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House of Representatives

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No. 9k

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:00 p.m., the session was resumed with Deputy Speaker Roberto V. Puno presiding.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). The session is resumed.
Majority Leader.

REP. TADURAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that we now proceed with the Reference of Business and request that the Secretary General be directed to read the titles of the bills and resolutions on the First Reading.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read the titles of the bills on First Reading for referral to the appropriate committees.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Secretary General read the following House Bills and Resolutions on First Reading, Messages from the Senate, Communications and Committee Reports, and the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding references:

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 7928, entitled:

“AN ACT EMPOWERING THE ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION IN MONITORING OIL PRICES CHARGED TO OIL-BASED POWER GENERATION FACILITIES, AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT

NO. 8479, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE DOWNSTREAM OIL DEREGULATION ACT OF 1998 FOR THAT PURPOSE”

By Representatives Dagooc, De Jesus, Ebcas and Guya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Bill No. 7929, entitled:

“AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS TO USE A COMPLEMENTARY SMARTPHONE VOTING APPLICATION SYSTEM FOR THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTORAL EXERCISES, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Garcia (Pablo John)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

House Bill No. 7930, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR POSTAL OR MAIL-IN VOTING FOR SENIOR CITIZENS, THE HANDICAPPED, THE SICK AND LOCALLY STRANDED INDIVIDUALS IN TIMES OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES OR STATES OF CALAMITY”

By Representative Fernandez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON SUFFRAGE AND ELECTORAL REFORMS

House Bill No. 7931, entitled:

“AN ACT CREATING THE BORACAY ISLAND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (BIDA), DEFINING ITS POWER AND FUNCTIONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Arroyo
TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
ENTERPRISES AND PRIVATIZATION
AND THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT

REGULATION OF SUB-METERS AND
REDISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRICITY
TO INDIVIDUAL UNIT-USERS”

By Representatives Dagooc, De Jesus,
Ebcas and Guya
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

House Bill No. 7932, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN
OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKER
INVESTOR ADVOCATE IN THE
OVERSEAS WORKERS WELFARE
ADMINISTRATION, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Salceda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS
WORKERS AFFAIRS

House Bill No. 7938, entitled:

“AN ACT ENHANCING THE QUALITY
OF BASIC EDUCATION IN THE
PHILIPPINES BY IMPROVING
THE QUALITY OF TEACHERS
AND SCHOOL LEADERS,
STRENGTHENING THE TEACHER
EDUCATION COUNCIL UNDER
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7784, ENTITLED
‘AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN
TEACHER EDUCATION IN THE
PHILIPPINES BY ESTABLISHING
CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE,
CREATING A TEACHER
EDUCATION COUNCIL FOR THE
PURPOSE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES’, INSTITUTIONALIZING
THE NATIONAL EDUCATORS
ACADEMY OF THE PHILIPPINES,
AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR”

House Bill No. 7933, entitled:

“AN ACT FURTHER UPGRADING THE
MINIMUM BASE PAY OF NURSES
WORKING IN PUBLIC HEALTH
INSTITUTIONS, AMENDING FOR
THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO.
9173, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
‘PHILIPPINE NURSING ACT OF 2002’”

By Representative Defensor
TO THE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

By Representative Gatchalian
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC
EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND
THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND
TECHNICAL EDUCATION

House Bill No. 7934, entitled:

“AN ACT TO PROTECT FILIPINOS
FROM THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF
TRANS-FATTY ACIDS”

By Representative Tan (Angelina)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 7939, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING
PROFESSIONALISM AND
CONTINUITY OF POLICIES AND
MODERNIZATION INITIATIVES
OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE
PHILIPPINES BY PRESCRIBING
FIXED TERMS FOR THE CHIEF-
OF-STAFF/ CHAIRMAN OF THE
JOINT CHIEFS AND OTHER KEY
OFFICERS THEREOF, INCREASING
THE MANDATORY AGE OF
RETIREMENT OF GENERAL/FLAG
OFFICERS, PROVIDING FOR A MORE
EFFECTIVE ATTRITION SYSTEM,
REPEALING SECTIONS 5, 10, 11 AND

House Bill No. 7936, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING ROOSTER
GAMING INCORPORATED A
FRANCHISE TO BROADCAST
LIVE AND DATA-STREAMED
COCKFIGHTING ACTIVITIES AND
DERBIES, THROUGH ONLINE OR
OTHER ANALOGOUS MEANS,
ANYWHERE IN THE PHILIPPINES”

By Representative Zamora (Way Kurat)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE
FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 7937, entitled:

“AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE

12 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1638, AS AMENDED, AND SECTIONS 3 AND 4 OF REPUBLIC ACT 8186, AS AMENDED, AMENDING SECTION 1 OF REPUBLIC ACT 9188 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Vargas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY

House Bill No. 7940, entitled:

“AN ACT ENHANCING CITIZENS’ ACCESS TO INFORMATION DURING DISASTERS BY MANDATING GOVERNMENT ISSUANCES TO BE WRITTEN IN PLAIN LANGUAGE AND TRANSLATED TO THE LOCAL LANGUAGE OR DIALECTS IF NECESSARY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Vargas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

House Bill No. 7941, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE PHILIPPINE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM, AMENDING THE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7743, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS ‘AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CONGRESSIONAL, CITY, AND MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES AND BARANGAY READING CENTERS THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES,’ AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Tambunting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 7942, entitled:

“AN ACT REPEALING ACT NO. 3952, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 111, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE BULK SALES LAW”

By Representative Tambunting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 7943, entitled:

“AN ACT EXEMPTING EDUCATIONAL

APPLICATIONS, GADGETS, COMPUTERS AND E-BOOKS FROM VALUE-ADDED TAX FOR THE PRINCIPAL USE OF TEACHERS AND STUDENTS IN ONLINE AND DISTANT LEARNING, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 109 (1) OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED”

By Representative Tambunting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

House Bill No. 7944, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE e-HEALTH SYSTEM AND SERVICES IN SUPPORT OF UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

By Representative Tambunting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 7945, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE ONE PATIENT-ONE ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORD SYSTEM IN THE PHILIPPINES THEREBY CREATING THE OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COORDINATOR FOR HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Tambunting
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND THE COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

House Bill No. 7946, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8047, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ‘BOOK PUBLISHING INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT ACT,’ PROVIDING FOR THE SCANNING AND CONVERSION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS INTO E-BOOKS AND OTHER DIGITAL FORMATS”

By Representative Tambunting

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC
EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 7947, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 9775 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE ‘ANTI-CHILD PORNOGRAPHY
ACT OF 2009,’ AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representative Villafuerte

TO THE COMMITTEE ON REVISION OF
LAWS AND THE COMMITTEE ON
WELFARE OF CHILDREN

House Bill No. 7948, entitled:

“AN ACT REQUIRING THE
EMPLOYMENT OF QUALIFIED
LIFEGUARDS IN ALL PUBLIC
SWIMMING POOLS AND BATHING
FACILITIES, AND PROVIDING
PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION
THEREOF”

By Representative Villafuerte

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 7949, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE
CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION
OF OUR NATIONAL CULTURAL
HERITAGE, THROUGH AN
ENHANCED CULTURAL POLICY,
HERITAGE EDUCATION, AND
CULTURAL MAPPING PROGRAM,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10066 OR THE
NATIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE
ACT OF 2009”

By Representative Villafuerte

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC
EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 7953, entitled:

“AN ACT RENEWING FOR ANOTHER
TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS THE
FRANCHISE GRANTED TO
UNICORN COMMUNICATIONS
CORPORATION UNDER
REPUBLIC ACT 8198, ENTITLED
‘AN ACT GRANTING THE
UNICORN COMMUNICATIONS

CORPORATION A FRANCHISE TO
CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH,
MAINTAIN AND OPERATE
COMMERCIAL MOBILE AND FIXED
WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS
SYSTEM IN THE PHILIPPINES’ ”

By Representative Romualdo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE
FRANCHISES

House Bill No. 7954, entitled:

“AN ACT CHANGING THE NAME
OF BARANGAY SAN ISIDRO IN
THE MUNICIPALITY OF LUPON,
PROVINCE OF DAVAO ORIENTAL TO
BARANGAY ERNESTO D. VIOLAN”

By Representative Almario

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 7955, entitled:

“AN ACT MANDATING ALL HIGH
SCHOOLS IN THE PHILIPPINES TO
INCORPORATE ROAD TRAFFIC
SAFETY EDUCATION IN THEIR
RESPECTIVE CURRICULA”

By Representative Reyes

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC
EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 7957, entitled:

“AN ACT EXTENDING THE
EFFECTIVITY OF REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 11494, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS BAYANIHAN TO RECOVER AS
ONE ACT, AMENDING FOR THE
PURPOSE SECTION 18 THEREOF”

By Representative Sy-Alvarado

TO THE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 7958, entitled:

“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SPECIAL
ECONOMIC ZONE AND FREEPORT
IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF
PLARIDEL, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS
OCCIDENTAL, CREATING FOR THIS
PURPOSE THE PLARIDEL SPECIAL
ECONOMIC ZONE AND FREEPORT
AUTHORITY AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFORE”

By Representative Ty (Diego)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC
AFFAIRS AND THE COMMITTEE ON
TRADE AND INDUSTRY

