSITE OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no other amendment, the Body closed the period of amendments.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 98

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, Proposed Senate Resolution No. 98, as amended, was adopted by the Body, subject to style.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

Upon motion of Senator Sotto, there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until three o'clock in the afternoon of the following day.

It was 4:41 p.m.

I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

ATTY. LUTGARDO B. BARBO
Secretary of the Senate

Approved on August 16, 2016