



Congressional Record

16th CONGRESS, FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Vol. 1

Monday, July 22, 2013

No. 1

OPENING OF THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION

CALL TO ORDER

At 10:00 a.m., pursuant to Section 18 (a), Rule VI of the House Rules, the Presiding Officer, Secretary General Marilyn B. Barua-Yap, called the session to order.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). Honorable Members of the House of Representatives, today is the fourth Monday of July, 2013. The Constitution mandates that Congress convene once every year on the fourth Monday of July to commence its regular session.

Pursuant to parliamentary rules and practice, I hereby call the First Regular Session of the Sixteenth Congress to order.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). Please rise for the singing of the Philippine National Anthem to be led by Mr. Rafael Gonzalo G. Garcia.

Everybody rose to sing the Philippine National Anthem.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). Please remain standing for the Invocation to be delivered by the Hon. Maria Zenaida B. Angping, Representative from the Third District of Manila.

Everybody remained standing for the Invocation.

INVOCATION

REP. ANGPING. My esteemed fellow Members of the House of Representatives, as we begin the Sixteenth Congress, let us pray to the Almighty with complete trust and confidence, and with steadfast faith and hope that He will always be with us in all that we do. Join me in this beautiful prayer written by Pope Pius XII for Members of legislative bodies. Let us all together reflect and draw inspiration on its meaning and blessings.

Great and Eternal God, Creator and Lord of all things, foremost Legislator and Supreme Ruler, all power emanates from Thee and depends on Thee; and those of us whose duty is to legislate, determine in Thy name what is just or unjust, as a reflection of Thy Divine Wisdom. Therefore, we, the Members of Congress, upon whom rest the burden of a

grave responsibility that places us at the centre of the whole nation, implore Thy aid for the fulfillment of our office that we intend to accept and exercise for the greater spiritual and material welfare of our people.

Grant us such a sense of duty as will cause us to omit no preparation or effort for the realization of this noble end. Grant us also that objectivity and sound realism which will guide us on every occasion to a clear perception of that which seems the best. Grant that we may never deviate from that sound impartiality which dictates that we labor without unjust preferences for the good of all. Grant also that we may never fail in loyalty to our people, nor in firm adherence to the principles which we openly profess, nor in the noble resolve to preserve ourselves above all possible corruption and base selfish ambitions.

Help us to be calm in all our deliberations and to be immune from all passion except such as is inspired by the honest quest after truth. May our resolutions be in conformity with Thy precepts even if the service of Thy will should demand sufferings and sacrifices. May we, even in our own little way, endeavor to imitate that rectitude and holiness according to which Thou in Thy providence dost direct and govern everything for Thy greater glory and for the true well-being of human society and of all Thy creatures.

Hear us, O Lord, in order that our minds may never be without Thy light, nor our wills without Thy strength, nor our hearts without the warmth of Thy love, for we ought to have tender love for our people. Keep far from us every form of human ambition and every kind of lust for illicit gain. Inspire us with a real lively and profound sentiment of what constitutes a sound social order wherein full regard is had for law and justice.

Finally, as a supreme reward, grant us some day to enjoy Thy blessed presence for all eternity, in union with those who have been entrusted to our care.

Amen.

ROLL CALL

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). The Deputy Secretary General for Operations will now call the roll of Members of the House of Representatives, elected from legislative districts apportioned among the provinces, cities and municipalities, and party-list organizations.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adaza), reading: Roll call of Members.

Honorable Congressmen and Congresswomen:

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

CALOOCAN CITY

First District

Hon. Enrico “Recom” Echiverri

Second District

Hon. Edgar R. Erice

LAS PIÑAS CITY

Lone District

Hon. Mark A. Villar

MAKATI CITY

First District

Hon. Monique Yazmin Q. Lagdameo

Second District

Hon. Mar-Len Abigail S. Binay

MALABON CITY

Lone District

Hon. Josephine Veronique R. Lacson-Noel

MANDALUYONG CITY

Lone District

Hon. Neptali M. Gonzales II

MANILA

First District

Hon. Benjamin D. Asilo

Second District

Hon. Carlo V. Lopez

Third District

Hon. Maria Zenaida B. Angping

Fourth District

Hon. Ma. Theresa B. Bonoan

Fifth District

Hon. Amado S. Bagatsing

Sixth District

Hon. Rosenda Ann Ocampo

MARIKINA CITY

First District

Hon. Marcelino R. Teodoro

Second District

Hon. Romero Federico “Miro” S. Quimbo

MUNTINLUPA CITY

Lone District

Hon. Rodolfo G. Biazon

NAVOTAS CITY

Lone District

Hon. Tobias “Toby” M. Tiangco

PARANAQUE CITY

First District

Hon. Eric L. Olivarez

Second District

Hon. Gustavo S. Tambunting

PASAY CITY

Lone District

Hon. Emi G. Calixto-Rubiano

PASIG CITY

Lone District

Hon. Roman T. Romulo

QUEZON CITY

First District

Hon. Francisco A. Calalay Jr.

Second District

Hon. Winston “Winnie” Castelo

Third District

Hon. Jorge “Bolet” Banal

Fourth District

Hon. Feliciano Belmonte Jr.

Fifth District

Hon. Alfredo D. Vargas III

Sixth District

Hon. Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte

SAN JUAN CITY

Lone District

Hon. Ronaldo B. Zamora

TAGUIG CITY–PATEROS

First District

Hon. Arnel M. Cerafica

TAGUIG CITY

Second District

Hon. Lino S. Cayetano

VALENZUELA CITY

First District

Hon. Sherwin T. Gatchalian

Second District

Hon. Magtanggol T. Gunigundo I

CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION

ABRA

Lone District

Hon. Maria Jocelyn V. Bernos

APAYAO

Lone District

Hon. Eleanor C. Bulut-Begtang

BAGUIO CITY

Lone District

Hon. Nicasio M. Aliping Jr.

BENGUET

Lone District

Hon. Ronald M. Cosalan

IFUGAO

Lone District

Hon. Teddy Brawner Baguilat Jr.

KALINGA

Lone District

Hon. Manuel S. Agyao

MOUNTAIN PROVINCE

Lone District

Hon. Maximo B. Dalog

REGION I

ILOCOS NORTE (with the city of Laoag)

First District

Hon. Rodolfo C. Fariñas

Second District

Hon. Imelda R. Marcos

ILOCOS SUR (with the cities of Vigan and Candon)

First District

Hon. Ronald V. Singson

Second District

Hon. Eric D. Singson

LA UNION

First District

Hon. Victor F. Ortega

Second District

Hon. Eufranio “Franny” C. Eriguel, M.D.

PANGASINAN

First District

Hon. Jesus “Boying” F. Celeste

Second District

Hon. Leopoldo N. Bataoil

Third District

Hon. Rose Marie “Baby” J. Arenas

Fourth District

Hon. Ma. Gina P. De Venecia

Fifth District

Hon. Kimi S. Cojuangco

Sixth District

Hon. Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas

REGION II

BATANES

Lone District

Hon. Henedina R. Abad

CAGAYAN

First District

Hon. Salvacion “Sally” S. Ponce Enrile

Second District

Hon. Baby Aline Vargas-Alfonso

Third District

Hon. Randolph S. Ting

ISABELA

First District

Hon. Rodolfo T. Albano III

Second District

Hon. Ana Cristina Siquian Go

Third District

Hon. Napoleon S. Dy

Fourth District

Hon. Giorgidi B. Aggabao

NUEVA VIZCAYA

Lone District

Hon. Carlos M. Padilla

QUIRINO

Lone District

Hon. Dakila Carlo E. Cua

REGION III

AURORA

Lone District

Hon. Bellaflor J. Angara-Castillo

BATAAN

First District

Hon. Herminia B. Roman

Second District

Hon. Enrique T. Garcia Jr.

BULACAN

First District

Hon. Ma. Victoria R. Sy-Alvarado

Second District

Hon. Gavini C. Pancho

Third District

Hon. Joselito “Jonjon” R. Mendoza

Fourth District

Hon. Linabelle Ruth R. Villarica

NUEVA ECIJA

First District

Hon. Estrellita B. Suansing

Second District

Hon. Joseph Gilbert F. Violago

Third District

Hon. Czarina D. Umali

Fourth District

Hon. Magnolia Rosa C. Antonino-Nadres

PAMPANGA

First District

Hon. Joseller “Yeng” M. Guiao

Second District

Hon. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo

Third District

Hon. Oscar S. Rodriguez

Fourth District

Hon. Juan Pablo “Rimpy” P. Bondoc

SAN JOSE DEL MONTE CITY

Lone District

Hon. Arturo B. Robes

TARLAC

First District

Hon. Enrique M. Cojuangco

Second District
Hon. Susan A. Yap

Third District
Hon. Noel L. Villanueva

ZAMBALES

First District
Hon. Jeffrey D. Khonghun
Second District
Hon. Cheryl Deloso-Montalla

REGION IV–A

ANTIPOLO CITY

First District
Hon. Roberto V. Puno
Second District
Hon. Romeo M. Acop

BATANGAS

First District
Hon. Elenita Milagros Ermita-Buhain
Second District
Hon. Raneo E. Abu
Third District
Hon. Sonny P. Collantes
Fourth District
Hon. Mark Llandro L. Mendoza

CAVITE

First District
Hon. Francis Gerald A. Abaya
Second District
Hon. Lani Mercado-Revilla
Third District
Hon. Alex L. Advincula
Fourth District
Hon. Elpidio F. Barzaga Jr.
Fifth District
Hon. Roy M. Loyola
Sixth District
Hon. Luis “Jon-Jon” A. Ferrer IV
Seventh District
Hon. Abraham N. Tolentino

LAGUNA

First District
Hon. Dan S. Fernandez
Second District
Hon. Joaquin M. Chipeco Jr.
Third District
Hon. Sol Aragones
Fourth District
Hon. Benjamin C. Agarao Jr.

QUEZON (with the city of Lucena)

First District
Hon. Mark M. Enverga
Second District
Hon. Vicente “Kulit” J. Alcala
Third District
Hon. Aleta C. Suarez

Fourth District
Hon. Angelina “Helen” D.L. Tan, M.D.

RIZAL

First District
Hon. Joel Roy R. Duavit
Second District
Hon. Isidro S. Rodriguez Jr.

REGION IV–B

MARINDUQUE

Lone District
Hon. Regina “Ate Gina” O. Reyes

OCCIDENTAL MINDORO

Lone District
Hon. Josephine R. Sato

ORIENTAL MINDORO (with the city of Calapan)

First District
Hon. Doy C. Leachon
Second District
Hon. Reynaldo V. Umali

PALAWAN (with the city of Puerto Princesa)

First District
Hon. Franz E. Alvarez
Second District
Hon. Frederick F. Abueg
Third District
Hon. Douglas S. Hagedorn

ROMBLON

Lone District
Hon. Eleandro Jesus F. Madrona

REGION V

ALBAY (with the cities of Legaspi, Ligao and Tabaco)

First District
Hon. Edcel “Grexx” B. Lagman
Second District
Hon. Al Francis C. Bichara
Third District
Hon. Fernando V. Gonzalez

CAMARINES NORTE

First District
Hon. Cathy Barcelona-Reyes
Second District
Hon. Elmer E. Panotes

CAMARINES SUR (with the cities of Naga and Iriga)

First District
Hon. Rolando G. Andaya Jr.
Second District
Hon. Diosdado Macapagal Arroyo
Third District
Hon. Maria Leonor G. Robredo
Fourth District
Hon. Felix William B. Fuentebella

Fifth District
Hon. Salvio B. Fortuno

CATANDUANES

Lone District
Hon. Cesar V. Sarmiento

MASBATE (with the city of Masbate)

First District
Hon. Maria Vida E. Bravo
Second District
Hon. Elisa “Olga” T. Kho
Third District
Hon. Scott Davies S. Lanete, M.D.

SORSOGON (with the city of Sorsogon)

First District
Hon. Evelina G. Escudero
Second District
Hon. Deogracias B. Ramos Jr.

REGION VI

AKLAN

Lone District
Hon. Teodorico T. Haresco Jr.

ANTIQUE

Lone District
Hon. Paolo S. Javier

BACOLOD CITY

Lone District
Hon. Evelio “Bing” Leonardia

CAPIZ (with the city of Roxas)

First District
Hon. Antonio A. Del Rosario
Second District
Hon. Fredenil “Fred” H. Castro

GUIMARAS

Lone District
Hon. JC Rahman A. Nava, M.D.

ILOILO (with the city of Passi)

First District
Hon. Oscar “Richard” S. Garin, Jr.
Second District
Hon. Arcadio H. Gorriceta
Third District
Hon. Arthur R. Defensor Jr.
Fourth District
Hon. Hernan G. Biron Jr.
Fifth District
Hon. Niel C. Tupas Jr.