House Bill No. 7959, entitled:

“AN ACT GRANTING A CHARTER
TO THE PHILIPPINE COMMODITY
CREDIT CORPORATION, SETTING
UP MECHANISMS FOR THE
MANAGEMENT OF FARMSURPLUS,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Salceda
TO THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
AND FOOD

House Bill No. 7960, entitled:

“AN ACT LOWERING THE MINIMUM
HEIGHT REQUIREMENT FOR
APPLICANTS OF THE PHILIPPINE
NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), BUREAU
OF FIRE PROTECTION (BFP),
BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT
AND PENOLOGY (BJMP), AND
BUREAU OF CORRECTIONS
(BUCOR), AMENDING REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 6975, AS AMENDED BY
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9263, AND
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10575, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Vargas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
ORDER AND SAFETY

House Bill No. 7961, entitled:

“AN ACT PROTECTING THE MENTAL
HEALTH OF K-12 STUDENTS
DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC
THROUGH SCHOLASTIC LENIENCY
FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021”

By Representatives Zubiri and Acosta-
Alba
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC
EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Bill No. 7962, entitled:

“AN ACT REVERTING CONTROL
AND OWNERSHIP OF LOCAL
WATER DISTRICTS TO LOCAL
GOVERNMENT UNITS AND
PROHIBITING THE PRIVATIZATION

OF PUBLIC WATERS SYSTEMS, WATER
TREATMENT AND DISTRIBUTION
FACILITIES AND RELATED
SERVICES, AND PROVIDING
PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS
THEREOF”

By Representatives Gaité, Zarate, Cullamat,
Castro (France), Brosas and Elago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT ENTERPRISES AND
PRIVATIZATION

House Bill No. 7963, entitled:

“AN ACT ENSURING THE
EFFECTIVENESS OF ALL LOCAL
OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT
ASSISTANCE (ODA) LOANS
AND GRANTS, AMENDING FOR
THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT
8182 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT
ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1996, AS
AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”

By Representatives Gaité, Zarate, Cullamat,
Castro (France), Brosas and Elago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND
MEANS

House Bill No. 7964, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTING REFORMS IN THE
NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE
PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE
PURPOSE CERTAIN LAWS AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representatives Garcia (Jose Enrique)
and Tan (Angelina)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Bill No. 7965, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC
ACT 9993, ALSO KNOWN AS THE
PHILIPPINES COASTGUARD ACT
OF 2009, INSTITUTIONALIZING
RESOURCES AND TECHNOLOGY
UPGRADES, PROVIDING
APPROPRIATIONS THEREFOR, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

By Representative Tutor
TO THE COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION

House Bill No. 7966, entitled:
“AN ACT DEFINING ATM PAWNING SCHEME, AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES THEREFOR”
By Representative Lacson
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

WARM FELICITATIONS AND BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO THE IGLESIA NI CRISTO EXECUTIVE MINISTER EDUARDO ‘KA EDDIE’ MANALO’S 65TH BIRTHDAY”
By Representative Olivarez
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Bill No. 7967, entitled:
“AN ACT PRESCRIBING THE RATES OF INTEREST UPON LOANS AND FORBEARANCES BY AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF R.A. NO. 2655, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE USURY LAW”
By Representative Roman
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

House Resolution No. 1323, entitled:
“RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THROUGH THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS, TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE ARREST OF INDIGENOUS WOMAN HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER BEATRICE ‘BETTY’ BELEN IN AG-AGAMA, BRGY. WESTERN UMA, LUBUAGAN, KALINGA”
By Representatives Cullamat, Zarate, Gaité, Brosas, Castro (France) and Elago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Bill No. 7968, entitled:
“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE BARANGAY MICROFINANCE SYSTEM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF”
By Representative Roman
TO THE COMMITTEE ON MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 1324, entitled:
“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE SERIES OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS ON POLITICAL PRISONER REINA MAE NASINO, HER BABY RIVER EMMANUELLE NASINO, AND THEIR FAMILY PERPETRATED BY ELEMENTS OF STATE FORCES”
By Representatives Brosas, Zarate, Gaité, Cullamat, Castro (France) and Elago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 1321, entitled:
“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON MINDANAO AFFAIRS TO CALL UPON RELEVANT DEPARTMENTS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING A BRIEFING ON THE EFFECTS OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN THE REGION OF MINDANAO AND THE CORRESPONDING PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AS A RESPONSE TO THE PANDEMIC”
By Representative Dimaporo (Khalid)
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1325, entitled:
“A RESOLUTION URGING THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION (PRC) TO CONDUCT FUTURE PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE EXAMINATIONS, WHERE POSSIBLE, VIA COMPUTERIZED ADAPTIVE TESTING (CAT), AND BY INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENT IN THE NEAREST TESTING CENTER, USING THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE U.S. NATIONAL COUNCIL LICENSURE EXAMINATION

House Resolution No. 1322, entitled:
“A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSING

(NCLEX) FOR NURSES AS THE MODEL”

By Representatives Campos and Matugas
TO THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

House Resolution No. 1326, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION STRONGLY URGING PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE TO COME UP WITH A COMPREHENSIVE BICOL REHABILITATION PROGRAM, IN RESPONSE TO THE HEAVY DEVASTATION BY SUPER TYPHOON ROLLY, THAT INCLUDES PROVIDING IMMEDIATE RELIEF, RECOVERY AND RECONSTRUCTION FOR REBUILDING A BETTER BICOL”

By Representative Villafuerte
TO THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BICOL RECOVERY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 1327, entitled:

“RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE CEBU PEOPLE’S MULTI-PURPOSE COOPERATIVE FOR ITS OUTSTANDING ROLE AND CONTRIBUTION TO COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT, AND ITS EXEMPLARY COMMITMENT AS A PARTNER FOR ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT”

By Representative Canama
TO THE COMMITTEE ON COOPERATIVES DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 1328, entitled:

“RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF COOPERATIVES NETWORK FOR ITS OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS AND LEADERSHIP IN THE UPLIFTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATIVES IN THE COUNTRY”

By Representative Canama
TO THE COMMITTEE ON COOPERATIVES DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 1329, entitled:

“RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE PAGLAUM MULTI-PURPOSE COOPERATIVE FOR ITS EXEMPLARY CONTRIBUTION AND LEADERSHIP IN PROMOTING PEOPLE EMPOWERMENT, SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND COMMUNITY AND NATION-BUILDING”

By Representative Canama
TO THE COMMITTEE ON COOPERATIVES DEVELOPMENT

House Resolution No. 1331, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE INCREASING NUMBER OF REPORTED CASES OF ONLINE FRAUD, INTERNET SCAMS, AND THE PEDDLING OF ILLEGAL DRUGS USING ONLINE FACILITIES”

By Representative Gatchalian
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1332, entitled:

“RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO PREPARE A VACCINATION PROGRAM PLAN AHEAD OF THE PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION OF VACCINES IN THE PHILIPPINES AND MAKE SURE THEY ARE EQUITABLY DISTRIBUTED TO LOWER INCOME GROUPS AND TO THE MOST VULNERABLE (HEALTH WORKERS, SENIOR CITIZENS) TO COMBAT THE 2019 CORONAVIRUS DISEASE”

By Representative Sakaluran
TO THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

House Resolution No. 1333, entitled:

“A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO

CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, TO DETERMINE THE ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF ABS-CBN WITH RESPECT TO ITS FRANCHISE AND THE IMPOSITION OF CONCOMITANT ADMINISTRATIVE FINES AS A RESULT THEREOF BY THE NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION"

By Representative Marcoleta
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1334, entitled:

"A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING THE STUDENTS, TEACHERS, AND COACHES OF CANDIJAY MUNICIPAL HIGH SCHOOL AND JAGNA HIGH SCHOOL FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN THE 19TH PHILIPPINE ROBOTICS OLYMPIAD (PRO) 2020 1ST VIRTUAL ROBOTICS CHALLENGE LAST OCTOBER 22, 2020"

By Representative Tutor
TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

House Resolution No. 1335, entitled:

"RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THROUGH THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS, TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE STRAFING ON A LUMAD COMMUNITY IN SITIO MAGKAHUNAO, SAN AGUSTIN, LIANGA, SURIGAO DEL SUR ALLEGEDLY COMMITTED BY ELEMENTS OF THE 3RD SPECIAL FORCES BATTALION, PHILIPPINE ARMY"

By Representatives Cullamat, Zarate, Gaité, Brosas, Castro (France) and Elago
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 1336, entitled:

"RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF

LEGISLATION, ON THE ALARMING SITUATION OF ONLINE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN (OSEC) IN THE PHILIPPINES"

By Representatives Romualdez (Yedda), Romualdez (Ferdinand) and de Venecia
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Message dated November 10, 2020, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on November 9, 2020 passed Senate Bill No. 1092, entitled:

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

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

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Message dated November 10, 2020, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on November 9, 2020 passed Senate Bill No. 1373, entitled:

"AN ACT PROTECTING CHILDREN BY PROHIBITING AND DECLARING CHILD MARRIAGE AS ILLEGAL AND PROVIDING PROGRAMS AND PENALTIES THEREOF"