ILOILO CITY

Lone District
Hon. Jerry P. Trefias

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL (with the cities of San Carlos, Cadiz, Bago, La Carlota, Silay, Kabankalan, Sagay, Victoria, Escalante, Sipalay and Himamaylan)

First District
Hon. Julio A. Ledesma IV
Second District
Hon. Leo Rafael M. Cueva
Third District
Hon. Alfredo “Albee” B. Benitez
Fourth District
Hon. Jeffrey P. Ferrer
Fifth District
Hon. Alejandro Y. Mirasol
Sixth District
Hon. Mercedes K. Alvarez

REGION VII

BOHOL (with the city of Tagbilaran)

First District
Hon. Rene L. Relampagos
Second District
Hon. Erico Aristotle C. Aumentado
Third District
Hon. Arthur C. Yap

CEBU

First District
Hon. Gerald Anthony V. Gullas, Jr.
Second District
Hon. Wilfredo S. Caminero
Third District
Hon. Gwendolyn F. Garcia
Fourth District
Hon. Benhur L. Salimbangon
Fifth District
Hon. Joseph “Ace” H. Durano
Sixth District
Hon. Gabriel Luis R. Quisumbing

CEBU CITY

First District
Hon. Raul V. Del Mar
Second District
Hon. Rodrigo A. Abellanosa

LAPU-LAPU CITY

Lone District
Hon. Aileen C. Radaza

NEGROS ORIENTAL

First District
Hon. Manuel M. Iway
Second District
Hon. George P. Arnaiz
Third District
Hon. Pryde Henry A. Teves

SIQUIJOR

Lone District
Hon. Marie Anne S. Pernes

REGION VIII

BILIRAN

Lone District

Hon. Rogelio J. Espina, M.D.

EASTERN SAMAR

Lone District

Hon. Ben P. Evardone

LEYTE

First District

Hon. Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez

Second District

Hon. Sergio A.F. Apostol

Third District

Hon. Andres D. Salvacion Jr.

Fourth District

Hon. Lucy Torres-Gomez

Fifth District

Hon. Jose Carlos L. Cari

NORTHERN SAMAR

First District

Hon. Harlin C. Abayon

Second District

Hon. Emil L. Ong

SOUTHERN LEYTE

Lone District

Hon. Damian "Mian" G. Mercado

WESTERN SAMAR

First District

Hon. Mel Senen S. Sarmiento

Second District

Hon. Milagrosa T. Tan

REGION IX

ZAMBOANGA CITY

First District

Hon. Celso L. Lobregat

Second District

Hon. Lilia M. Nuño

ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE

First District

Hon. Seth Frederick P. Jalosjos

Second District

Hon. Rosendo S. Labadlabad

Third District

Hon. Isagani S. Amatong

ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR

First District

Hon. Victor J. Yu

Second District

Hon. Aurora Enerio-Cerilles

ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY

First District

Hon. Belma A. Cabilao

Second District

Hon. Ann K. Hofer

REGION X

BUKIDNON

First District

Hon. Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alba

Second District

Hon. Florencio T. Flores Jr., M.D.

Third District

Hon. Jose F. Zubiri III

Fourth District

Hon. Rogelio Neil Pepito Roque

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY

First District

Hon. Rolando "Klarex" A. Uy

Second District

Hon. Rufus B. Rodriguez

CAMIGUIN

Lone District

Hon. Xavier Jesus "XJ" D. Romualdo

ILIGAN CITY

Lone District

Hon. Vicente F. Belmonte Jr.

LANAO DEL NORTE

First District

Hon. Imelda Quibranza-Dimaporo

Second District

Hon. Abdullah D. Dimaporo

MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL

First District

Hon. Jorge T. Almonte

Second District

Hon. Henry S. Oaminal

MISAMIS ORIENTAL

First District

Hon. Peter "Sr. Pedro" M. Unabia

Second District

Hon. Juliette T. Uy

REGION XI

COMPOSTELA VALLEY

First District

Hon. Maria Carmen S. Zamora

Second District

Hon. Rommel C. Amatong

DAVAO CITY

First District

Hon. Karlo Alexei B. Nograles

Second District Hon. Mylene J. Garcia-Albano	DINAGAT ISLANDS Lone District Hon. Kaka J. Bag-ao
Third District Hon. Isidro T. Ungab	
DAVAO DEL NORTE First District Hon. Anthony G. Del Rosario	SURIGAO DEL NORTE First District Hon. Francisco “Lalo” T. Matugas
Second District Hon. Antonio F. Lagdameo Jr.	Second District Hon. Guillermo A. Romarate Jr.
DAVAO DEL SUR First District Hon. Mercedes C. Cagas	SURIGAO DEL SUR First District Hon. Philip A. Pichay
Second District Hon. Franklin P. Bautista	Second District Hon. Florencio C. Garay
DAVAO ORIENTAL First District Hon. Nelson L. Dayanghirang	AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO
Second District Hon. Thelma Z. Almario	BASILAN Lone District Hon. Jim Hataman-Salliman
REGION XII	LANAO DEL SUR First District Hon. Ansaruddin A.M. A. Adiong
NORTH COTABATO First District Hon. Jesus N. Sacdalan	Second District Hon. Pangalian M. Balindong
Second District Hon. Nancy A. Catamco	MAGUINDANAO First District Hon. Bai Sandra A. Sema
Third District Hon. Jose I. Tejada	Second District Hon. Zajid G. Mangudadatu
SARANGANI Lone District Hon. Emmanuel D. Pacquiao	SULU First District Hon. Tupay T. Loong
SOUTH COTABATO First District Hon. Pedro B. Acharon Jr.	Second District Hon. Maryam Napil Arbison
Second District Hon. Ferdinand Hernandez	TAWI-TAWI Lone District Hon. Ruby M. Sahali
SULTAN KUDARAT First District Hon. Raden C. Sakaluran	PARTY-LIST REPRESENTATIVES
Second District Hon. Arnulfo F. Go	1-BANAT AND AHAPO PARTY LIST COALITION (1-BAP) Hon. Silvestre H. Bello III
CARAGA REGION	FIRST CONSUMERS ALLIANCE FOR RURAL ENERGY, INC. (1-CARE) Hon. Edgardo R. Masongsong Hon. Michael Angelo C. Rivera
AGUSAN DEL NORTE First District Hon. Lawrence Lemuel H. Fortun	ABAKADA GURO Hon. Jonathan A. Dela Cruz
Second District Hon. Erlpe John “Ping” M. Amante	ABANTE MINDANAO OR ABAMIN Hon. Maximo B. Rodriquez, Jr.
AGUSAN DEL SUR First District Hon. Maria Valentina G. Plaza	ABONO Hon. Conrado M. Estrella III
Second District Hon. Evelyn P. Mellana	

Hon. Franciso Emmanuel R. Ortega III	ANG PARTIDO NG MGA PILIPINONG MARINO, INC. (ANGKLA)
ACT TEACHERS	Hon. Jesulito A. Manalo
Hon. Antonio L. Tinio	ANTI-CRIME AND TERRORISM-COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT AND SUPPORT, INC. (ACT-CIS)
ADVOCACY FOR TEACHERS EMPOWERMENT THROUGH ACTION, COOPERATION AND HARMONY TOWARD EDUCATIONAL REFORM (A TEACHER)	Hon. Samuel D. Pagdilao
Hon. Julita R. Cortuna	APPEND, INC.
Hon. Mariano U. Piamonte, Jr.	Hon. Pablo R. Nava III
AGBIAG TIMPOYOG ILOCANO INC.	ARTS BUSINESS AND SCIENCE PROFESSIONAL (ABS)
Hon. Patricio T. Antonio	Hon. Catalina Leonen-Pizarro
AGRI-AGRA NA REPORMA PARA SA MAGSASAKA NG PILIPINAS (AGRI)	BAYAN MUNA
Hon. Delph Gan Lee	Hon. Neri J. Colmenares
AGRICULTURAL SECTOR ALLIANCE OF THE PHILIPPINES (AGAP)	Hon. Carlos Isagani T. Zarate
Hon. Nicanor M. Briones	BUHAY HAYAAN YUMABONG (BUHAY)
Hon. Rico B. Geron	Hon. Jose L. Atienza, Jr.
AKBAYAN CITIZENS' ACTION PARTY	Hon. Irwin C. Tieng
Hon. Walden F. Bello	Hon. Mariano Michael M. Velarde Jr.
Hon. Ibarra "Barry" M. Gutierrez III	BUTIL FARMERS PARTY (BUTIL)
AKO BICOL (AKB)	Hon. Agapito H. Guanlao
Hon. Rodel M. Batocabe	CITIZENS BATTLE AGAINST CORRUPTION (CIBAC)
Hon. Christopher S. Co	Hon. Cinchona Cruz-Gonzales
ALAY BUHAY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION INC.	Hon. Sherwin N. Tugna
Hon. Weslie T. Gatchalian	COOPERATIVE NATCCO NETWORK PARTY (Coop-NATCCO)
ALLIANCE OF VOLUNTEER EDUCATORS (AVE)	Hon. Anthony M. Bravo
Hon. Eulogio "Amang" R. Magsaysay	Hon. Cresente C. Paez
AN WARAY	DEMOCRATIC INDEPENDENT WORKERS ASSOCIATION, INC. (DIWA)
Hon. Neil Benedict A. Montejo	Hon. Emmeline Y. Aglipay
ANAK MINDANAO (AMIN)	GABRIELA WOMEN'S PARTY
Hon. Sitti Djalila A. Turabin-Hataman	Hon. Emmi A. De Jesus
ANAKPAWIS	Hon. Luzviminda C. Ilagan
Hon. Fernando "Ka Pando" L. Hicap	KABATAAN PARTY-LIST
ANG ASOSASYON SANG MANGUNGUMA NGA BISAYA-OWA-MANGUNGUMA (AAMBIS-OWA)	Hon. Terry L. Ridon
Hon. Sharon S. Garin	KALINGA-ADVOCACY FOR SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT AND NATION BUILDING THROUGH EASING POVERTY, INC. (KALINGA)
ANG MATA'Y ALAGAAN (AMA)	Hon. Abigail Faye C. Ferriol
Hon. Lorna Q. Velasco	LPG MARKETERS ASSOCIATION (LPGMA)
ANG NARS, INC. (ANG NARS)	Hon. Arnel U. Ty
Hon. Leah S. Paquiz	MAGDALO PARA SA PILIPINO (MAGDALO)
ANG NATIONAL COALITION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ACTION NA, INC. (ANAC-IP)	Hon. Francisco Ashley L. Acedillo
Hon. Jesus T. Panganiban, Jr.	Hon. Gary C. Alejano
	OFW FAMILY CLUB, INC. (OFW)
	Hon. Juan Johnny R. Revilla
	Hon. Roy V. Señeres Sr.

SOCIAL AMELIORATION & GENUINE INTERVENTION
ON POVERTY (1-SAGIP)

Hon. Erlinda M. Santiago

YOU AGAINST CORRUPTION AND POVERTY
(YACAP)

Hon. Carol Jayne B. Lopez

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa). Mme. Presiding Officer, there are 271 Members who responded to the call.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). There being 271 Members who responded to the call, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

To ensure orderly proceedings, the Chair designates the Hon. Neptali M. Gonzales II of the Lone District of Mandaluyong as the Acting Floor Leader.

REP. GONZALES. Mme. Presiding Officer, in accordance with our constitutional duty to organize and to receive the President's State of the Nation Address this afternoon, I now move that we open the table for nominations for the position of Speaker of the House of Representatives.

I so move.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). There is a motion to open the table for nominations for the position of Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Is there any objection? (Silence) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The nominations for the position of the Speaker of the House of Representatives is now in order.

REP. GONZALES. Mme. Presiding Officer, I move that the Gentleman from the First District of Western Samar, the Hon. Mel Senen S. Sarmiento, be recognized to make his nomination.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). The distinguished Gentleman from the First District of Western Samar, the Hon. Mel Senen S. Sarmiento, is recognized.

NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. SARMIENTO (M.).

REP. SARMIENTO (M.). Honorable Presiding Officer, distinguished colleagues, I am honored to be chosen among my peers in this august Body to nominate a colleague for the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

This is a historic time for our country. Under the bold leadership of President Benigno S. Aquino III, our economy is surging, we are forging peace domestically and strengthening our defenses against external threats. The world has taken notice of a new, more vibrant and confident Philippines.

The Fifteenth Congress can claim significant credit in bringing this about. The country's economic performance since 2010 has been aggressive as evidenced by the numbers shown by major credit ratings in agencies.

The Fifteenth Congress was an active partner of the administration in achieving these milestones and in creating

the policy foundations that now spur the momentum for economic growth.

The Fifteenth Congress has passed historic legislations that have set this country on the "Daang Matuwid". The Sin Tax Reform Law and the Reproductive Health Act are two historic laws that have been enacted by the Fifteenth Congress. The Fifteenth Congress has passed many other game-changing legislations.

Last Congress, the House of Representatives was front and center in the historic fight to bring reform to our judiciary and our Ombudsman. This Chamber has delivered when called upon by the President and by the Filipino people to do so. But many challenges remain for this Sixteenth Congress. Still, too many of our countrymen have limited access to the opportunities that a good education and basic health care can provide. Still, too many live in fear of violence or crime. And still, too many have to leave their families behind to work abroad because the jobs that they are looking for do not exist here yet.

Late this year, we will be asked to deliberate and pass judgment on a proposed Organic Act that will once and for all silence the guns of Muslim separatism in our nation.

Honorable Presiding Officer and my dear colleagues, there is much to be done in the Sixteenth Congress. We need well-crafted and significant legislation to address these challenges facing our country. I have no doubt that the Sixteenth Congress can meet these challenges and contribute to our nation's progress, but to do so, we need determined and wise leadership.

We need a Speaker in the House of Representatives who is dynamic enough to face the exigencies of the time, to lead by example, and to sacrifice.

We need a Speaker who is not afraid to ask questions and to say no when necessary. We need a Speaker who is proven to be capable of uniting the varied interests and advocacies of the people, as represented by the numbers of this august Body to produce purposeful legislations essential for the welfare and aspirations of the ordinary Filipino.

We need a Speaker who is familiar with the workings of local governments since most social services have been devolved already. We need someone who knows what it feels to work in the grassroots and how to strengthen the front-liners of public service.

We need a wise and fair leadership that made the Fifteenth Congress so significant in order to propel this Sixteenth Congress to the same historic heights.

Thus, honorable Presiding Officer, my distinguished colleagues, it is my distinct honor and privilege to nominate Hon. Feliciano "Sonny" Belmonte of the Fourth District of Quezon City as Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Sixteenth Congress.

I so move.

REP. GONZALES. I move that the distinguished Gentleman from the First District of Tarlac, the Hon. Enrique M. Cojuangco, be recognized to second the nomination.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). The distinguished Gentleman from the First District of Tarlac, the Hon. Enrique M. Cojuangco, is recognized.

NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. COJUANGCO (E.)

REP. COJUANGCO (E.). He is a friend, a respected colleague, an experienced and battle-tested leader, and most of all, a unifying force in the House usually divided by opinions.

Mme. Presiding Officer, and Members of this esteemed and respected institution, it is with optimism and faith on the great work we can accomplish together for our beloved country that I second the nomination of Hon. Feliciano “Sonny” Belmonte as Speaker of the House of Representatives of the 16th Congress.

REP. GONZALES. I move that the Gentleman from the First District of Camarines Sur, the Hon. Rolando G. Andaya, Jr. be recognized to second the nomination.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Baruja-Yap). The distinguished Gentleman from the First District of Camarines Sur, the Hon. Rolando G. Andaya Jr., is recognized.

NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. ANDAYA (R.)

REP. ANDAYA. Mme. Presiding Officer, dear colleagues, ladies and gentlemen.

In nominating the Gentleman from Quezon City, I would rather not dwell on his curriculum vitae.

It is already of public knowledge that he is a turnaround specialist with a knack for rehabilitating firms in dire straits, whether a city government or a heritage hotel, the national airline or the pension fund.

As how he was able to do it, I would not repeat the urban legend about his management style, as rumors that the “S” in “SB” stands for stingy, or strict, or stern are still unconfirmed.

I would rather highlight his recent feat as the architect of the successful makeover of the House, not in appearance but in performance. Performance is better appreciated if presented not with frills but with facts. His scorecard shows that during his watch, 1,033 bills were passed and 447 laws enacted. This means that on the average, one approved bill rolled out of this Hall every 24 hours and one signed law left the President’s desk every 48 hours. And many of those were not run-of-the-mill types, but brave, like the RH Law; bold, like the one on sin taxes; and beneficial, like the K to 12 Law.

Yes, not all of us agree with those measures, but we agree on one thing: it takes a leader with guts and grit to push for bills, as well as a fair leader to encourage a free and full debate on those.

My friends, we are all casual employees here, with a probationary term of 1,000 days, subject to renewal by our employers. Some of us may be rehired, some of us might be fired. But it is up to our employers to make that decision. But it is up to us to choose a leader who will bring the best in us in the next 1,000 days and thereby boost our chances of being rehired instead of being retired.

That man is Feliciano Belmonte.

So, let me close my nomination with the profoundest and the most philosophical phrase I can think of—“SB, ikaw na!”

I second the nomination. (*Applause*)

REP. GONZALES. I move that the Lady from the Party-List AAMBIS-OWA, the Hon. Sharon S. Garin, be recognized to second the nomination.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). The distinguished Lady from the Party-List AAMBIS-OWA, the Hon. Sharon S. Garin, is recognized.

NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. GARIN (S.)

REP. GARIN (S.). Thank you.

Mme. Presiding Officer, distinguished colleagues, maayong aga sa inyong nga tanan.

I rise this morning as Representative of AAMBIS-OWA Party-List to second the nomination of the Hon. Feliciano Belmonte Jr. as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

During the Fifteenth Congress, Honorable Belmonte, as Speaker of the House, was symbolically and fundamentally the leader of the then 281 Members of Congress. I second the nomination because, notwithstanding differences in advocacies among Members, the leader of the House had the fortitude to steer Congress to pass landmark laws, as mentioned before, restructuring the excise tax on tobacco and alcohol; reparation and recognition of the victims of human rights violations; and many other measures passed during the Fifteenth Congress.

Notwithstanding moral, personal and political forces, the leader of the House had the political will to conclude a 14-year old debate, which four previous Congresses have failed to attain, namely, the national policy on Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Bill.

Notwithstanding amplified influence and astuteness of public opinion, the leader of the House had the executive aptitude to mandate elevated quantity of presence and quality of participation from the Members of Congress, stemming from which is the highest public trust rating for three consecutive years any other Philippine Congress has ever received in recent history.

Finally, notwithstanding the enticements of power and prominence, the leader of the House stayed true to his creed and the creed of our present President as Speaker and as a true Filipino by leading his flock of Congressmen towards the righteous path or the “matuwid na daan.”

Indeed, the Gentleman from the Fourth District of Quezon City brings the concept of leadership to a distinctive level. He is a leader that brings cohesiveness amidst conflict that finds optimal combination and use of the diverse faculties among the Members of Congress and he is also a conduit of the righteous standards set by our bosses, the Filipino people.

Hence, I am seconding the nomination of the Honorable Belmonte because I wish for the continuation of the performance of this august Body as it did in the Fifteenth Congress. Rather, we do not need a change of leadership today. We need to resume, improve and expand the same path instigated by the leader of the Fifteenth Congress. Therefore, Mme. Presiding Officer, in this Sixteenth Congress, I take pride in seconding the nomination of the Gentleman from the Fourth District of Quezon City, the Hon. Feliciano Belmonte Jr., as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Madamo guid nga salamat sa inyo nga tanan. (*Applause*)

REP. GONZALES. I move that the Lady from the Second District of Makati City, the Hon. Mar-Len Abigail S. Binay, be recognized to second the nomination.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). The distinguished Lady from the Second District of Makati City, the Hon. Mar-Len Abigail S. Binay, is recognized.

NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. BINAY

REP. BINAY. Mme. Presiding Officer, Ladies and Gentleman of this august Chamber, distinguished guests, I am privileged to stand before you today to second the nomination of the distinguished Gentleman from the Fourth District of Quezon City, the Hon. Feliciano Belmonte Jr., to the speakership.

A leader elected by his peers is truly a high accolade in any institution. Yes, the role of the Speaker is enlaced with great honor, but at the same time, it is laden with great responsibility. And so, today, as we enter the First Regular Session of the Sixteenth Congress, we must focus on selecting the best person to lead this Body.

The first among equals, Hon. Sonny Belmonte is someone who possesses the leadership, character and drive that have elected him as Speaker during the Twelfth and Fifteenth Congresses. Despite the diverse political inclinations and professional background of the House Members, Honorable Sonny Belmonte was successful in balancing the rudder towards the passage of vital reform legislations while maintaining a harmonious and united Fifteenth Congress.

Meeting head-on the diverse challenges that our country faces will never be easy. Such difficult tasks require a tried and tested leader, someone who can bring out the best of every Member in this Chamber and who shall be firmly undaunted by the complex issues that are expected to come our way.

Fellow Members of the Sixteenth Congress, it is for these reasons that I am honored to second the nomination of our esteemed colleague, the Hon. Feliciano Belmonte Jr., as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Thank you and may God continue to guide our decisions and our service to the people.

REP. GONZALES. I move that the Gentleman from the First District of Palawan, the Hon. Franz E. Alvarez, be recognized to second the nomination.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). The distinguished Gentleman from the First District of Palawan, the Honorable Franz E. Alvarez, is recognized.

NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. ALVAREZ (F.)

REP. ALVAREZ (F.). My dear colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen, the National Unity Party or NUP is proud to nominate the Gentleman from Quezon City as Speaker of the House of Representatives. But there are other two NUPs that are throwing their support for him: one is what I call the Nagkakaisang Unyon ng Palawan as the province's delegation to this Chamber is voting for him; and the other NUP refers to most of the freshmen class of 2013, which a friend wittingly dubbed as "Ngayon lang Umupo sa Parlamento."

It is from the perspective of a novice that I would like to expound on my reasons for nominating him. As you have read in the papers, neophytes took a course on the 3Rs of legislation—on how to read laws, write bills, and how to master the arithmetic of budgeting. Although the seminars were in a classroom setting, no post-lecture tests were given to measure if we have indeed absorbed what were taught us. But if there is one question which might be used in gauging if we have learned our lessons, then I think it will be about the first vote we will cast here or who will you vote for as Speaker?

All the names nominated today are right answers. But there is only one best answer, and that is Sonny Belmonte. By electing him as our leader, we will be doing ourselves the favor of toiling in a respected, responsive and responsible House. With him at the helm, we are guaranteed a respected House. There are leaders who subtract from the prestige of the institutions they run. Belmonte comes with a built-in stature that adds to the reputation of any organization he leads. With him as our manager, we are assured of working in a responsive institution, one that multi-tasks in passing laws, appropriating funds, conducting oversight functions, extending constituency services or those small chores that make up the fine print of our contract with the people.

Lastly, we need a responsible Congress, and with the reforms he had pushed for and will push for within the House and outside of it, this will remain an office conscious of its duties and aware of the limits of its privileges. Kaya nga po nang tinanong ako ng dating Congressman ng aking distrito kung mayroon ba naman akong natutunan sa mga seminar na dinaluhan ko, ang sagot ko po sa kanya ay siya ring sagot ko kung bakit si Belmonte ang Speaker ko, "The point of learning the 3Rs of legislation is to work in a 3R legislature; and under SB, I will be working in a respected, responsive and responsible House.

Maraming salamat po.

REP. GONZALES. I move that the Gentleman from the First District of Ilocos Norte, the Hon. Rodolfo C. Fariñas, be recognized to second the nomination.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). The distinguished Gentleman from the First District of Ilocos Norte, the Hon. Rodolfo C. Fariñas, is recognized.

NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. FARIÑAS

REP. FARIÑAS. Mme. Speaker, I rise to second the nomination of the Hon. Feliciano "Sonny" R. Belmonte Jr. as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Under the leadership of Sonny Belmonte, the Fifteenth Congress was the only Congress that was able to enact for three consecutive years the General Appropriations Act before the start of the Fiscal Year of its effectivity.

Under the leadership of Sonny Belmonte, this House gave teeth to the constitutional mandate of public accountability of public officers, with no less than two of the most powerful officials of the government made to account to the people: first, through the impeachment of Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez who resigned from office before the start of

her trial in the Senate; and second, by the impeachment, prosecution and conviction of Chief Justice Renato Corona of the Supreme Court.

It is obviously for this reason that during the Fifteenth Congress, both the House of Representatives and Speaker Belmonte consistently garnered the highest public satisfaction and trust ratings in independent surveys conducted by the Social Weather Stations (SWS) and the Pulse Asia, Incorporated.

The year 2012 has been claimed to be one of the best years for the Philippine economy with the gross domestic product (GDP) surpassing the government's target of five to six percent and the stock market ending the year on its 38th record high.

The Sixteenth Congress shall coincide with the final half of the six-year term of President Benigno Aquino III. We will need an effective, strong and steady leadership in the House of Representatives to sustain the progress of our country, in critical collaboration with the Executive Department.

Sonny Belmonte has the personality, the skills, the knowledge and the resolve to lead us. Sonny Belmonte is the kind of leader who sees every Member of this House as his teammate. He never dictates, as he understands the importance of listening both to his colleagues and to public opinion.

Many words can describe Sonny Belmonte—honorable, fair, trustworthy, friendly—but I can put it in one word and definitely not the word I used in the impeachment summation. The single word that best describes Sonny Belmonte is “respectful.”

Sonny Belmonte knows that respect is a two-way street, which is why he leads all of us with respect. He respects his colleagues, he respects his subordinates, he respects our political differences, he respects the other branches of government and, most importantly, he respects the integrity of the House of Representatives as an institution.

I am confident, as well as all the other members of the majority coalition—in fact, even those who will not vote for him today certainly feel the same—that Sonny Belmonte is the right man to be *primus inter pares* or the first among equals in this Chamber.