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

TO THE COMMITTEE ON WELFARE OF CHILDREN

Message dated November 10, 2020, informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on November 9, 2020 passed Senate Bill No. 1855, entitled:

"AN ACT MAKING THE POSITION OF A COOPERATIVES DEVELOPMENT OFFICER MANDATORY IN THE MUNICIPAL, CITY AND PROVINCIAL LEVELS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991', AS AMENDED"

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

TO THE COMMITTEE ON
COOPERATIVES DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNICATIONS

Letters dated July 1 and August 3, 2020 of Susan A. Yap, Provincial Governor, Province of Tarlac, submitting to the House of Representatives a copy of their Reports on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation for the months of June and July 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Provinces.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated August 6, 2020 of Rosario K. Balais, Municipal Mayor, Municipality of Jimenez, Province of Misamis Occidental, informing the House of Representatives that their Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation as of July 31, 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Cities and Municipalities has been posted in three (3) conspicuous public places in their locality on August 6, 2020.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated September 2, 2020 of Gerardo A. Noveras, Provincial Governor, Province of Aurora, notifying the House of Representatives that their Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation for the month of August 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Provinces has been posted in their website, Facebook page and in three (3) conspicuous public places in their Province.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated September 2, 2020 of Susan A. Yap, Provincial Governor, Province of Tarlac, submitting to the House of Representatives a copy of their Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation for the

month of August 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Provinces.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

Email dated September 7, 2020 of Alan Jose K. Aroy, Municipal Mayor, Municipality of Macrohon, Province of Southern Leyte, giving notice to the House of Representatives that their Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation of the Bayanihan Grant to Cities and Municipalities for the month of August 2020 has been posted in their website that can be accessed through this link <https://bit.ly/3d5D6AZ> and in three (3) conspicuous public places in their locality.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated 7 September 2020 of Francis Anthony S. Garcia, City Mayor, City of Balanga, Province of Bataan, submitting to the House of Representatives a copy of their Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation for the month of August 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Cities and Municipalities.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated September 8, 2020 of Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III, Provincial Governor, Province of La Union, informing the House of Representatives that their Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation for the month of August 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Provinces has been posted in their official website (www.launion.gov.ph).

TO THE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated September 8, 2020 of Jayvee Tyron L. Uy, MPA, Provincial Governor, Province of Davao de Oro, informing the House of Representatives that their Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/

Activity Implementation for the month of August 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Provinces has been posted in their official website and in three (3) conspicuous public places in their Province.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated September 8, 2020 of Nancy A. Catamco, Provincial Governor, Province of Cotabato, informing the House of Representatives that their Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation of the Bayanihan Grant to Provinces has been posted in their website (www.cotabatoprov.gov.ph) and in three (3) conspicuous public places in their Province.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated September 9, 2020 of Arth Bryan C. Celeste, City Mayor, City of Alaminos, Province of Pangasinan, forwarding to the House of Representatives a copy of their Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation for the month of August 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Cities and Municipalities that has been posted in their website (www.alaminocity.gov.ph) on September 8, 2020.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated September 9, 2020 of Estelita M. Aquino, Municipal Mayor, Municipality of Moncada, Province of Tarlac, furnishing the House of Representatives a copy of their Reports on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation for the months of July and August 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Cities and Municipalities.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated September 10, 2020 of Dakila Carlo E. Cua, Provincial Governor, Province of Quirino, informing the House of Representatives that the said Provincial

Government has complied with the posting and reporting requirements of the Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation for the month of August 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Provinces on the PGQ website and in three (3) conspicuous public places in their Province.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated September 10, 2020 of Melchor D. Diclas, MD, Provincial Governor, Province of Benguet, informing the House of Representatives that their Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation for the month of August 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Provinces has been posted in their website.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated September 14, 2020 of Emerito S. Calderon, Municipal Mayor, Municipality of Samboan, Province of Cebu, informing the House of Representatives that their Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation for the month of August 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Cities and Municipalities has been posted in three (3) conspicuous public places in their locality.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated September 15, 2020 of Eufrazio D. Caidic, Municipal Mayor, Municipality of Sibutad, Province of Zamboanga del Norte, notifying the House of Representatives that the said Municipality has complied with the posting requirements of the Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation for the month of August 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Cities and Municipalities in three (3) conspicuous public places in their locality.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

Letter dated September 15, 2020 of Damian G. Mercado, Provincial Governor, Province

of Southern Leyte, informing the House of Representatives that their Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation for the month of August 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Provinces has been posted in their official website (southernleyte.gov.ph).

T O T H E C O M M I T T E E O N
A P P R O P R I A T I O N S

Letter dated September 15, 2020 of Chelita C. Amatong, Municipal Mayor, Municipality of Nabunturan, Province of Davao de Oro, informing the House of Representatives that their Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation for the month of August 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Cities and Municipalities has been posted in their website (www.nabunturan.gov.ph) and in three (3) conspicuous public places in their locality.

T O T H E C O M M I T T E E O N
A P P R O P R I A T I O N S

Letter dated September 16, 2020 of Estelita M. Aquino, Municipal Mayor, Municipality of Moncada, Province of Tarlac, furnishing the House of Representatives a copy of their Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation for the month of September 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Cities and Municipalities.

T O T H E C O M M I T T E E O N
A P P R O P R I A T I O N S

Letter dated September 18, 2020 of Rafael M. Naral, Municipal Mayor, Municipality of Anao, Province of Tarlac, informing the House of Representatives that their Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation for the month of August 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Cities and Municipalities has been posted in their Facebook page (Bayan ng Anao), website (www.anaotarlac.gov.ph) and in three (3) conspicuous public places in their locality.

T O T H E C O M M I T T E E O N
A P P R O P R I A T I O N S

Notice of Posting dated 22 September 2020 of Frolibar S. Bautista, Acting Municipal Mayor, Municipality of Malay, Province of Aklan, informing the House of Representatives that their Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation as of August 31, 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Cities and Municipalities has been posted in their website www.malay.gov.ph and in three (3) conspicuous public places in their locality.

T O T H E C O M M I T T E E O N
A P P R O P R I A T I O N S

Letter dated 24 September 2020 of Engr. Eloy C. Eclar, Municipal Mayor, Municipality of Gerona, Province of Tarlac, submitting to the House of Representatives a copy of their Reports on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation for the months of July, August and September 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Cities and Municipalities.

T O T H E C O M M I T T E E O N
A P P R O P R I A T I O N S

Email dated September 30, 2020 of Camelo D. Aroy, MBA, Local Budget Officer, Municipality of Malitbog, Province of Leyte, submitting to the House of Representatives a copy of their Report on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation for the month of September 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Cities and Municipalities, attested by Jose M. Go, Jr., Municipal Mayor.

T O T H E C O M M I T T E E O N
A P P R O P R I A T I O N S

Reports on Fund Utilization and Status of Program/Project/Activity Implementation for the months of April to August 2020 of the Bayanihan Grant to Cities and Municipalities, attested by Andres D. Lacson, Municipal Mayor, Municipality of Concepcion, Province of Tarlac.

T O T H E C O M M I T T E E O N
A P P R O P R I A T I O N S

Letter dated 6 October 2020 of Janice G. Ayson-Zales, Deputy Director, Office of the General

Counsel and Legal Services, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), transmitting to the House of Representatives duly certified electronic copies of the following BSP issuances, to wit:

1. Circular Letter No. CL-2020-045 dated 29 September 2020;
2. Circular Letter No. CL-2020-046 dated 01 October 2020;
3. Memorandum No. M-2020-076 dated 29 September 2020;
4. Memorandum No. M-2020-077 dated 28 September 2020;
5. Memorandum No. M-2020-078 dated 30 September 2020; and
6. Memorandum No. M-2020-079 dated 01 October 2020.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of the Committee on Rural Development and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 599), re H.B. No. 8005, entitled:

“AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE CONVERGENCE STRATEGY FOR SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROVIDING THE IMPLEMENTING MECHANISMS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 0461, 1418 and 4198

Sponsors: Representatives Kho (Elisa), Yap (Eric) and Enverga

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 600), re H.B. No. 8006, entitled:

“AN ACT CONVERTING THE CABUGAO SCHOOL OF HANDICRAFT AND COTTAGE INDUSTRIES (CSHCI) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BATO, PROVINCE OF CATANDUANES, INTO A TECHNICAL EDUCATION

AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA)-SUPERVISED AND ADMINISTERED SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS THE CATANDUANES POLYTECHNIC SKILLS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (CPSDI), AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 4686 and 5131

Sponsors: Representatives Go (Mark), Yap (Eric) and Teves (Jose)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Report of the Committee on Tourism and the Committee on Appropriations (Committee Report No. 601), re H.B. No. 8015, entitled:

“AN ACT DECLARING THE SICOOGON ISLAND LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARLES, PROVINCE OF ILOILO, AN ECOTOURISM ZONE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 1127

Sponsors: Representatives Aragones, Yap (Eric) and Tupas

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno).
Majority Leader.

CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 1279

REP. CRISOLOGO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adopt House Resolution No. 1279, as contained in Committee Report No. 558, and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the measure.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.*

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

* Copies of the resolution were distributed to the members earlier. Section 53, Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives provides that “[a] bill or joint resolution on Second Reading shall be read in full unless copies thereof have been distributed to the Members.”