On behalf of the Nacionalista Party, I second the nomination of Sonny Belmonte as Speaker of the House of Representatives in the Sixteenth Congress. (Applause)

REP. GONZALES. I move that the Gentleman from the Second District of Taguig City, the Hon. Lino S. Cayetano, be recognized to make his nomination.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). The distinguished Gentleman from the Second District of Taguig City, the Hon. Lino S. Cayetano, is recognized.

NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. CAYETANO

REP. CAYETANO. Salamat. Magandang umaga po sa inyong lahat.

Mme. Presiding Officer, my distinguished colleagues in the House of Representatives, on behalf of the incoming batch of new legislators, I want to thank the leadership of the Fifteenth Congress, led by our beloved Speaker Sonny Belmonte, our Majority Leader, the Hon. Boyet Gonzales,

together with the returning neos of the Fifteenth Congress, the distinguished third-termers and the returning legends. We look forward to working with you, to learning from you and to serving our country together. Please be kind to us, freshmen.

The President of the Republic of the Philippines, Benigno Aquino III, has accomplished much in three short years, and the Fifteenth Congress has been an instrumental partner in this country's success. Together as a nation, we have cut corruption, we have rolled out projects that target the poorest of the poor. We have gained and renewed investors' confidence. Most importantly, we have brought back honor to service in public office. Indeed, much has been done the last three years. But as the Speaker said this morning, we can do more. We can all always do more. I know the President is focused on doing this, but he needs our help, all of us here. All of us, including my dear freshmen batch, have important roles to play. I believe in my heart, Ladies and Gentlemen, that the best is yet to come.

The next three years will be special, no doubt. In the Sixteenth Congress, we have the unique opportunity of influencing and shaping policy, and steering the country towards the right direction for years to come. Through legislation and oversight, we are going to be planting the foundation for the kind of government we want passed the next three years. This Congress will be as influential and as powerful as we want it to be.

The leadership of the Sixteenth Congress is crucial for it shall determine the kind of Majority that we have, the Minority it will work with, the roles they will all play and the parts we have in it. The Fifteenth Congress was fortunate to be led by such honorable men.

In the Sixteenth Congress, I have the great pleasure of nominating an equally magnanimous leader, one who is steadfast in his commitment to be of service to our country and to the Filipino people, the Hon. Ronaldo B. Zamora, Representative of the Lone District of San Juan City. He has served six terms in this House, was Executive Secretary to two Philippine Presidents, a bar topnotcher, a Minority Leader, a nominee for Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, a mentor to many young public servants. These are just the highlights honorably noteworthy. But what I admire most about this man is his vision for the kind of House of Representatives he wants the Sixteenth Congress to be—a genuine House of the People, reflective of the varied voices needed to be heard in this country; a House that adheres to the democratic principles of a consensus-building Majority and a responsible Minority; and a House whose leader is one who respects and values dissent, who provides a venue for constructive and responsible critique where intense debates on policies are allowed without causing rancor among colleagues and partners in nation building.

Like all of us, Ronnie Zamora envisions a House of Representatives which is responsive to the needs and aspirations of the people it serves. With able and steadfast leadership from both sides of the aisle, I can see ahead a historic Sixteenth Congress where landmark legislation is passed and commitment to genuine representation of the people is indispensable. Indeed, with the vision, dedication and able leadership of the Gentleman from the Lone District of San Juan City and the support of my honorable colleagues, the best is yet to come. In the name of the people we represent,

let our voices be heard, let us fight for what we believe in and let us remain passionate about serving this country.

In pursuit of these ideals, I take great pride in nominating for Speaker of the House of Representatives, a man of courage, intelligence, wit and passionate love for this country; a man whose credentials in the service of others are embedded and engrained in the annals of this institution.

Mme. Presiding Officer, Ladies and Gentlemen, I hereby nominate for Speaker of the House of Representatives, the honorable Gentleman from the Lone District of San Juan City, Rep. Ronaldo B. Zamora.

Salamat po.

REP. GONZALES. Mme. Presiding Officer, I move that the Gentleman from the Party-List Kabataan, the Hon. James Mark Terry L. Ridon, be recognized to second the nomination.

REP. DELA CRUZ. Mme. Presiding Officer, with the Chair's permission and with the permission of the Majority Leader, may I be clarified on the voting. We want to know...

REP. GONZALES. Mme. Presiding Officer, we are still in the process of nomination. I will gladly answer any query on the process of voting at the proper time.

REP. DELA CRUZ. No, we just want to know, Mme. Presiding Officer.

REP. GONZALES. In the meantime, can we go on with the nomination. We are still in the process of nomination, so I now move that we recognize the Gentleman from Kabataan Party-List, the Hon. Terry L. Ridon, to second the nomination.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). The distinguished Gentleman from the Partly-List Kabataan, the Hon. Terry L. Ridon, is recognized.

NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. RIDON

REP. RIDON. My distinguished colleagues, elected Representatives of the people, in the past three years, you have seen how the Aquino administration has failed miserably in bringing meaningful change. Despite the touted inclusive growth, the socio-economic divide has never been starker, as the rich get richer while the poor have become poorer than ever.

The vast majority of Filipinos suffer from intensified poverty, social injustice, human rights violation, and foreign oppression. The people's demand for change are written on the wall—genuine, not fake land reform; secure jobs, not labor contractualization; homes near workplaces, not demolitions; a stop to foreign and destructive mining and not its continuation; justice not war; national sovereignty not subservience to the United States, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank and foreign impositions. This, Ladies and Gentlemen, is the state of our people.

More importantly, the President has bluntly ignored the people's sufferings and demand for change. It is thus most imperative that we have a new leadership in the House

of Representatives, a leadership that is independent of the Palace; a leadership that will truly listen to the plight of the people and will oppose anti-Filipino, anti-poor policies of the administration. Thus, we second the nomination of San Juan, Lone District Representative, Ronnie Zamora, as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Makabayan finds common grounds with Congressman Zamora especially in opposing the dole-out Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) Program, the onslaught of privatization in public hospitals, the violent demolitions of informal settlers, and the impoverization of the working people.

Representative Zamora has also expressed support in pressing for national industrialization, modernization of agriculture, better wages and working conditions for the people, the release of political prisoners and the resumption of peace talks between the Philippine government and the National Democratic Front (NDF).

As early as the Fourteenth Congress, Makabayan has already experienced working with Congressman Zamora. We have been together in the many battles to impeach and hold accountable the illegitimate regime of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

With Congressman Zamora as Speaker of the House of Representatives, it is our belief that we will win historic victories together.

Maraming salamat po.

REP. GONZALES. I move that the Gentleman from the First District of Surigao del Sur, the Hon. Philip A. Pichay, be recognized to make his nomination.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). The distinguished Gentleman from the First District of Surigao del Sur, the Hon. Philip A. Pichay, is recognized.

NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. PICHAY

REP. PICHAY. Thank you, Mme. Presiding Officer.

Mme. Presiding Officer, may I respectfully and proudly nominate for the position of House Speaker, the man whom I believe will lead the House of Representatives for the Sixteenth Congress to the greatest heights. As the elected Representative of the First District of Surigao del Sur, it is my obligation to ensure that the voice of my people will be heard in this Chamber. I suppose that every Member of this honorable Body is duty-bound to make sure that the aspirations of his or her people resonate in this august Body. I truly believe that my nominee will work doubly hard to make it happen.

He ran unopposed in the recent 2013 midterm elections and made history by becoming the very first Congressman of the First District of the province of Leyte to be elected to a third term.

My colleagues, ladies and gentlemen, it is my distinct honor and privilege to nominate my party mate, the national president of the Lakas CMD Party, Rep. Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Thank you.

REP. GONZALES. I move that the Lady from the Second District of Cavite, the Hon. Lani Mercado-Revilla, be recognized to second the nomination.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). The distinguished Lady from the Second District of Cavite, the Hon. Lani Mercado-Revilla, is recognized.

NOMINATION SPEECH OF
REP. MERCADO-REVILLA

REP. MERCADO-REVILLA. Mme. Presiding Officer, my dear colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is my distinct honor and privilege to nominate my party mate, the national President of the LAKAS Party, Rep. Ferdinand Martin Romualdez, as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Mme. Presiding Officer, my dear colleagues, ang Representanteng ito, kasama po ng mga kababayan ko sa Ikalawang Distrito ng lalawigan ng Cavite, ay buong pusong ipinagmamalaki at sinisegundahan ang nominasyon ng isang kagalang-galang na kaibigan, Kagalang-galang Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez ng Unang Distrito ng Leyte para sa posisyon ng House Speaker ng Ikalabing-anim na Kongreso ng Republika ng Pilipinas.

REP. GONZALES. I move that the Lady from the First District of Lanao del Norte, the Hon. Imelda Quibranza-Dimaporo be recognized to second the nomination.

REP. DIMAPORO (I.). Mme. Speaker.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). The distinguished Lady from the First District of Lanao del Norte, the Hon. Imelda Quibranza-Dimaporo, is recognized.

NOMINATION SPEECH OF
REP. QUIBRANZA-DIMAPORO

REP. QUIBRANZA-DIMAPORO. Mme. Presiding Officer, my dear colleagues, on behalf of the people of the First District of the province of Lanao del Norte, I second the nomination of the Hon. Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez of the First District of Leyte, for the position of the House Speaker of the Sixteenth Congress. Having personally known Representative Romualdez for quite a long time, I am convinced that he will support the worthy legislative agenda and the development thrusts of the administration while being constructive to the proposed legislations, policies, plans and programs, projects and directives initiated by the administration for the prosperity of the people and the development of the nation.

REP. GONZALES. I move that the Gentleman from Party-List Abakada, the Hon. Jonathan A. De La Cruz, be recognized to second the nomination.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). The distinguished Gentleman from the Party-List Abakada, the Hon. Jonathan A. De La Cruz, is recognized.

NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. DELA CRUZ

REP. DELA CRUZ. Maraming-maraming salamat po, Mme. Presiding Officer, mga kaibigan at kasama rito sa Sixteenth Congress. Isang mapagpalang araw po sa ating lahat. Bago ang lahat, nais ko pong batiin muna ang liderato ng

Fifteenth Congress, kay Speaker Feliciano “Sonny” Belmonte, kay Majority Leader, Neptali “Boyot” Gonzales at mga kasama sa Fifteenth Congress sa kanilang napagpunyagian at nagawarito sa tatlong taon na pinasukan nila rito sa Fifteenth Congress. Napakaganda po ang naging resulta ng kanilang liderato at pagpupunyagi rito sa Fifteenth Congress, at sana rito po sa Sixteenth Congress ay magpatuloy ito.

Ako po ay nalulungkot, sa totoo lamang, sapagkat ang mga naglalaman po sa pagka-Speaker ng ating Sixteenth Congress ay mga kaibigan ko. Si Speaker Belmonte, tingin ko po at matagal ko na talagang iniidolo, nais ko po sanang sumama sa kanya at sa mga kaibigan na boboto para sa kanya. Sa katunayan, nakausap ko po siya at sinabi ko sa kanya, dalawang beses akong pumirma sa kanya para rito sa Sixteenth Congress, dangan lamang at may mga nangyari na kailangan nating pagsikapan at ayusin.

Si Kagalang-galang Ronnie Zamora, kasama ko po na nagsilbi sa administrasyong Marcos. Siya po ang pinakabatang Executive Secretary ng administrasyon na iyan, bar topnotcher, napakagaling na abugado, valedictorian ng kanilang klase. Nais ko rin po sanang siya ay maging Speaker of the House.

Sa katunayan, ang kanyang ekspiriyensa kung pagsasama-samahin po natin ay lilibot sa lahat ng miyembro ng Sixteenth Congress kasi nakasama na po niya ang mga masasabi natin na mga pinakamagagaling at pinakabeteranong Miyembro ng Kongreso.

It is really with a heavy heart, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Sixteenth Congress, that I have to take this particular privilege to second the nomination of the Gentleman from the First District of Leyte, the Hon. Ferdinand Martin Romualdez. I have wanted, I have wanted very much for him, the Speaker, and Congressman Zamora to just sit around, talk among themselves and find out how this can be worked out together. But this is the demand of the situation, Ladies and Gentlemen; therefore, I have the privilege and honor to second the nomination of the distinguished Gentleman from the First District of Leyte, the Hon. Ferdinand Martin Romualdez, a lawyer by profession, though youthful in looks. I am sure he has the experience and the temperament to be the leader of this House. I hope he will be given the chance, if not now, probably, in the future.

Maraming, maraming salamat po sa inyong lahat.

REP. GONZALES. There being no other nominations for the position of Speaker of the House of Representatives, I move that the table for nominations be closed.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). There is a motion to close the table for nominations for Speaker of the House.

Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is carried.

REP. GONZALES. Mme. Presiding Officer, I move that we now proceed to the election of the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). There is a motion to proceed to the election of the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the election of the Speaker is now in order.

The Deputy Secretary...