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Resolution No. 1279, entitled: "A RESOLUTION CALLING UPON THE METRO MANILA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (MMDA) TO REVIVE AND STRICTLY IMPLEMENT THE ORGANIZED BUS ROUTE (OBR) SYSTEM IN METRO MANILA TO AT LEAST ITS OPERATIONAL STATUS IN 2009."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Majority Leader.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. CRISOLOGO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the session for a few minutes.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). The session is suspended.

It was 3:15 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:22 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). The session is resumed.
Majority Leader.

REP. CRISOLOGO. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we adopt House Resolution No. 1279.
I so move, Mr. Speaker.

ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 1279

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved, and the Resolution is adopted.
Majority Leader.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7112 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. CRISOLOGO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider on Second Reading House

Bill No. 7112, as contained in Committee Report No. 392, and direct the Secretary General to read the title.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read the title of House Bill No. 7112.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7112, entitled: "AN ACT CLASSIFYING THE USE OF CHLORINE AS A NOXIOUS OR POISONOUS SUBSTANCE IN ALL FISHING ACTIVITIES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8550, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10654, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'THE PHILIPPINE FISHERIES CODE OF 1998'."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Majority Leader.

REP. CRISOLOGO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Assistant Majority Leader from the Second District of Quezon City, Cong. Precious Hipolito Castelo, to sponsor the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). The Honorable Castelo is recognized to sponsor the measure.

REP. CASTELO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that the Explanatory Note be adopted as the sponsorship speech.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the Explanatory Note is taken as the sponsorship speech.
Majority Leader.

REP. CRISOLOGO. Mr. Speaker, there being no discussion or interpellation, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

* Copies of the bill were distributed to the members earlier. Section 53, Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives provides that "[a] bill or joint resolution on Second Reading shall be read in full unless copies thereof have been distributed to the Members."

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

The period of sponsorship and debate is hereby terminated.

REP. CRISOLOGO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of amendments is opened.

REP. CRISOLOGO. There being no committee or individual amendments, I move that we terminate the period of amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of amendments is closed.

Majority Leader.

REP. CRISOLOGO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 7112 as contained in Committee Report No. 392.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7112, please say *Aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7112

ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Those opposed, please say *Nay*. (*Silence*) The *ayes* have it; House Bill No. 7112 is approved on Second Reading.

Majority Leader.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 309

ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. CRISOLOGO. Mr. Speaker, I move that

we consider on Second Reading House Bill No. 309, as contained in Committee Report No. 401.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the Secretary General is directed to read the title of House Bill No. 309.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 309, entitled: "AN ACT INSTITUTING A THIRTY-FIVE (35) HOUR WORKING WEEK SCHEME AS AN ALTERNATIVE WORK ARRANGEMENT FOR EMPLOYEES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Majority Leader.

REP. CRISOLOGO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize to sponsor the measure, Cong. Precious Hipolito Castelo.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). The Honorable Castelo is recognized to sponsor the measure.

REP. CASTELO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that we adopt the Explanatory Note as the sponsorship speech.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

Majority Leader.

REP. CRISOLOGO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of sponsorship and debate is closed.

REP. CRISOLOGO. I move that we open the period of amendments.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

* Copies of the bill were distributed to the members earlier. Section 53, Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives provides that "[a] bill or joint resolution on Second Reading shall be read in full unless copies thereof have been distributed to the Members."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of amendments is opened.

REP. CRISOLOGO. There being no Committee or individual amendments, I move that we terminate the period of amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of amendments is closed.

Majority Leader.

REP. CRISOLOGO. I move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 309, as contained in Committee Report No. 401. I so move, Mr. Speaker.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 309, please say *Aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 309 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Those opposed, please say *Nay*. (*Silence*) The *ayes* have it; House Bill No. 309 is approved on Second Reading.

Majority Leader.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7440 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. TADURAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider on Second Reading House Bill No. 7762 and direct the Secretary — I mean it is House Bill No. 7440, and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the House Bill.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read the title of House Bill No. 7440.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7440, entitled: "AN ACT IMPROVING THE CONFIRMATION PROCESS FOR IMPERFECT LAND TITLES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE COMMONWEALTH ACT NO. 141, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'PUBLIC LAND ACT', AND PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1529, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'PROPERTY REGISTRATION DECREE'."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Majority Leader.

REP. TADURAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Precious Castelo, Assistant Majority Leader, to sponsor the said measure. I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). The Honorable Castelo is recognized to sponsor the measure.

REP. CASTELO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that the Explanatory Note be adopted as the sponsorship speech.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

Majority Leader.

REP. TADURAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of sponsorship and debate is hereby closed.

Majority Leader.

REP. TADURAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments for ...

* Copies of the bill were distributed to the members earlier. Section 53, Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives provides that "[a] bill or joint resolution on Second Reading shall be read in full unless copies thereof have been distributed to the Members."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none, ...

REP. TADURAN. ...the committee amendments and individual amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). ...the period of amendments is open.
Majority Leader.

REP. TADURAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that we terminate the period of amendments.
I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of amendments is closed.
Majority Leader.

REP. TADURAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to approve on Second Reading, House Bill No. 7440.
I so move, Mr. Speaker.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7440, please say *Aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7440 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Those opposed, please say *Nay*. (*Silence*) The *ayes* have it; House Bill No. 7440 is hereby approved on Second Reading.
Majority Leader.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7762 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. TADURAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider on Second Reading House Bill No. 7762 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the House Bill.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read the title of House Bill No. 7762.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7762, entitled: "AN ACT INSTITUTING POLICIES FOR THE PROTECTION AND PROMOTION OF THE WELFARE OF WORKERS OR INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS IN THE FILM, TELEVISION, AND RADIO ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno).
Majority Leader.

REP. TADURAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize Hon. Precious Castelo, Assistant Majority Leader, for her sponsorship of the said measure.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). The Honorable Castelo is recognized to sponsor the measure.

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

May I move that the Explanatory Note be adopted as the sponsorship speech.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

REP. TADURAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.
I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of sponsorship and debate is hereby terminated.
Majority Leader.

* Copies of the bill were distributed to the members earlier. Section 53, Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives provides that "[a] bill or joint resolution on Second Reading shall be read in full unless copies thereof have been distributed to the Members."

REP. TADURAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of amendments is open.

Majority Leader.

REP. TADURAN. Mr. Speaker, there being no individual amendments or Committee amendments, I move that we terminate the period of amendments.

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

The period of amendments is hereby closed.

Majority Leader.

REP. TADURAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to approve House Bill No. 7762, as contained in the Committee Report.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7762, please say *Aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7762 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Those who oppose, please say *Nay*. (*Silence*) The *ayes* have it; House Bill No. 7762 is approved on Second Reading.

Majority Leader.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7812 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. TADURAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider on Second Reading House Bill No. 7812 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the said measure.

I so move Mr. Speaker.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read the title of House Bill No. 7812.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7812, entitled: "AN ACT CREATING ANTI-DRUG ABUSE COUNCILS (ADACS) IN ALL PROVINCES, CITIES, MUNICIPALITIES, AND BARANGAYS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Majority Leader.

REP. TADURAN. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize, through Zoom, Rep. Ace Barbers to sponsor the said measure.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). The Hon. Ace Barbers is recognized to sponsor the measure.

The Honorable Barbers may proceed.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move ...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. ... that we suspend the session for a few minutes while we wait for the Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). The session is suspended.

It was 3:33 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:36 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). The session is resumed.

Majority Leader.

* Copies of the bill were distributed to the members earlier. Section 53, Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives provides that "[a] bill or joint resolution on Second Reading shall be read in full unless copies thereof have been distributed to the Members."

REP. CRISOLOGO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Sponsor, Cong. Ace Barbers.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the Hon. Ace Barbers is recognized to sponsor the measure.

REP. BARBERS. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Majority Leader.

Mr. Speaker, this Representation would have wanted to ask some of the authors to deliver their sponsorship speeches on this particular House bill because I know that since it has gone through careful scrutiny in the Committee, the authors would want to deliver their respective sponsorship speeches. In the interest of time, I tried my best to get in touch with the authors to be able to give them the opportunity as well to deliver their sponsorship speeches, but I was not successful in doing so. But in this light, Mr. Speaker, being the Chair of the Committee on Dangerous Drugs, I just would like to sponsor on behalf of all the authors of the said House bill. And along that line, may I ask that the Explanatory Note of the said House Bill be adopted as the sponsorship speech of all the authors of the said House Bill.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate our Sponsor, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved and the period of sponsorship and debate is hereby terminated.

Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

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

The period of amendments is hereby opened.

Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, there being no individual or Committee amendments, I move that we terminate the period of amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of amendments is hereby terminated.

Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 7812.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7812, please say *Aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7812 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Those opposed, please say *Nay*. (*Silence*) The *ayes* have it; House Bill No. 7812 is approved on Second Reading.

Majority Leader.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7838 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we consider on Second Reading House Bill No. 7838, as contained in Committee Report No. 554, and that the Secretary General be directed to read the title of the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is

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

The Secretary General is directed to read the title of House Bill No. 7838.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7838, entitled: "AN ACT PENALIZING THE ACT OF THROWING HARD OBJECTS AT MOTOR VEHICLES."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate. And to sponsor the measure, I move that we recognize Assistant Majority Leader Onyx Crisologo.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). The Honorable Crisologo is recognized to sponsor the measure.