REP. DELA CRUZ. Mme. Presiding Officer, may I return to my previous question. I hope the Majority Leader will give a clarification. I just want to find out, Mme. Presiding Officer, if it is the rule, as what was advised earlier by the Majority Leader, that the one who gets the second highest vote automatically becomes the Minority Leader. Is that correct?

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). May we request the Majority Leader to please respond.

REP. GONZALES. That is correct, Mme. Presiding Officer.

REP. DELA CRUZ. Thank you very much, Mme. Presiding Officer, Majority Leader.

REP. GONZALES. In voting, Mme. Presiding Officer, may we just request the Members of the House voting to either approach any of the podiums near them to express their votes, or they can stand and with a loud voice so that the Secretariat can hear for whom they are voting.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). The Deputy Secretary General will now call the roll of Members. May we request every Member upon being called, to state the name of the candidate he or she is voting for as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Acting Floor Leader, please.

REP. GONZALES. May we likewise remind the Members that there will be no explanation of votes, Mme. Presiding Officer.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). Noted.

May we now proceed.

ROLL CALL

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa), *reading*: Roll call of Members voting for the position of Speaker.

Honorable Congressmen and Congresswomen:

Abad

Abaya

Abayon

REP. ABAYON. I vote for Feliciano “Sonny” Belmonte, Mme. Presiding Officer.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa), *reading*: Abellanos

REP. ABELLANOSA. I vote for the Speaker of the House, Feliciano Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa), *reading*:
Abu
Abueg
Acedillo

REP. ACEDILLO. I vote for Representative Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa), *reading*:
Acharon

REP. ACHARON. I am voting for Representative Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa), *reading*:
Acop
Acosta-Alba

REP. ACOSTA-ALBA. I vote for Cong. Feliciano Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa), *reading*:
Adiong

REP. ADIONG. I vote for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa), *reading*:
Advincula
Agarao
Aggabao

REP. AGGABAO. I vote for Speaker Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa), *reading*:
Aglipay

REP. AGLIPAY. I vote for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa), *reading*:
Agyao
Albano

REP. ALBANO. Zamora.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa), *reading*:
Alcala
Alejano

REP. ALEJANO. I am voting for Rep. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa), *reading*:
Aliping
Almario
Almonte

REP. ALMONTE. For the First District of Misamis Occidental, I vote in favor of Hon. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Alvarez, Franz
 Alvarez, Mercedes

REP. ALVAREZ (M.). The Sixth District of Negros Occidental votes for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Amante

REP. AMANTE. I vote for Cong. Feliciano Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Amatong, Isagani

REP. AMATONG (I.). I vote for Hon. Feliciano “Sonny” Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Amatong, Rommel

REP. AMATONG (R.). I vote for Rep. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Andaya
 Angara-Castillo

REP. ANGARA-CASTILLO. I am happy to repeat my vote, I am voting for Cong. Ronaldo Zamora.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Angping
 Antonino-Nadres
 Antonio
 Apostol

REP. APOSTOL. I vote for Belmonte. *(Laughter)*

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Aragon

REP. ARAGONES. I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Arbison
 Arenas

REP. ARENAS. I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Arnaiz

REP. ARNAIZ. I vote for Cong. Feliciano Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Arroyo

REP. ARROYO. Mme. Presiding Officer, the Second District of Camarines Sur fully supports the leadership of Cong. Ferdinand Martin Romualdez.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Asilo
 Atienza

REP. ATIENZA. Martin Romualdez.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Aumentado

REP. AUMENTADO. I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Bag-ao

REP. BAG-AO. The Lone District the province of Dinagat Islands votes for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Bagatsing
 Baguilat
 Balindong

REP. BALINDONG. I vote for SB, Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Banal
 Barcelona-Reyes
 Barzaga

REP. BARZAGA. I vote for Speaker Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Bataoil

REP. BATAOIL. I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Batocabe

REP. BATOCABE. On behalf of Ako Bicol, I vote for Feliciano “Sonny SB” Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Bautista
 Bello, Silvestre III

REP. BELLO. I vote for Congressman Zamora.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Bello, Walden

REP. BELLO (W.). Akbayan votes for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Belmonte, Feliciano

REP. BELMONTE (F.). Abstain.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Belmonte, Jose Christopher
Belmonte, Vicente Jr.
Benitez
Bernos

REP. BERNOS. The Lone District of Abra is for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Biazon
Bichara

REP. BICHARA. Cong. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Binay
Biron
Bondoc

REP. BONDOC. Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Bonoan

REP. BONOAN. As Representative of the Fourth District of Manila, I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Bravo, Anthony

REP. BRAVO (A.). On behalf of Coop-NATCCO Party-List, I vote for Hon. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Bravo, Maria Vida

REP. BRAVO (M.). Cong. Martin Romualdez.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Briones

REP. BRIONES. On behalf of AGAP and as president of the party-list coalition, I vote for Cong. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Bulut-Begtang
Cabilao
Cagas
Calalay

REP. CALALAY. Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Calixto-Rubiano

REP. CALIXTO-RUBIANO. The Lone District of Pasay City votes for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Caminero
Cari

REP. CARI. Cong. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Castelo

REP. CASTELO. The people of District II, Quezon City would cast its vote to its favorite son, Speaker Sonny "SB" Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Castro

REP. CASTRO. The Second District of Capiz votes for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Catamco

REP. CATAMCO. The Second District of North Cotabato votes for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Cayetano

REP. CAYETANO. Representative Zamora.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Celeste
Cerafica

REP. CERAIFICA. I am voting for Cong. Sonny Belmonte to be the Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Chipeco

REP. CHIPECO. The Second District of the province of Laguna votes for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Co

REP. CO. I vote for “ikaw na nga,” Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Cojuangco, Enrique

REP. COJUANGCO (E.). First District of Tarlac votes for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL, *reading:*
Cojuangco, Kimi

REP. COJUANGCO (K.) On behalf of the Fifth District of Pangasinan, I vote for Cong. Feliciano Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Collantes, Sonny

REP. COLLANTES. For the people of the Third District of Batangas, I vote for the Hon. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Colmenares

REP. COLMENARES. Bayan Muna votes for Ronaldo “Bayan” Zamora.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Cortuna

REP. CORTUNA. On behalf of A TEACHER Party-List, I vote for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Cosalan

REP. COSALAN. Cong. Sonny Belmonte for Speaker of the House of Representatives.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Cruz-Gonzales

REP. CRUZ-GONZALES. On behalf of CIBAC Party-List, I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Cua

REP. CUA. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Cueva

REP. CUEVA. Congressman Romualdez.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Dalog

REP. DALOG. The Lone District of Mountain Province votes for Rep. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Dayanghirang.
De Jesus

REP. DE JESUS. Gabriela Women’s Party votes for Cong. Ronnie Zamora.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
De Venecia

REP. DE VENECIA. The Representative of the Fourth District of Pangasinan votes for Feliciano Belmonte as Speaker of the House of Representatives for the Sixteenth Congress.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Defensor
Del Mar

REP. DEL MAR. I vote for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Del Rosario, Anthony

REP. DEL ROSARIO (A.G.). I vote for Rep. Sonny Belmonte as Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Del Rosario, Antonio

REP. DEL ROSARIO (A.A.). I vote for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Dela Cruz

REP. DELA CRUZ. Romualdez.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Deloso-Montalla

REP. DELOSO-MONTALLA. This Representation from the Second District of Zambales votes for Cong. Feliciano “Sonny” Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Dimaporo, Abdullah

REP. DIMAPORO (A.). Hon. Ferdinand Martin Romualdez, Mme. Presiding Officer.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Dimaporo, Imelda

REP. DIMAPORO (I.). The Representative of the First District of Lanao del Norte votes for Rep. Ferdinand Martin Romualdez.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Duavit
Durano
Dy
Echiverri

REP. ECHIVERRI. I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Enerio-Cerilles

REP. ENERIO-CERILLES. I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Enverga

REP. ENVERGA. Mme. Presiding Officer, the First District of Quezon votes for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Erice

REP. ERICE. As a member of the Liberal Party, I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Eriguel

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Ermita-Buhain

REP. ERMITA-BUHAIN. The people of the First District of Batangas votes for Hon. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Escudero
Espina

REP. ESPINA. This Representative from the province of Biliran votes for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Estrella

REP. ESTRELLA. On behalf of the Abono Party-List, I vote for SB, Speaker Sonny Belmonte.
Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Evardone

REP. EVARDONE. Mme. Presiding Officer, the people of Eastern Samar vote for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Fariñas
Fernandez
Ferrer, Jeffrey

REP. FERRER (J.). Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Ferrer, Luis “Jon-Jon”
Ferriol

REP. FERRIOL. On behalf of Kalinga Party-List, I vote for Cong. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Flores

REP. FLORES. This Representation votes for Cong. Ronaldo B. Zamora.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Fortun

REP. FORTUN. I vote for Hon. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Fortuno

REP. FORTUNO. On behalf of my constituents in the Fifth District of Camarines del Sur, I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Fuentebella
Garay
Garcia, Enrique
Garcia, Gwendolyn

REP. GARCIA (G.). Mme. Presiding Officer, for and on behalf of the Third District of Cebu, I vote for Rep. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Garcia-Albano

REP. GARCIA-ALBANO. For the Second District of Davao City, I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Garin, Oscar Richard

REP. GARIN (O.). For the First District Iloilo, Cong. Feliciano Belmonte Jr.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Garin, Sharon

REP. GARIN (S.). For AAMBIS-OWA Party-List, I vote for Congressman Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Gatchalian, Sherwin

REP. GATCHALIAN. I vote for Cong. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Gatchalian, Weslie

REP. GATCHALIAN. On behalf of Alay-Buhay Party-List, I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Geron

REP. GERON. Bilang Ikalawang Kinatawan ng AGAP Party-List, at ito ang unang pagkakataon ng aking pagpapasya, ibinoboto ko si Cong. Sonny Belmonte bilang Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Go, Ana Cristina

REP. GO (A.C.). Representative Zamora.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Go, Arnulfo

REP. GO (A.F.). From the Second District of Sultan Kudarat, I vote for the Speaker, the Hon. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Gonzales, Neptali

REP. GONZALES. Belmonte

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Gonzalez, Fernando
Gorriceta

REP. GORRICETA. For the Second District of Iloilo, Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Guanlao

REP. GUANLAO. Butil Farmers Party-List votes for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Guiao

REP. GUIAO. The First District of Pampanga is for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Gullas

REP. GULLAS. The First District of Cebu votes for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Gunigundo

REP. GUNIGUNDO. Mme. Presiding Officer, the Gentleman from the Second District of Valenzuela votes for Rep. Feliciano Racimo Belmonte Jr.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Gutierrez

REP. GUTIERREZ. For and on behalf of Akbayan Citizen Action Party-List and as a resident of the Fourth District of Quezon City, I vote for our district Representative, the Hon. Feliciano R. Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Hagedorn

REP. HAGEDORN. This Representation representing the Third District of Palawan, comprising the city of Puerto Princesa and the municipality of Aborlan, fully supports the Hon. Feliciano Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Haresco

REP. HARESCO. On behalf of Aklan, Feliciano Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Hataman-Salliman

REP. HATAMAN-SALLIMAN. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Hernandez

REP. HERNANDEZ. For the Second District of South Cotabato, I vote for Hon. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Hicap

REP. HICAP. Ang Anakpawis Party-List po ay bumoboto kay Cong. Ronny Zamora.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Hofer

REP. HOFER. On behalf of the Second District of Zamboanga Sibugay, I vote for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Ilagan

REP. ILAGAN. Gabriela Women's Party-List, member of the Makabayan Bloc, votes for Cong. Ronaldo Zamora.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Iway
 Jalosjos

REP. JALOSJOS. The First District of Zamboanga del Norte votes for Ronny Zamora.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Javier

REP. JAVIER. On behalf of the province of Antique, I vote for Speaker Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Kho, Elisa
 Khonghun

REP. KHONGHUN. First District of Zambales, votes for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Labadlabad

REP. LABADLABAD. The Second District of the province of Zamboanga del Norte votes Sonny Belmonte for Speakership.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Lacson-Noel

REP. LACSON-NOEL. The Lone District of Malabon City votes for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Lagdameo, Antonio Jr.
 Lagdameo, Monique Yazmin
 Lagman

REP. LAGMAN. Hon. Feliciano Belmonte Jr.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Lanete

REP. LANETE. The Third District of Masbate votes for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Leachon

REP. LEACHON. The First District of Oriental Mindoro is for SB, Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Ledesma
 Lee

REP. LEE. On behalf of Agri Party-List, I vote for Rep. Sonny Belmonte for House Speaker of the Sixteenth Congress.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Leonardia

REP. LEONARDIA. Mme. Presiding Officer, on behalf

of the people of the Lone District of Bacolod City, I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Leonen-Pizarro

REP. LEONEN-PIZARRO. ABS Party-List votes for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Lobregat

REP. LOBREGAT. On behalf of the people of the First District of Zamboanga, we vote for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Loong

REP. LOONG. The First District of the Province of Sulu requested me to vote for Feliciano “Sonny” Belmonte for Speaker of the Sixteenth Congress.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Lopez, Carlo
Lopez, Carol Jayne

REP. LOPEZ (C.J) YAKAP Party-List votes for the Hon. Ronaldo Zamora.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Loyola
Macapagal-Arroyo
Madrona

REP. MADRONA. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Magsaysay
Manalo

REP. MANALO. Angkla Party-List votes for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Mangudadatu

REP. MANGUDADATU. The Representative of the Second District of Maguindanao votes for Sonny Belmonte for Speaker of the House of the Sixteenth Congress.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Marcos
Masongsong

REP. MASONGSONG. The Representative of I-CARE Party-List votes for Rep Feliciano “SB” Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Matugas

REP. MATUGAS. The First District of Surigao del Norte votes for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Mellana

REP. MELLANA. The Second District of Agusan del Sur votes for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Mendoza, Joselito “Jonjon”
Mendoza, Mark Llandro

REP. MENDOZA (M.). Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Mercado, Damian

REP. MERCADO (D). The Lone District of Southern Leyte votes for the Feliciano “Sonny” Belmonte Jr.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Mercado-Revilla
Mirasol
Montejo
Nava, JC Rahman
Nava, Pablo III

REP. NAVA (P.). As Representative of the Alliance of Philippine Partners in Enterprise Development or APPEND, I vote for Sonny Belmonte Jr. for Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Noel
Nogales

REP. NOGRALES. For the First District of Davao City, I vote Sonny Belmonte to be the Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Nuño.

REP. NUÑO. As Representative of the Second District of Zamboanga City, I vote Rep. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Oaminal

REP. OAMINAL. Mme. Presiding Officer, the vote of the Second District of Misamis Occidental goes for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Ocampo
Olivarez

REP. OLIVAREZ. On behalf of the people in the First District of the city of Parañaque, I vote for Cong. Sonny Belmonte Jr. as Speaker of the House in the Sixteenth Congress.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Ong

REP. ONG. As Representative of the Second District of the province of Northern Samar, I vote for Feliciano “Sonny” Belmonte as our Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Ortega, Francisco Emmanuel III
Ortega, Victor
Pacquiao, Emmanuel

REP. PACQUIAO. I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Padilla

REP. PADILLA. The Lone District of Nueva Vizcaya votes for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Paez

REP. PAEZ. Mme. Presiding Officer, on behalf of the Coop-NATCCO Party-List, I am for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Pagdilao

REP. PAGDILAO. Mme. Presiding Officer, on behalf of the ACT-CIS Party-List, I vote for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Pancho

REP. PANCHO. I vote for Ferdinand Martin Romualdez.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Panganiban

REP. PANGANIBAN. ANAC-IP Party-List votes for SB Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Panotes.

REP. PANOTES. The Second District of Camarines Norte votes for the best Speaker of the House our country has ever had, Feliciano Racimo Belmonte Jr.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Paquiz

REP. PACQUIZ. I vote for Congressman Zamora.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Pernes

REP. PERNES. Lone District of Siquijor votes for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Piamonte

REP. PIAMONTE. The A TEACHER Party-List is for Hon. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Pichay

REP. PICHAY. The First District of Surigao del Sur votes for Hon. Ferdinand Martin Romualdez.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Plaza.

REP. PLAZA. This Representation from the First District of Agusan del Sur votes for Honorable Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Ponce Enrile
Primicias-Agabas

REP. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS. On behalf of the people of the Sixth District of Pangasinan, I vote for Hon. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Puno

REP. PUNO. The city of Antipolo votes for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Quimbo
Quisumbing

REP. QUISUMBING. The Sixth District of Cebu is proud to cast its vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Radaza

REP. RADAZA. I vote for Speaker Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Ramos

REP. RAMOS. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Relampagos

REP. RELAMPAGOS. Sa ngalan sa katauhan sa Unang Distrito ng Bohol, I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Revilla

REP. REVILLA. Hon. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Reyes

REP. REYES. The Lone District of Marinduque votes for the Hon. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Ridon

REP. RIDON. Congressman Zamora.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Rivera

REP. RIVERA. 1-CARE Party-List votes for Feliciano Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Robes

REP. ROBES. I vote for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Robredo

REP. ROBREDO. Third District, Camarines Sur, for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Rodriguez, Isidro S. Jr.
Rodriguez, Maximo B. Jr.

REP. RODRIGUEZ (M.). The Abante Mindanao Party-List votes for Speaker Feliciano Belmonte Jr.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Rodriguez, Oscar S.

REP. RODRIGUEZ (O.). Mme. Presiding Officer, this Representation from the Third District of Pampanga is voting for the Hon. Feliciano “Sonny” Belmonte as Speaker of the House of the Sixteenth Congress.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Rodriguez, Rufus B.

REP. RODRIGUEZ (R.). Mme. Presiding Officer, the Representative of the God-fearing, peace-loving and friendly people from the Second District of Cagayan de Oro City, and the latest national political party, ang partido ng tunay na demokrasya, Centrist Democratic Party, vote for the beloved friend of Mindanao, Speaker Sonny Belmonte. *(Applause)*

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Roman

REP. ROMAN. As Representative from the First District of Bataan, I vote for Hon. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Romarate

REP. ROMARATE. On behalf of the Second District of Surigao del Norte—Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Romualdez
Romualdo

REP. ROMUALDO. The Representative from the Lone District of Camiguin votes for Speaker Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Romulo

REP. ROMULO. The Lone District of Pasig City votes for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Roque

REP. ROQUE. The Fourth District of Bukidnon goes for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Sacdalan

REP. SACDALAN. The First District of North Cotabato, for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Sahali

REP. SAHALI. Mme. Speaker, from the Lone District of Tawi-Tawi, I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Sakaluran

REP. SAKALURAN. The Representative from the First District of the province of Sultan Kudarat votes for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Salimbangon

REP. SALIMBANGON. As Representative from the Fourth District of Cebu, Salimbangon, Benhur "SB," votes for another "SB," Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Salvacion

REP. SALVACION. On behalf of the Third District of Leyte, this Representation votes for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Santiago

REP. SANTIAGO. On behalf of 1-SAGIP Party-List, I respectfully vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Sarmiento, Cesar

REP. SARMIENTO (C.). As Representative from the Lone District of Catanduanes, I vote for Congressman Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Sarmiento, Mel Senen S.
Sato

REP. SATO. On behalf of the people of Occidental Mindoro, I cast my vote in favor of Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Sema

REP. SEMA. Assalamu alaikum. Happy Ramadan everyone. Cotabato City and the First District of Maguindanao vote for honorable Papa Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Señeres

REP. SEÑERES. The OFW Family Party-List votes for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Singson, Eric G. Jr.
Singson, Ronald V.

REP. SINGSON (R.). As Representative from the First District of Ilocos Sur, I vote Sonny Belmonte for Speaker of the House.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading: Suansing

REP. SUANSING. Mme. Presiding Officer, on behalf of the people of Zaragosa, Nueva Ecija, I vote for Hon. Feliciano Belmonte Jr.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Suarez

REP. SUAREZ. As Representative from the Third District of Quezon, I vote for Congressman Martin Romualdez.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Sy-Alvarado

REP. SY-ALVARADO. Mme. Presiding Officer, on behalf of the First District of Bulacan, I am casting my vote for Hon. Feliciano "Sonny" Belmonte as Speaker of the House of the Sixteenth Congress.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Tambunting

REP. TAMBUNTING. As the neophyte Representative from the Second District of the city of Parañaque, I vote for honorable Speaker Feliciano Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Tan, Angelina "Helen" D.L.

REP. TAN (A.). On behalf of the people of the Fourth District of Quezon Province, I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Tan, Milagrosa
 Tejada

REP. TEJADA. On behalf of the Third District of the province of Cotabato, I vote for Ronaldo Zamora.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Teodoro

REP. TEODORO. Mme. Presiding Officer, the Representative from the First District of Marikina City votes for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Teves

REP. TEVES. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Tiangco

REP. TIANGCO. Abstain.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Tieng

REP. TIENG. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Ting

REP. TING. On behalf of the people of the Third District of Cagayan, I vote for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Tinio

REP. TINIO. Zamora.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Tolentino
 Torres-Gomez

REP. TORRES-GOMEZ. The Fourth District of Leyte votes for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Treñas
 Tugna

REP. TUGNA. Mme. Presiding Officer, on behalf of CIBAC Party-List, I vote for Congressman Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Tupas

REP. TUPAS. I vote for Feliciano Belmonte Jr.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Turabin-Hataman

REP. TURABIN-HATAMAN. Assalamu Alaikum.
 AMIN, Anak Mindanao Party-List, votes for Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Ty

REP. TY. Zamora.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Umali, Czarina D.

REP. UMALI (C.). On behalf of the Third District of Nueva Ecija, I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Umali, Reynaldo V.

REP. UMALI (R.). Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Unabia

REP. UNABIA. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Ungab

REP. UNGAB. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Uy, Juliette T.

REP. UY (J.). On behalf of the Second District of Misamis Oriental, I vote for Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Uy, Rolando

REP. UY (R.). Congressman Feliciano Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
 Vargas

REP. VARGAS. Mme. Presiding Officer, I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Vargas-Alfonso

REP. VARGAS-ALFONSO. I vote for Congressman Feliciano Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Velarde

REP. VELARDE. Mme. Presiding Officer, this humble Representation votes for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Velasco

REP. VELASCO. On behalf of AMA Party-List, I vote for the Hon. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Villanueva

REP. VILLANUEVA. Mme. Presiding Officer, on behalf of the people of the Third District, province of Tarlac, I vote for Hon. Sonny Belmonte to continue his leadership as the Speaker of the House.
Thank you.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Villar

REP. VILLAR. I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Villarica

REP. VILLARICA. The Fourth District of Bulacan votes for Hon. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Violago

REP. VIOLAGO. Sa akin pong kababayan na tubong Novo Ecijano, I vote for Speaker Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Yap, Arthur
Yap, Susan

REP. YAP (S.). The Second District of Tarlac votes for Feliciano Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Yu, Victor

REP. YU. Sonny Belmonte.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Zamora, Maria Carmen S.

REP. ZAMORA (M.). From the First District of Compostela Valley, this Zamora votes for Hon. Feliciano Belmonte Jr. as Speaker of the House.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Zamora, Ronaldo B.
Zarate

REP. ZARATE. As Bayan Muna Representative, I am voting for Rep. Ronnie Zamora.

THE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (Atty. Adasa),
reading:
Zubiri

REP. ZUBIRI. Belmonte.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). The result of the voting shows that the Gentleman from the Fourth District of Quezon City, the Hon. Feliciano Belmonte Jr., garnered 244 votes. (*Applause*) The Gentleman from the Lone District of San Juan City, the Hon. Ronaldo B. Zamora, garnered 19 votes. (*Applause*) The Gentleman from the First District of Leyte, the Hon. Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, garnered 16 votes. (*Applause*)

With 244 votes, the Chair declares the Gentleman from the Fourth District of Quezon City, the Hon. Feliciano Belmonte Jr., as the duly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)

REP. GONZALES. Mme. Presiding Officer, I move that a committee of 20 Members, composed of the Hon. Emi Calixto-Rubiano Hon. Maria Jocelyn V. Bernos, Hon. Rose Marie "Baby" J. Arenas, Hon. Gina P. De Venecia, Hon. Kimi S. Cojuangco, Hon. Maria Leonor G. Robredo, Hon. Mercedes K. Alvarez, Hon. Lucy Torres-Gomez, Hon. Abigail Faye C. Ferriol, and the Hon. Sitti Djalila A. Turabin-Hataman, be constituted to notify the Hon. Feliciano Belmonte Jr. of his election as Speaker of the House of Representatives and thereafter, to escort the Speaker-elect to the rostrum for his oath-taking rites.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none, the Notification Committee is hereby constituted.

The Members of the House so named are hereby appointed to the Notification Committee and they are requested to inform the Speaker-elect, the Hon. Feliciano Belmonte Jr., of his election and to escort him to the rostrum.

The Chair invites the family of the Speaker-elect to join him at the rostrum as he takes his oath of office.

At this juncture, the family of the Speaker-elect joined the Speaker at the rostrum.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). The session is suspended.

It was 12:22 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 12:22 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Atty. Barua-Yap). The session is resumed.

Honorable Members of the House, the Speaker-elect, the Gentleman from the Fourth District of Quezon City, the Hon. Feliciano Belmonte Jr. The Hon. Xavier Jesus "XJ" D. Romualdo of the Lone District of Camiguin will administer the oath of office to the Speaker-elect. The Honorable Romualdo is requested to proceed to the rostrum and administer the oath of office to the Speaker.

May we request all the Members of the House to rise.

At this juncture, Rep. Xavier Jesus "XJ" D. Romualdo ascended the rostrum to administer the oath of office to Rep. Feliciano Belmonte Jr. as the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

OATH-TAKING OF SPEAKER BELMONTE

REP. ROMUALDO. Please raise your right hand and repeat after me.