REP. CRISOLOGO. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note be made as the sponsorship speech on the said House bill, Mr. Speaker.

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

Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of interpellation and debate is hereby closed.

Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of amendments is hereby open.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, there being no Committee or individual amendments, I move that we close the period of amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of amendments is hereby closed.

Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 7838.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7838, please say *Aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7838 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Those opposed, please say *Nay*. (*Silence*) The *ayes* have it; House Bill No. 7838 is hereby approved on Second Reading.

Majority Leader.

REP. ZUBIRI. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider on Second Reading House Bill No. 135, as contained in Committee Report No. 559.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). The Majority Leader is requested to please remove his face mask.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 135 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. ZUBIRI. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider on Second Reading House Bill No. 135, contained in Committee Report No. 559, and that the Secretary General be directed to read the title of the Bill.

* Copies of the bill were distributed to the members earlier. Section 53, Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives provides that "[a] bill or joint resolution on Second Reading shall be read in full unless copies thereof have been distributed to the Members."

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

The Secretary General is directed to read the title of House Bill No. 135.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 135, entitled: "AN ACT INSTITUTING POLICIES FOR THE PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF CAREGIVERS IN THE PRACTICE OF THEIR PROFESSION."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Majority Leader.

REP. ZUBIRI. Yes, Mr. Speaker, I move to open the period of sponsorship and debate. May we also recognize Rep. Onyx Crisologo to sponsor the said Bill.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). The Hon. Onyx Crisologo is recognized to sponsor the measure.

REP. CRISOLOGO. Mr. Speaker, I move that the Explanatory Note of House Bill No. 135 be made as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

Majority Leader.

REP. ZUBIRI. Mr. Speaker, I move to terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of sponsorship and debate is hereby terminated.

Majority Leader.

REP. ZUBIRI. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of amendments is open.

Majority Leader.

REP. ZUBIRI. There being no Committee amendments or individual amendments, I move to close the period of amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of amendments is hereby terminated.

Majority Leader.

REP. ZUBIRI. I move to approve House Bill No. 135, Mr. Speaker, on Second Reading.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 135, please say *Aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 135 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Those opposed, please say *Nay*. (*Silence*) The *ayes* have it; House Bill No. 135 is approved on Second Reading.

Majority Leader.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7871 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. ZUBIRI. Mr. Speaker, I move to consider House Bill No. 7871, as contained in Committee Report No. 562, and let the Secretary General be directed to read the title of the said Bill.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read the title of House Bill No. 7871.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill

* Copies of the bill were distributed to the members earlier. Section 53, Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives provides that "[a] bill or joint resolution on Second Reading shall be read in full unless copies thereof have been distributed to the Members."

No. 7871, entitled: "AN ACT DECLARING THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II (BTVWWII) A PUBLIC OFFICE AND THE FUNDS ENTRUSTED TO IT AS PUBLIC FUNDS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3518, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE VETERANS BANK AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES'."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno).
Majority Leader.

REP. ZUBIRI. Mr. Speaker, I move to open the period of sponsorship and debate and recognize Hon. Onyx Crisologo as the sponsor of the said measure.

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

The Honorable Crisologo is recognized to sponsor the measure.

REP. CRISOLOGO. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I move that the Explanatory Note of House Bill No. 7871 be made as the sponsorship speech on the measure.

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

Majority Leader.

REP. ZUBIRI. Mr. Speaker, I move to terminate the period of sponsorship and debate on the said measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of sponsorship and debate is hereby terminated.

Majority Leader.

REP. ZUBIRI. Mr. Speaker, I move to open the period of amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of amendments is open.

Majority Leader.

REP. ZUBIRI. There being no Committee amendments or individual amendments, I move to terminate the period of amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of amendments is hereby terminated.

Majority Leader.

REP. ZUBIRI. Mr. Speaker, I move to approve House Bill No. 7871 on Second Reading.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). As many as are in favor of House Bill No. 7871, please say *Aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7871 ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Those opposed, please say *Nay*. (*Silence*) The *ayes* have it; House Bill No. 7871 is approved on Second Reading.

Majority Leader.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ZUBIRI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the session for two minutes.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). The session is suspended.

It was 3:45 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:47 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). The session is resumed.

Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider bills under the Calendar of Business for Thursday and Friday.

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

Majority Leader.

OMNIBUS CONSIDERATION
OF LOCAL BILLS
ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to our Rules, allow me to put forth an omnibus motion for the consideration of the following measures:

House Bill No. 6444 under Committee Report 255;

House Bill No. 7726 under Committee Report 518;

House Bill No. 7732 under Committee Report 520;

House Bill No. 7733 under Committee Report 521;

House Bill No. 7736 under Committee Report 522;

House Bill No. 7737 under Committee Report 523;

House Bill No. 7769 under Committee Report 529;

House Bill No. 7770 under Committee Report 530;

House Bill No. 7772 under Committee Report 533;

House Bill No. 7773 under Committee Report 534;

House Bill No. 7774 under Committee Report 535;

House Bill No. 7775 under Committee Report 536;

House Bill No. 7776 under Committee Report 537;

House Bill No. 7777 under Committee Report 538;

House Bill No. 7783 under Committee Report 539;

House Bill No. 7798 under Committee Report 541;

House Bill No. 5367 under Committee Report 544;

House Bill No. 5363 under Committee Report 545;

House Bill No. 5364 under Committee Report 546;

House Bill No. 5328 under Committee Report 547;

House Bill No. 7839 under Committee Report 555;

House Bill No. 7840 under Committee Report 556;

House Bill No. 7841 under Committee Report 557;

House Bill No. 7869 under Committee Report 561; and

House Bill No. 7879 under Committee Report 563.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

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

Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of sponsorship and debate and that we consider the respective Explanatory Notes as the sponsorship speeches on the said measures.

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

Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, there being no Member who wishes to interpellate on the aforementioned local bills, I move that we terminate the period of sponsorship and debate.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none, the period of interpellation is terminated.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we now open the period of amendments and approve the Committee amendments, if any, as contained in the respective Committee Reports of the aforementioned bills.

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

Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, there being no Committee or individual amendments, I move that we terminate the period of amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the period of amendments is hereby terminated. Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I now move that we approve on Second Reading the following House bills: House Bills Nos. 6444, 7726, 7732, 7733, 7736, 7737, 7769, 7770, 7772, 7773, 7774, 7775, 7776, 7777, 7783, 7798, 5367, 5363, 5364, 5328, 7839, 7840, 7841, 7869, and 7879.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). As many are in favor of the omnibus approval on Second Reading of the aforementioned House bills, please say *Aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

OMNIBUS APPROVAL OF LOCAL BILLS ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Those opposed, please say *Nay*. (*Silence*) The *ayes* have it; the aforementioned House bills are approved on Second Reading.

Majority Leader.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7805 ON SECOND READING

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 7805 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the Bill.

I so move.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read the title of the Bill.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7805, entitled: "AN ACT PROVIDING PROTECTION TO CONSUMERS AND MERCHANTS ENGAGED IN INTERNET TRANSACTIONS, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE ELECTRONIC COMMERCE BUREAU, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Wes Gatchalian, the distinguished Chairman of the Committee on Trade and Industry, to sponsor the said measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*)

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the Honorable Gatchalian is recognized to sponsor the measure.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REP. GATCHALIAN

REP. GATCHALIAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and good afternoon to all my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, may I be allowed to play a short video in relation to my Bill, House Bill No. 7805.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno). The Honorable Gatchalian may proceed with his video.

(*Video presentation*)

REP. GATCHALIAN. Mr. Speaker, as early as the Sixteenth Congress, I have already believed in the potential for growth of the

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eCommerce industry in the Philippines. Back then, the landscape was very different. There were only a few companies in the eCommerce industry. Uber and Grab were still at their naissance stage, food delivery service were unheard of and to buy groceries, you had to physically go to the supermarket.

Fast forward to 2020, we have seen how fast the Internet economy has grown. Even before the pandemic struck, Google and Temasek already estimated the Philippine Internet economy, which includes eCommerce, online travel, online media and ride-hailing to be valued at \$7 billion, growing from just \$2 billion in 2015. At that time, the Internet economy was expected to grow by more than three times to \$25 billion by 2025. The steady rise can be attributed to Filipinos becoming increasingly connected to the Internet.

Based on the latest surveys published by the United Nations, the Philippines has an estimated population of 108 million people. Seventy-three million or 67 percent of the Philippine population are active Internet and social media users. In just over a decade, the Internet penetration rate grew from a mere 9 percent to a staggering 67 percent. This represents a growth rate of over 600 percent over a ten-year period. This penetration rate is among the highest in the world, with the global average only at 54 percent. Filipinos also spend longer hours daily on the Internet, at 10 hours per day vis-à-vis the global average of only six hours and 42 minutes. However, despite having one of the highest penetration rates and Internet use in the region, the Philippines is lagging behind its neighbors in terms of gross market value generated by the Internet economy. The Philippines actually had the lowest GMV in the region in 2019 at \$7 billion, lower than Malaysia which is at \$11 billion, Vietnam at \$12 billion, Singapore at \$12 billion, Thailand at \$16 billion, and Indonesia at \$40 billion.