I, FELICIANO BELMONTE JR., of the Fourth District of Quezon City, having been elected as Speaker of the Sixteenth Congress of the House of Representatives, hereby solemnly swear that I will well and faithfully discharge to the best of my ability the duties of my present position and of all others I may hereafter hold under the Republic of the Philippines; that I will support and defend the Constitution of the Philippines; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the laws, legal orders, and decrees promulgated by the duly constituted authorities of the Republic of the Philippines; and that I impose this obligation upon myself voluntarily, without mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

So help me God.

REP. ROMUALDO. Congratulations po, Mr. Speaker. *(Applause)*

At this juncture, the Presiding Officer relinquished the Chair to Speaker Feliciano Belmonte Jr.

ACCEPTANCE SPEECH OF SPEAKER BELMONTE

THE SPEAKER. First of all, thank you very much for your confidence in me; it is a real honor. You know the first time I was elected, I could not believe it. The second time, and it was for the full Fifteenth Congress, I could not believe

that I would last that Fifteenth Congress, but here, you have reelected me to the Sixteenth Congress. Kaya salamat sa inyong lahat. *(Applause)*

Esteemed colleagues, distinguished guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

It is a rare honor to once more be entrusted with the Speakership of this Chamber. This grave responsibility was first reposed on me briefly in 2001, and again in the Fifteenth Congress.

Today, I am deeply humbled by your vote of confidence. I accept anew this duty equally confident that irrespective of our differing political affiliations, geographic or sectoral interests and persuasion, we will always stand strong and unified in our resolve not merely to consolidate the gains thus far realized, but to move towards our great future. Before you, I pledge to honor your trust with leadership that respects the voice of every Member of this Chamber in all proceedings and uphold the energy of this assembly as a democratic institution of government. Mula sa puso ko, maraming salamat sa inyong lahat at sa inyong pagtitiwala.

At this point, I would like to congratulate the new Minority Leader, Congressman Ronaldo Zamora of the Lone District of San Juan, who happens to be my neighbor actually. The Fourth District of Quezon City adjoins the Lone District of San Juan but that is about all I know about San Juan.

Whether reelected or as new Members of this Chamber, we all witnessed the backbreaking burden legislations this House bore to discard practices of the past and steer the country towards the proverbial "matuwid na daan."

In the past three years, it was this House which overhauled the appropriation process and built the habit of prompt enactment of a transparent and responsive national budget, this House which refused to shirk from the politically difficult task of impeachment and this House which fortified the constitutional promise of accountability in government.

The ratings, our ratings, achieved by this House in successive public trust surveys are not only historic, they are likewise indicative of the transformation of this institution and of our efforts to place our national constituency front, back and center of our legislative agenda.

The remarkable improvements in the country's competitive ratings, governance indicators and corruption indices, the investment-grade credit ratings achieved under President Aquino and the economic growth posted last year and in the first quarter of this year, which are unsurpassed in this region, are extraordinary feats which we achieved even as the world around us grappled with a stale if not contracting international economy and immense political disturbances.

The greatest error we can commit today is to mistake the past deeds of the past three years as ends in themselves and not merely as a preview of greater things to come.

Our task in the next three years must be to resist the costly temptation of resting on our laurels, to inspire greater belief in our collective capacity for greater accomplishment within our country and outside, and to marshal government resources toward making possible a more vibrant and resilient economy and people.

In close collaboration with the Senate and the Executive, we will craft a legislative agenda that will generate greater economic activity in our country, economic activity that benefits the greater number, economic activity that addresses, among others, the problems of poverty, unemployment

and investment. If we stick to that goal, we will never go wrong.

Reducing the impediments to the ease of doing business, reducing red tape, even as we rationalize our incentives framework—meaning to say, there is not one or two businesses that will monopolize the incentives even when they do not need it—and creating a more even and stable regulatory framework (hindi iyong papalit-palit iyong ating policies) that will rid the private sector of its fears to fund our economic expansion especially in such critical areas as power and energy—and I hate to look the Mindanao legislators in the eyes as I say those words, but definitely, we must find ways of solving the power and energy crisis particularly in Mindanao—are essential if we are to sustain our growth and to employ the jobless.

The habit of promptly enacting the national budget must be complemented by judiciousness in the use of public resources. The reprieve enjoyed by our people from additional taxes can be sustained without substantially impairing our future growth with the expansion of efficiency in government spending, and this should be further strengthened and institutionalized in our Appropriations Act and assiduously guarded through the oversight powers of the House. In the past, the oversight power has been just there; this time, let us try to exercise them.

Greater investment in public infrastructure and facilities must be encouraged simultaneously with our concern for prudence in the use of public resources. As we pass laws that deter and close the avenues for corruption, so must we gain greater confidence in using public resources to address and anticipate the needs of our expanding economy, our expanding population as well.

We must nurture a legal ethos that mandates and extols prudence in spending, and transparency and accountability in the use of public funds especially in the use of our Priority Development Assistance Funds or PDAFs. Ambiguity must yield to specific, definite and verifiable development programs and projects for both district and party-list-funded activities.

Indeed, I have asked the party-list groups, and I do challenge them, to get together and come out with a plan on how to spend their PDAF because—what are the rules on this? Let us have them.

A strict obedience to much-tightened guidelines in the use of public resources is the strongest guarantee of efficiency, ensuring that each peso spent generates exponential returns for our people.

For my part, my PDAF, since first serving as a Member of this Chamber in 1992 as a Congressman, were spent strictly within my district in Quezon City, subject always to public scrutiny and sometimes to public criticism.

The Sixteenth Congress concludes with the second half of PNoy's six-year term. These three years are sometimes more difficult to manage because whiffs of the next election hang in the air. This time might not be too different.

Nevertheless, I call upon all of you, my colleagues, to unite behind the administration and our reform agenda in the interest of our people so that the Sixteenth Congress, along with President Benigno S. Aquino's term of office, ends not with a strikeout but with a homerun or even a grand slam.

Reforms in governance cannot be dictated. Government leaders must now augment our “Kung walang corrupt, walang

mahirap” battle cry with “Walang kukurap” and marshal great support for the President's agenda toward a clean, honest, efficient and responsive public bureaucracy.

We must complete the modernization of our institutions and the processes they adopt and rid them of wastages which equally rob our people of essential public services.

Until our accomplishments in the transformation of government become convincingly irreversible, we can neither allow our present gains to be disputed midstream nor frustrate anew the expectations of our people.

My colleagues, our beliefs and philosophies will undoubtedly require us to debate and to disagree as we perform the legislative duties we will set up. But our democratic experience in the past Congress, the Congress which courageously tackled some of the most controversial and divisive of measures should remind us that our differences cannot remotely justify the obstruction of urgent and necessary legislation but must in fact be used to enrich and improve them.

With your help, ours will be a proactive Sixteenth Congress, one that refuses to squander the accomplishments of our predecessors but to build on them, even to surpass them, that we may finally bridge the realities of the present and the promises of the future. Ours will be a visionary Congress that will anticipate our needs and steer our economy to a path of sustained but especially equitable and inclusive growth. Together with you, we will be that Congress worthy of the trust reposed upon it by the constituency who elected us, the Filipino people.

Once again, maraming salamat sa inyong lahat. Mabuhay po kayo at mabuhay ang ating kaisa-isang bansa, ang bansang Pilipinas!

Thank you, thank you. *(Applause)*

The Acting Floor Leader Gonzales is recognized.

REP. GONZALES. Mr. Speaker, I move for the adoption of the Rules of the House of the Fifteenth Congress as the provisional Rules of the House to govern its proceedings until the adoption of the Rules of the House of the Sixteenth Congress.

I so move.

THE SPEAKER. Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The Rules of the Fifteenth Congress is hereby adopted as the provisional Rules of the Sixteenth Congress.

I so move.

REP. GONZALES. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Section 6, Rule II of the provisional House Rules, I move that we now proceed with the oath-taking of the Members of the House.

THE SPEAKER. Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

All House Members shall now take their oaths of office.

All Members stood up for the oath-taking.

OATH-TAKING OF MEMBERS

THE SPEAKER. All Members of the House, please raise your right hands and repeat after me your oath of office, this

well-known oath of office of July 22nd. Raise your right hands and repeat after me.

I, (state your name), of (state address), having been elected as Representative of (Name of District/ Party-List), hereby solemnly swear that I will well and faithfully discharge to the best of my ability the duties of my present position and of all others I may hereafter hold under the Republic of the Philippines; that I will support and defend the Constitution of the Philippines; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the laws, legal orders, and decrees promulgated by the duly constituted authorities of the Republic of the Philippines; and that I impose this obligation upon myself voluntarily, without mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

So help me God.

THE SPEAKER. Let us give ourselves a big hand of applause. *(Applause)*

The Acting Floor Leader is recognized.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKERS

REP. GONZALES. Mr. Speaker, I move that we elect Reps. Henedina R. Abad, Giorgidi B. Aggabao, Sergio A.F. Apostol, Pangalian M. Balindong, Carlos M. Padilla and Roberto V. Puno, as Deputy Speakers of the House of Representatives.

THE SPEAKER. Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

Therefore, the Hon. Henedina R. Abad, Hon. Giorgidi B. Aggabao, Hon. Sergio A.F. Apostol, Hon. Pangalian M. Balindong, Hon. Carlos M. Padilla, and the Hon. Roberto V. Puno, are unanimously elected as Deputy Speakers of the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

May we request the honorable Deputy Speaker-elect, the Lady from the Lone District of Batanes, Hon. Henedina R. Abad, to proceed to the rostrum with the members of her family for her oath-taking.

Rep. Henedina R. Abad, with the members of her family, ascended the rostrum and took her oath of office as Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives before the Honorable Speaker Feliciano Belmonte Jr.

OATH-TAKING OF REP. ABAD AS DEPUTY SPEAKER

THE SPEAKER. Oath of Office, please raise your right hand and repeat after me.

I, HENEDINA R. ABAD, of the Lone District of Batanes, having been elected as Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, Sixteenth Congress, do hereby solemnly swear that I will well and faithfully discharge to the best of my ability the duties of my present position and of all others I may hereafter hold under the Republic of the Philippines; that I will support and defend the Constitution of the Philippines; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the laws, legal orders, and decrees promulgated by

the duly constituted authorities of the Republic of the Philippines; and that I impose this obligation upon myself voluntarily, without mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

So help me God.

THE SPEAKER. Congratulations! Let us give her a big hand. *(Applause)*

REP. ABAD. Thank you, thank you. Thank you po for your trust and confidence. *(Applause)*

THE SPEAKER. May we request the honorable Deputy Speaker-elect, the Gentleman from the Fourth District of Isabela, Hon. Giorgidi B. Aggabao, to proceed to the rostrum with the members of his family for his oath-taking. *(Applause)*

Rep. Giorgidi B. Aggabao, together with his family, ascended the rostrum and took his oath of office as Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives before the Honorable Speaker Feliciano Belmonte Jr.

OATH-TAKING OF REP. AGGABAO AS DEPUTY SPEAKER

THE SPEAKER. Oath of office, please raise your right hand and repeat after me.

I, GIORGIDI B. AGGABAO, of the Fourth District of Isabela having been elected as Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, Sixteenth Congress, hereby solemnly swear that I will well and faithfully discharge to the best of my ability the duties of my present position and of all others that I may hereafter hold under the Republic of the Philippines; that I will support and defend the Constitution of the Philippines; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I will obey the laws, legal orders and decrees promulgated by the duly constituted authorities of the Republic of the Philippines; and that I impose this obligation upon myself voluntarily, without mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

So help me God.

THE SPEAKER. Congratulations.

REP. AGGABAO. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

THE SPEAKER. You are welcome.

REP. AGGABAO. Maraming salamat po. *(Applause)*

THE SPEAKER. May we request the honorable Deputy Speaker-elect, the Gentleman from the Second District of Leyte, Honorable Sergio A.F. Apostol, to proceed to the rostrum with the members of his family for the oath-taking.

Rep. Sergio A.F. Apostol, together with his family, ascended the rostrum and took his oath of office as Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives before the Honorable Speaker Feliciano Belmonte Jr.

OATH-TAKING OF REP. APOSTOL
AS DEPUTY SPEAKER

THE SPEAKER. Oath of office, please raise your right hand and repeat after me.

I, SERGIO A.F. APOSTOL, of the Second District of Leyte, having been elected as Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, Sixteenth Congress, hereby solemnly swear that I will well and faithfully discharge to the best of my ability the duties of my present position and of all others I may hereafter hold under the Republic of the Philippines; that I will support and defend the Constitution of the Philippines; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the laws, legal orders, and decrees promulgated by the duly constituted authorities of the Republic of the Philippines; and that I impose this obligation upon myself voluntarily, without mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

So help me God.

THE SPEAKER. Congratulations.

REP. APOSTOL. Thank you. Okay. Thank you sa inyo. *(Applause)*

THE SPEAKER. May we request the honorable Deputy Speaker-elect, the Gentleman from the Second District of Lanao del Sur, Hon. Pangalian M. Balindong, to proceed to the rostrum with the members of his family for his oath-taking.

Rep. Pangalian M. Balindong, together with his family, ascended the rostrum and took his oath of office as Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives before the Honorable Speaker Feliciano Belmonte Jr.