It goes without saying, the Philippine Internet economy is still growing. It is performing competitively compared to global averages but when we compare the Philippines with its neighbors in the ASEAN region, the Philippines is really lagging behind. The Internet economy, with its

massive potential, only contributes to 2.1 percent of the country's GDP, far behind the contribution of the Internet economies to their respective GDPs of countries like Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia or Vietnam. The primary reason why Philippine MSMEs lag behind the adoption of eCommerce is because the Philippines lacks policies and regulations that will facilitate online transactions and cross-border trade processes.

The pandemic has made this necessity all the more apparent. Many businesses quickly transitioned to selling online to survive in these abnormal circumstances, while many more consumers have turned to buying online to protect themselves from the spreading virus. However, as we have seen in the news, the sudden rise in the number of eCommerce users has also exposed many Filipinos to unscrupulous individuals waiting to take advantage of the vulnerability of the Philippine Internet economy. This is very alarming and is a cause for concern because we are just barely recovering from the pandemic and the last thing our consumers need is to become a victim to the scammers and thieves.

As correctly declared by the President during his penultimate State of the Nation Address, and I quote:

Major economic activities are taking place in a borderless environment with meager regulatory controls. They expose consumers to various risks related to security, data privacy, and misrepresentation. x x x We need to build trust and confidence in online transactions, stronger protection for online consumers, and enabling measures for online businesses x x x.

This Bill is meant to address these concerns. It seeks to regulate all business-to-business and business-to-consumer commercial transactions conducted over the Internet including those related to Internet retail, online travel, online media, ride-hailing services and digital financial services. On the other hand, it will not cover consumer-to-consumer transactions which are one of those non-commercial quantity transactions.

With the knowledge that the Internet economy can easily cross physical borders, we are introducing the concept of what we call “purposeful availment.” This means that any entity which purposefully and voluntarily directs its activities to the Philippine market shall be deemed as doing business in the Philippines and as a consequence be subject to applicable Philippine laws. This will enable the Philippines to acquire jurisdiction over foreign entities that do not have physical presence in the country.

It is the intention of this Bill to level the playing field between online and brick-and-mortar stores. Nothing in the Bill shall give any benefit that is more favorable nor place online activities at a disadvantage in relation to enterprises which offer goods and services physically.

This Bill will also create what we call the “eCommerce Bureau,” which shall be a one-stop shop central authority for consumers, merchants and platforms to resolve their concerns. In this regard, the bureau will lead the development of an online dispute resolution mechanism to easily address customer concerns which have ballooned significantly this 2020. Based on the latest data collected by the Department of Trade and Industry, over 14,869 individuals have reported being injured by dishonest and unprincipled individuals who have preyed on innocent Internet users this 2020. This represents a 600-percent increase compared to the number of complaints received in 2019. According to the DTI, Filipinos are mostly defrauded by false and deceiving advertisements, poor product quality, and unfair and unconscionable sales acts and practices. What is more surprising, Mr. Speaker, is that almost half of these reported injuries came out of sales facilitated through major eCommerce platforms, platforms we trust. Additionally, the Philippine National Police has reported that from January to October 2020, it has received about 1,500 complaints in relation to crimes committed with the use of Internet technology. These complaints mainly consist of online scams, phishing and credit card fraud. Likewise, Mr. Speaker, drug pushers have also found

a way to use the Internet to expand their illegal trade. According to the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency or PDEA, over 877 cases were reported to have been conducted through the use of Internet technology this year.

These things are happening precisely because there is currently no regulation that will compel these platforms to ensure the safety of our consumers. Right now, Mr. Speaker, many platforms are merely self-regulating. The problem is that when these self-regulations fail, the consumers have nowhere to turn to. Many are oftentimes left hanging or are put through such a long process that many of them just choose to abandon their claims.

Under the proposed measure, platforms will be held liable for the misdoings of their sellers if the platforms fail to exercise diligence in preventing loss or if it fails to take necessary measures to prevent products that do not comply with the law from being sold. On the other hand, the Bill also requires the DTI to lead the establishment of an industry-led eCommerce trustmark that will represent safety and security in Internet transactions which will encourage the transition to online business and give consumers peace of mind. Ultimately, Mr. Speaker, this Bill was borne out of our collective desire to culture an environment founded on trust among consumers and merchants as a means to increase the number of eCommerce participants and achieve sustainable growth. In view of the foregoing, I am seeking your support for the immediate passage of this Bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno).
Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, to interpellate our Sponsor, I move that we recognize the distinguished Representative of BAYAN MUNA, Deputy Minority Leader Carlos Isagani Zarate.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Puno).
The Honorable Zarate is recognized for his interpellation.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Will the good Sponsor yield to some clarificatory questions on the Bill in ...

REP. GATCHALIAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, you mentioned earlier that the main objective of this Bill which you said is first in our jurisdiction to regulate transactions made via the Internet. Is that correct, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker? And this will cover all business transactions currently being conducted via the Internet? Is that correct, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. GATCHALIAN. Yes, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ZARATE. And these transactions you mentioned, in fact, include those via transportation-hailing services, even media—did you mention it, media—and day-to-day business transactions, ‘no, like if you want to possibly order food from a particular business? So, when you say the objective is to regulate, my first question, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, we know that in using the Internet, there are boundaries that are clearly vague and, in fact, blurred. The boundaries, in fact, ‘no, are blurred. So, how will this proposed Bill address that issue, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, for example, on territorial jurisdiction? You know, the good Sponsor knows for a fact that our laws will only apply within our jurisdiction, where we can implement the provisions if this Bill becomes a law, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Thank you for the question, Mr. Speaker.

The Committee had agreed to include what we call a “purposeful availment,” as I mentioned or I showed in the slide a while ago. Yes, I agree that there are territorial issues that we have to consider. Sa totoo lang, ang pinakamarami po at pinakamalalakas na online platforms here ay, sa totoo lang, mga dayuhan at they have international offices

outside of the Philippines. So, in the provision that we included, which is the purposeful availment, anybody who has a direct agenda to make money or have certain revenues will be included in the said measure. And papaano po natin gagawin iyon? We have given them a couple of options, no’. Number one is they have to set up shop in the Philippines. Hindi naman ho kailangang malaking opisina ito, kahit maliit lang. Option two is to get a law firm or an equivalent partner, local partner, to represent them in the country. Pangatlo po is to merely register with what we call the “eCommerce Bureau.” Kapag sinabi ho nating mag-rehistro, ay kailangan po mayroon hong information. Kung sakali pong may mga complaints tayo na dumating ay mayroon tayong contact person na hahabulin dahil karamihan po sa Internet websites natin dito ay talaga pong hindi naman natin alam saan sila nag-o-operate at kung sino po ang may-ari nitong mga Internet website.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

We will take a concrete example, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker. Like, for example, I will order a pair of shoes, for example, from Amazon, ‘no, and considering na wala namang opisina iyong—or even Alibaba, for example, ‘no, wala naman silang opisina rito, if there is a violation, ‘no, halimbawa iyong in-order ko nga na sapatos ay size 10, for example, tapos ang dumating sa akin size 11 at puro kaliwa ang laman, so dahil directly in-order ko ito online at walang opisina rito iyong Alibaba, for example, how are we going to impose the provisions, for example, of penalizing this Internet platform, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. GATCHALIAN. Well, iyan exactly ang problema na nangyayari ho sa kasalukuyan. These online platforms are self-regulating at ang gobyerno natin hindi ho nagre-regulate. Bakit ho? Dahil wala ho tayong batas patungkol dito. Right now, the DTI has an eCommerce office with minimal manpower, ngunit sa dami po ng kaso, hindi na rin ho nila maasikaso. Other government agencies tulad ng PDEA may cybercrime unit, ang PNP may cybercrime unit, ang DOJ may

cybercrime unit, pero wala hong isang entity that puts them together. So, sa kasalukuyan po, kapag kayo po ay nag-order ng sapatos at mali po ang natanggap ninyo o peke pa ang natanggap niyong sapatos, ang only remedy ninyo is babalik kayo doon sa online platform, mag-eemail kayo, magre-register kayo sa help desk. Me, myself, Congressman Zarate, I have an experience, an ongoing case right now, sa isang bagay na binili ko, kailangan ko pang ipadala sa Amerika iyong file. Iyan po ang pinakaiiyakan ng ating mga consumers right now. Wala silang mapuntahan, hindi makatulong ang gobyerno. At sa ipinakita nating datos kanina, sa Department of Trade and Industry, out of 14,869 cases, 1,543 lang po ang nareresolba. This is the reason why the DTI and the government agencies greatly support this. At ako po ay nagpapasalamat sa kanila dahil during the hearing, narinig ko po ang suporta nila dito, na kailangan na natin ngayon magkaroon ng tinatawag nating "Internet Transaction Act."

To answer that po, iyong inyong tanong sa tinatawag nating "eCommerce Bureau," ngayon, compelled po lahat ito, maging international o local, maging maliit ka man na online platform at malaki, compelled kayong magrehistro sa eCommerce Bureau natin. At in return, kung meron tayong—in return, bibigyan kayo ng DTI ng what we call the "trustmark," kung saan kapag ipinakita natin o ipinost natin itong trustmark, meaning nito, kayo po ay dumaan na sa mga requirements ng Department of Trade and Industry. At ganoon din, kung nangyari po iyong tulad sa circumstance na sinabi ninyo po ay kaagad-agad matutulungan kayo ng gobyerno in solving that issue.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

Iyon iyong binanggit ninyo sa Section 5 na magiging remedy natin ano, iyong especially relating to those companies or businesses located outside of the Philippines or not a resident in the Philippines, nabanggit ninyo nga kanina, there are three ways: for them to notify the eCommerce Bureau and second, they may designate a resident agent who shall be authorized to receive on their behalf notices

and processes. And you mentioned there is a third option—is that a law office or iyon na rin iyong agent?

REP. GATCHALIAN. Local partner, ...

REP. ZARATE. Ah, local partner.

REP. GATCHALIAN. ... a representative office.

REP. ZARATE. Okay. But my question now, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, what if that is only a single transaction and itong opisina na ito o itong negosyanteng ito refuses to even notify our eCommerce Bureau or wala silang local agent rito o wala silang partner dito? How can we enforce the provisions of this particular bill? Because there are penalties for violations on this particular bill, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. GATCHALIAN. Yes. Well, Mr. Speaker, ang mga remedies natin ay unang-una, not only pertaining to the online merchants or sellers within an online platform, merong remedies at penalties rin tayo doon mismo sa online platform. Kasi ang nangyayari ho, siguro alam ninyo rin ho, ang mga major online, lalo na eCommerce online platform natin, sa loob niyan napakarami pong mga MSMEs na mga merchants. So, in this provision, under Section 11 or 12, if I am not mistaken, ang online merchants, pag nag-violate po, after all the arbitration, all the required hearings, et cetera, enumerated in this bill, kapag sila po ay na-deem na mali talaga ho nila, then the online merchants shall be charged 100 percent of the amount of the goods, plus the confiscation of those goods.

Kapag ang online platform naman ay nahuli rin, sila po ay puwedeng patawan ho ng not less than P500,000 at not more than P5 million, plus revocation of license. And please take note that the DTI can take down their website. Ibig sabihin po, tulad lang po ng mga brick-and-mortar stores natin, kapag nahuli po ng mayor's office, nahuli po ng DTI, nahuli po ng BIR na sila po ay in violation, ang isang tindahan ay puwedeng i-padlock. Ganoon din po ang gagawin natin. The eCommerce

Bureau will have the power to take down and shut down the website if they are found to be in violation. Of course, meron po tayong mga remedies bago ho umabot to that aspect.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

Related to that, nabanggit ninyo na rin ito, ano, this is now very common especially sa Facebook and Instagram. In these platforms, mayroon hong mga kababayan natin diyan na they are doing business transactions there, ano, nagpo-post ng mga things to sell and then ang isasagot sa inyo kapag you are interested, "PM me for the price" kapag nagtatanong ka ng presyo. But, of course, that is a different issue for later on, ano, on how to address that. But ito bang mga transactions na ito are also covered under this bill, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. GATCHALIAN. Ah, yes, kung ang pinapatukoy ninyo po, the good Congressman Zarate, ay ang what we call, well, there are many business models kasi on the Internet platform, siguro po ang tinutukoy ninyo po iyong classified business, wherein ang Website na iyon ay nagpapakilala lang ng buyer at seller and put them together without—kaya sabi ninyo nga "PM" e, it means na magkakasaraduhan sila on their own without the payment going through the website itself. To answer, yes, kasama po sila dito.

REP. ZARATE. And what is the mode of regulation in this aspect, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. GATCHALIAN. Mr. Speaker, pareho din po. Ang mangyayari ho doon, kung we find po na iyong third party platform o online platform ay in violation of the measures po enumerated in this bill, then ganon din po, puwede po silang mapatawan ng monetary penalty at puwede rin mismo po maibaba ang kanilang website. We are doing this not because para pa idamay pa ang mga third party. We are doing this so that this third party will take responsibility in everything that goes on and all the transactions that goes through the website.

Ang nangyari po kasi dito, Mr. Speaker, kadalasan po kung mayroon pong violation, let us say, gamitin na lang natin na may in order ka, ito po iyong litrato, pagdating po ay defective o durog-durog at hindi naman ito iyong nasa litrato, ang unang sasabihin po ng online platform, "Wala ho kami diyan e, hugas-kamay kami diyan dahil kayo pong dalawa ang nag-usap diyan." In this bill, Mr. Speaker, we have provisions on what we call the "limited liability." Naka-enumerate po iyan diyan—(a), (b), (c)—ilang issues diyan wherein kapag na-prove po na itong platform ay in violation of these circumstances under what we call the "limited liability" and then pati ho siya kasama ho diyan sa makakasuhan o mape-penalize po.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker. I can—again, let us take a concrete example, ano. Pumasok ako sa Lazada or Shopee and I ordered something from a certain company that posted a product doon sa Lazada and/or Shopee but then eventually, may problema doon sa product na natanggap ko, ano. Gaya noong ipinakita ninyo kanina, when I opened the box, in fact, hindi ito iyong nakita ko online. So, there is a violation sa warranty and et cetera. So ang question now, just for clarity, the principal entity that is liable under this bill is that company that sells the product. Is that correct? Then eventually, even the platform, meaning Lazada and Shopee, will also be liable automatically despite the fact, for example that they, for example, conducted due diligence in ascertaining that all these companies that post their products in their platform comply with their standards, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. GATCHALIAN. Well, kung solidarily po ay automatic po na kasama ho sila. But under Section 26 po, mayroon din po tayong tinatawag na "limited liability" and we further dissected this to three parts. And doon po sa letter (b), makikita ho natin—one, two, three, four—mayroon din po tayong limited liability conditions ho dito. But—basahin ko na lang ho kahit iyong first part lang ng letter "(a)" which I think might answer your query. To the good Congressman: "eCommerce platform

operators shall be solidarily liable with an online merchant to the consumers only to the extent of civil damages suffered by the consumer as a direct result of the transactions without prejudice to liabilities that may incur under the next succeeding paragraphs or the provisions of the other existing laws.”

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

Yes. So, under Section 26, in fact, the proposed bill enumerated the instances where there is solidary liability between an online merchant and the platform operator.

REP. GATCHALIAN. To correct—just to correct you Congressman Zarate, we have a proposal na, iyan po iyong old version, which we will be proposing later on during the period of amendments, ...

REP. ZARATE. Okay.

REP. GATCHALIAN. ... what we call the “limited liability.” Iyong binasa ko ho, I think wala ho diyan.

REP. ZARATE. So, this will no longer apply, this Section 26?

REP. GATCHALIAN. It will no longer apply.

REP. ZARATE. It is no longer solidary liability but limited liability?

REP. GATCHALIAN. Limited liability, yes po.

REP. ZARATE. Now, if it is a limited liability, will it not defeat the purpose, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, of, you know, making this platform and the merchant as well, accountable? Kasi kung limited lang iyong liability ng platform ay sila naman talaga—without that platform, this merchant, for example, cannot post his or her product in that platform. So, kung mayroong prejudice doon sa consumer, I think it is just proper that both the platform and the merchant will be solidarily liable. Kasi hindi naman papasok—

walang direct contact iyong consumer and the merchant without the platform, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker. Kaya nga nakita niya itong produktong ito dahil pumasok siya doon sa platform like Lazada, for example, like Shopee, for example, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Yes. This is the reason, Mr. Speaker, na nilagyan natin ng—yes, we changed it from solidarily to limited liability, but this is the main reason na pinaghigpitan pa natin ang due diligence na gagawin po ng online platforms in order to accept iyong mga online merchants or members to come into their platform. So, marami hong nakapasok diyan na mas hinigpitan ho natin kasi ang gusto natin, ika nga, quality not quantity.

Ang nangyari ho kasi ngayon, in the absence of a law, itong mga online platforms natin like Lazada, tanggap lang nang tanggap ho kahit sino ng hindi naman ho naman nila dyinu-due diligence. Yes, they have certain requirements to pass, but marami ho doon magbukas ka lang ng account, quantity, tanggap ho sila nang tanggap kasi mas maraming goods ang gusto nilang ibenta. So, this design ay binaligtad natin in a way na gusto natin quality. Quality, meaning po, na they will have the requirements similar to the requirements po ng tindahan sa mall. Halimbawa, sa mall po ay nire-require natin sila ng, you know, five to six permits tulad po ng BIR, DTI permit, mayor’s permit, et cetera. Ganoon din po ang mga rules na nilagay natin. But just to take note also, in the proposed amendment on Section 26, (4), if the eCommerce platform operator permits an online merchant not otherwise authorized to do business in the Philippines, to offer its goods and services for sale, sila po ay magiging liable. So, mayroon po tayong mga certain parameters here bago sila ho maging liable kasi ho, in a way, there are incidents that are very much different from the kind of business model na pinapasok ho. Kasi, Lazada ho, malaki iyan, with many members, pero may mga websites naman po na maliit lang, na talaga hong walang mga help desks, walang mga parameters in getting requirements from their members, basta tayo lang ng website, benta lang nang benta. So, very different po iyong setup na ito, a very different business model.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

Now, so the main reason, of course, you were saying you will introduce that amendment later on, pero as it is now, I think as stated here in Section 26, this Representation actually really protects our consumer, ano. Tapos ngayon, ang sabihin ninyo mamaya, “Ah, limited na lang iyong liability noong platform.” That will, I think, dilute the purpose of this very bill that we are trying to pass kasi the degree of diligence now will even be lower than what is stated in Section 26. As it is worded now, baka it will defeat the purpose, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Hindi naman ho. We still maintain iyong essence nitong Bill kaya ho what I read a while ago, letter (a), there is still—the operator shall be solidary liable with an online merchant to the consumer only to the extent of civil damages. We are just limiting certain parameters ho; andiyan pa rin ho iyong “solidarily” but on certain conditions na in-enumerate natin na apat bago sila maging joint in solidary. Hindi naman ho sa tinanggal natin, binigyan pa rin ho natin sila ng apat na parameters that they have to fulfill. Kung hindi, solidarily po makakasuhan sila. Pero kung ito naman po ay na-fulfill, limited liability lang ang mag-e-end up ho nila kasi iba-iba ho iyong business model ng Lazada or other small websites. Iba-iba ho e, so hindi ho ki-cater sa lahat po if we do the full solidarily.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

So, as it is, just on this aspect pa rin, ‘no, the degree of diligence required from the platform operator is still the same degree of diligence, ordinary diligence of a good father of family or what degree of diligence...