OATH-TAKING OF REP. BALINDONG
AS DEPUTY SPEAKER

THE SPEAKER. Oath of Office, please raise your right hand and repeat after me.

I, PANGALIAN M. BALINDONG, of the Second District of Lanao del Sur, having been elected as Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, Sixteenth Congress, hereby solemnly swear that I will well and faithfully discharge to the best of my ability the duties of my present position and of all others I may hereafter hold under the Republic of the Philippines; that I will support and defend the Constitution of the Philippines; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the laws, legal orders, and decrees promulgated by the duly constituted authorities of the Republic of the Philippines; and that I impose this obligation upon myself voluntarily, without mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

So help me God.

THE SPEAKER. Congratulations, Ali. *(Applause)*
May we request the Honorable Deputy Speaker-elect,

the Gentleman from the Lone District of Nueva Vizcaya, Hon. Carlos M. Padilla, to proceed to the rostrum with the members of his family for his oath-taking.

Rep. Carlos M. Padilla, together with his family, ascended the rostrum and took his oath of office as Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives before the Honorable Speaker Feliciano Belmonte Jr.

OATH-TAKING OF REP. PADILLA
AS DEPUTY SPEAKER

THE SPEAKER. Oath of Office, raise your right hand and repeat after me.

I, CARLOS M. PADILLA, of the Lone District of Nueva Vizcaya, having been elected as Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, Sixteenth Congress, hereby solemnly swear that I will well and faithfully discharge to the best of my ability the duties of my present position and of all others I may hereafter hold under the Republic of the Philippines; that I will support and defend the Constitution of the Philippines; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the laws, legal orders, and decrees promulgated by the duly constituted authorities of the Republic of the Philippines; and that I impose this obligation upon myself voluntarily, without mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

So help me God.

THE SPEAKER. Congratulations, Caloy.

REP. PADILLA. Thank you. *(Applause)*

THE SPEAKER. May we request the honorable Deputy Speaker-elect, the Gentleman from the First District of Antipolo City, Hon. Roberto V. Puno, to proceed to the rostrum with the members of his family for his oath-taking.

Rep. Roberto V. Puno, together with his family, ascended the rostrum and took his oath of office as Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives before the Honorable Speaker Feliciano Belmonte Jr.

OATH-TAKING OF REP. PUNO
AS DEPUTY SPEAKER

THE SPEAKER. Please raise your right hand and repeat after me.

I, ROBERTO V. PUNO, of the First District of Antipolo City, having been elected as Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, Sixteenth Congress, hereby solemnly swear that I will well and faithfully discharge to the best of my ability the duties of my present position and of all others I may hereafter hold under the Republic of the Philippines; that I will support and defend the Constitution of the Philippines; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the laws, legal orders, and decrees promulgated by the duly constituted authorities of the Republic of the

Philippines; and that I impose this obligation upon myself voluntarily, without mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

So help me God.

THE SPEAKER. Congratulations. *(Applause)*
The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. GONZALES. Mr. Speaker, I move that we now proceed to the election of the Secretary General.

THE SPEAKER. Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

We shall now proceed to the election of the Secretary General.

REP. GONZALES. Mr. Speaker, I move that we elect Atty. Marilyn B. Barua-Yap as Secretary General of the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

THE SPEAKER. Mukhang may pala tayo rito ha.

Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

Atty. Marilyn B. Barua-Yap is unanimously elected as Secretary General of the House of Representatives. *(Applause)*

May I request the new Secretary General to proceed to the rostrum with the members of her family for her oath-taking.

Secretary General Marilyn B. Barua-Yap, together with the members of her family, ascended the rostrum and took her oath of office as Secretary General of the Sixteenth Congress before the Hon. Feliciano Belmonte Jr.

OATH-TAKING OF ATTY. MARILYN B. BARUA-YAP

THE SPEAKER. Please raise your right hand and repeat after me.

I, MARILYN B. BARUA-YAP of 48 Miller St., Phase H, Filinvest II, Quezon City, having been elected as Secretary General of the House of Representatives, hereby solemnly swear that I will well and faithfully discharge to the best of my ability the duties of my present position and of all others I may hereafter hold under the Republic of the Philippines; that I will support and defend the Constitution of the Philippines; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the laws, legal orders, and decrees promulgated by the duly constituted authorities of the Republic of the Philippines; and that I impose this obligation upon myself voluntarily, without mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

So help me God.

(Applause)

REP. GONZALES. Mr. Speaker, I move that we now proceed to the election of the Sergeant-at-Arms. I move that we elect B/Gen. Nicasio Radovan Jr. as Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE SPEAKER. Is there any objection to the nomination of B/Gen. Nicasio J. Radovan Jr. to the position of the Sergeant-at-Arms? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is hereby approved. *(Applause)*

THE SPEAKER. The Majority Leader is recognized.

So, we would like to request the newly elected Sergeant-at-Arms—ano na nga ang pangalan—to come forward and to be sworn, together with the members of his family.

REP. GONZALES. B/Gen. Radovan, dati na iyan.

The Sergeant-at-Arms, Nicasio J. Radovan Jr., and members of his family ascended the rostrum and took his oath of office as Sergeant-at-Arms of the Sixteenth Congress before the Honorable Feliciano Belmonte Jr.

OATH-TAKING OF B/GEN. NICASIO J. RADOVAN JR.

THE SPEAKER. Please raise your right hand and repeat after me.

I, NICASIO J. RADOVAN JR. of 25-K K-9 St., Kamias, Quezon City, having been elected as Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives, Sixteenth Congress, hereby solemnly swear that I will well and faithfully discharge to the best of my ability the duties of my present position and of all others I may hereafter hold under the Republic of the Philippines; that I will support and defend the Constitution of the Philippines; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the laws, legal orders, and decrees promulgated by the duly constituted authorities of the Republic of the Philippines; and that I impose this obligation upon myself voluntarily, without mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

So, help me God.

THE SPEAKER. Congratulations! *(Applause)*
The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 69

REP. GONZALES. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Resolution No. 69.

May I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

THE SPEAKER. Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.*

The Secretary General is directed to read only the title of the measure.

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the measure have been previously distributed, the Secretary General read only the title thereof without prejudice to inserting its text in the Congressional Record.

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Resolution No. 69, entitled: RESOLUTION INFORMING THE SENATE THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HAS BEEN ORGANIZED AND HAS ENTERED UPON THE EXERCISE OF ITS FUNCTIONS.

ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 69

REP. GONZALES. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adopt House Resolution No. 69.

THE SPEAKER. There is a motion to adopt House Resolution No. 69, is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

House Resolution No. 69 is adopted.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 70

REP. GONZALES. In view of the adoption of House Resolution No. 69, I move that we consider House Resolution No. 70.

May I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

THE SPEAKER. Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.*

The Secretary General is directed to read only the title of the measure.

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the measure have been previously distributed, the Secretary General read only the title thereof without prejudice to inserting its text in the Congressional Record.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Resolution No. 70, entitled: RESOLUTION INFORMING HIS EXCELLENCY, BENIGNO S. AQUINO III, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES, THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HAS BEEN ORGANIZED AND HAS ENTERED UPON THE EXERCISE OF ITS FUNCTIONS.

THE SPEAKER. The Majority Leader is recognized.

ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 70

REP. GONZALES. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adopt House Resolution No. 70.

THE SPEAKER. There is a motion to adopt House Resolution No. 70. Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

House Resolution No. 70 is adopted.

CONSIDERATION OF H. CT. RES. NO. 2

REP. GONZALES. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Concurrent Resolution No. 2.

May I ask that the Secretary General be directed to read only the title of the measure.

THE SPEAKER. Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.*

The Secretary General is directed to read only the title of the measure.

With the permission of the Body, and since copies of the measure have been previously distributed, the Secretary General read only the title thereof without prejudice to inserting its text in the Congressional Record.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Concurrent Resolution No. 2, entitled: CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO HOLD A JOINT SESSION TO HEAR THE MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES.

ADOPTION OF H. CT. RES. NO. 2

REP. GONZALES. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adopt House Concurrent Resolution No. 2.

THE SPEAKER. Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

House Concurrent Resolution No. 2 is hereby adopted.

REP. GONZALES. Mr. Speaker, I move for the consideration of messages from the Senate.

THE SPEAKER. Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The consideration of messages from the Senate is now in order.

The Secretary General is instructed to read the Messages from the Senate.

The Secretary General read the following Messages from the Senate, and the Speaker made the corresponding references:

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Message dated July 22, 2013 informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date adopted Senate Resolution No. 24, entitled:

RESOLUTION INFORMING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT THE SENATE HAS BEEN ORGANIZED WITH THE ELECTION OF ITS OFFICERS AND THAT THIS BODY HAS ENTERED UPON THE EXERCISE OF ITS FUNCTIONS FOR THE FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES
TO THE ARCHIVES

Message dated July 22, 2013 informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1, entitled:
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CREATING A JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND THE

* See MEASURES CONSIDERED (printed separately)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO NOTIFY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES THAT CONGRESS, NOW CONVENED FOR ITS FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES, IS READY TO HEAR HIS STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS IN A JOINT SESSION OF BOTH HOUSES

TO THE CALENDAR OF BUSINESS FOR THE DAY

THE SPEAKER. The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. GONZALES. May we have a suspension of the session.

THE SPEAKER. The session is suspended.

It was 1:16 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 1:16 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE SPEAKER. The session is resumed.
The Majority Leader is recognized.

ADOPTION OF S. CT. RES. NO. 1

REP. GONZALES. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adopt Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1.

THE SPEAKER. There is a motion to adopt Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1. Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1 is adopted.

DESIGNATION OF MEMBERS TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE

REP. GONZALES. Mr. Speaker, in view of the adoption of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1, authorizing the creation of a joint committee of both Houses to notify the President of the Philippines that Congress is convened and ready to hear his message, on the part of the House, I move that the following Deputy Speakers be appointed to the joint committee:

1. Rep. Henedina R. Abad;
2. Rep. Giorgidi B. Aggabao;
3. Rep. Sergio A. F. Apostol;
4. Rep. Pangalian M. Balindong;
5. Rep. Carlos M. Padilla; and
6. Rep. Roberto V. Puno.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE SPEAKER. Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The Members of the House of Representatives so named are hereby appointed to be the joint committee and are requested to immediately discharge their responsibilities.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES

REP. GONZALES. Mr. Speaker, in order to give the members of the joint committee time to perform their assigned task, and until the House counterpart is ready to report back their accomplishment to the House, I move that we, in the meantime, elect Members in the following committees:

The Majority Leader read the names of the House Members elected to the various committees, per Journal No. 1, dated July 22, 2013.

COMMITTEE ON RULES

1. Rep. Neptali M. Gonzales II;
2. Rep. Jorge "Bolet" Banal Jr.;
3. Rep. Mar-Len Abigail S. Binay; and
4. Rep. Magtanggol T. Gunigundo I

COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE

Rep. Niel C. Tupas Jr.

COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS

Rep. Eleandro Jesus F. Madrona

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

1. Rep. Isidro T. Ungab;
2. Rep. Joaquin Carlos Rahman A. Nava;
3. Rep. Maria Zenaida B. Angping;
4. Rep. Ma. Victoria R. Sy-Alvarado;
5. Rep. Rolando G. Andaya Jr.;
6. Rep. Joseph Gilbert F. Violago; and
7. Rep. Josephine Veronique R. Lacson-Noel.

For this purpose, Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize our distinguished Minority Leader for his manifestation.

THE SPEAKER. Yes, the Minority Leader is recognized.

REP. ZAMORA (R.). Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, on the part of the Minority, may I move that we elect the following representing the Minority:

COMMITTEE ON RULES

1. Rep. Ronaldo B. Zamora;
2. Rep. Neri J. Colmenares; and
3. Rep. Carol Jayne B. Lopez.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE SPEAKER. Well, there has been a motion for the naming of the various committees representing the Majority and, in this case, the members of the Rules Committee, representing the Minority.

Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

REP. ZAMORA (R.). Mr. Speaker, again, on the part of the Minority may I move that we elect the following representing the Minority:

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

1. Rep. Seth Frederick P. Jalosjos; and
2. Rep. Ana Cristina Siquian Go.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE SPEAKER. The motion had been made. Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

REP. GONZALES. Mr. Speaker, we received a report from the joint committee that the President has been informed that Congress will convene in a Joint Session at four o'clock this afternoon to hear his State of the Nation Address. Mr. Speaker, may we remind the Members to be here at three o'clock this afternoon.

THE SPEAKER. The remarks of the Majority Leader are duly noted and I would like to ask everybody to please heed the same remarks.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. GONZALES. Mr. Speaker, in order to allow us to prepare for the Joint Session, I move that we adjourn the session until tomorrow, Tuesday, July 23, 2013 at four o'clock in the afternoon.

THE SPEAKER. Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the session is adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, July 23, at four o'clock in the afternoon. And, please accept my thank you—all of you. Maraming salamat. (*Applause*)

It was 1:20 p.m.