REP. GATCHALIAN. Sorry ...

REP. ZARATE. ... is required now...

REP. GATCHALIAN. The ano po?

REP. ZARATE. ... from the platform operator?

REP. GATCHALIAN. Sorry, can you repeat?

REP. ZARATE. Kasi rito, sa ngayon, sa Section 26, as worded, Solidary Liability, for example in letter (a), you mentioned here that dapat ang degree of diligence ng platform operator is that of an ordinary...

REP. GATCHALIAN. Yes, bale mag-iiba na po as after consultation with our Committee members, we found out that this will be much suitable to the Internet environment that we have right now in the Philippines.

REP. ZARATE. Anyway, so I hope that that matter will be properly clarified.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Yes po. But I assure you, the good Congressman Zarate, that ang essence natin is still there. We want to hold the online platforms and the merchants liable, and consumer protection will still be adhered online or offline. Ito po ang main essence at ika nga mission ng panukalang ito.

REP. ZARATE. Okay. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

Moving now to another point that I want to be clarified, the creation of an eCommerce bureau. Of course, this is a welcome proviso to strengthen the enforcement aspect, especially, of this proposed bill, ano. Now, the powers and functions of the enforcement bureau, nabanggit ninyo rin ito kanina, marami namang nakalagay dito but as it is now, you mentioned that, in fact, in the enforcement of, for example, cyber-related offenses and crimes, maraming mga agencies ang involved diyan. Siyempre andiyan iyong PNP Cyber Crime Unit, andiyan rin iyong National Bureau of Investigation and, to some extent, even the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency and other law-enforcement agencies.

Now, in this proposed bill, there is also a power given to the eCommerce Bureau. Subparagraph (g), for example, says that the bureau will “investigate, *motu proprio*, and file the appropriate cases for violations of any provisions of this Act.” Now, my question to

that, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, considering na napakaraming agencies nga na involved, 'no, and nagki-crisscross iyong jurisdiction, will the good Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, clarify who has the primary jurisdiction in the enforcement of the provisions of this bill? For example, if there is a violation, can a consumer directly go to the PNP and ask the PNP to file a complaint against this particular merchant and platform or is it necessary, as a condition for the filing of that case, that the consumer will go first to the eCommerce Bureau and get the endorsement of the eCommerce Bureau, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. GATCHALIAN. Yes, the latter, Mr. Speaker. So, if a complaint happens, the complainant will first go to the eCommerce Bureau and then the eCommerce Bureau, first, will try to arbitrate, bring-in the buyer and the seller, hanapin po iyong problema, ayusin iyong problema. Kapag hindi ho maayos, then the complainant can file the necessary case. Number two, the eCommerce Bureau will be the central body to consolidate all the cases in partnership and in consultation with the other government agencies. So, the eCommerce Bureau again will hear, will arbitrate kung ito po ay kailangang ibato sa PDEA, kailangang ibato sa PNP, kailangang ibato po sa NBI o DOJ or Intellectual Property Office natin. So the eCommerce Bureau will have the mandate to throw it to the agency and make the necessary follow-ups.

Ang importante po sa lahat, mayroon na po tayong sumbungan, na we should promote through the Department of Trade and Industry, para ho ang mga naloloko sa Internet ay may matakbuhan kaagad sila.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

I am just thinking, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, dahil wala naman kasing presence itong eCommerce Bureau in all localities, for example, will it not defeat again the purpose of prosecuting those who violate if this becomes a law kung magiging condition *sine qua non* in the filing of the case na kailangan munang mayroong consent ng eCommerce Bureau? Or is the good Sponsor referring

only to administrative and civil cases, not criminal cases? Kasi ho sa criminal, kapag sa criminal violation, if it is a criminal complaint, 'no, I think it is better that parang mayroong concurrent jurisdiction dito, na iyong ating mga consumers can easily file a complaint even with the other law enforcement agencies. Will the good Sponsor clarify that, Mr. Speaker.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Maraming salamat po sa katanungan ninyo.

Mr. Speaker, it is not mandatory that a complainant will go to the eCommerce Bureau or DTI. He has the option, I guess, depending on the deepness of the case 'no. He has the option to go to court straight. He has the option to go to the government agency straight. He has the option of going to the eCommerce Bureau. So, at least, there is now an eCommerce Bureau kasi dati ho – kasalukuyan po ay wala naman hong ganito, so the eCommerce Bureau can help. Kung kaya naman hong hindi dumaan sa korte at magkasuhan, baka sa eCommerce Bureau maging arbitrary, kayang maayos ho doon. So, just to share po to the good Congressman, on Section 4, we have enumerated the scope and coverage of the eCommerce Bureau and the function.

REP. ZARATE. Okay. Thank you for the clarification, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

So, I suppose if it is – again, kung administrative cases iyon, possibly kailangan – mas magandang doon sa eCommerce Bureau, but doon sa mga criminal in nature 'no, because mayroong mga penalties dito, they can, as you mentioned, they can easily – go directly to the other law enforcement agencies. Now, dito lang, may isang concern lang nga pala ako, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, dito sa scope and coverage. Doon sa online media providers, are you referring this to the online traditional media concept, for example, news outlet, media outlet or ...

REP. GATCHALIAN. Hindi po. I am referring to Netflix and the other related media that are presently viewing to the Filipino consumers – selling and viewing to the Filipino.

REP. ZARATE. This refers to those media entities that stream lives or that stream movies, et cetera.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Yes, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ZARATE. So, puwede ho bang mailarawan ng ating kagalang-galang na Sponsor how are we going to regulate this?

REP. GATCHALIAN. Okay, so, ...

REP. ZARATE. Yes.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Thank you sa katanungan po.

Mr. Speaker, for example na lang po, shall we say po na itong mga online media platforms have shown pornography na pinagbabawalan naman ng MTRCB at ito po ay na-stream ho na hindi naman po dumaaan sa government agencies at mayroon pong magulang na nakita ho nito, kaagad-agad po puwede rin ho siyang mag-complain sa eCommerce Bureau. So, again, similar din ho at pareho rin po ang process natin sa pagbili po ng goods, paggamit mo ng mga online messenger, Yahoo or logistics tulad po ng Lalamove or Grab at similar din po sa online media. So, the eCommerce Bureau is present to handle cases like these.

REP. ZARATE. Well, thank you, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker. I am just a little bit concerned about that kasi ho, who determines, for example, that what this particular media entity is streaming violates certain, for example, moral standards or violates some—certain, yes, standards, for example, moral standards and political standards, for example, in our jurisdiction because that, to this Representation, may transgress the issue of freedom of expression and even freedom of the press dahil pinakikialaman mo na, niregulate mo kung ano iyong gustong i-stream ng isang online media entity, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Well, Mr. Speaker, right now naman ho, mayroon na tayong existing laws, let us say, the laws governing

the MTRCB, kung saan naman dapat sila po ang nagsasabi kung ito bang mga pinapalabas po, whether it is political or similar to that, are applicable and allowed by law or not. So, the eCommerce Bureau cannot exactly say or the DTI cannot exactly say kung ito po ay infringement na ng freedom of speech natin or related to that. Basta ho, ito pong House bill natin, ang panukala natin will just focus on a Body that will be or na sasalo po ng complaints natin. And after that complaint naman, gaya ng sabi ninyo, there will be proper hearings and arbitration na pagdadaan nito. So siguro, doon na lang natin malalaman kung tama ba o mali, infringement ba ito ng rights ng isang tao. So, doon sa Body na iyon, but the eCommerce Bureau cannot tell you that. The eCommerce Bureau cannot judge on that matter.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

Naitanong ko iyan dahil, of course, earlier, napag-usapan natin na, in fact, under this law or under this proposed bill ay there is authority given to the Secretary of Trade and Industry, in fact, to take down websites. So, I am just a little bit—I am really concerned na kasama sa regulation dito iyong usapin noong online, iyong streaming because there were instances in the past, for example, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, na sa movies, for example, banned ang showing nila hindi lang dito sa Pilipinas, kahit na sa ibang jurisdictions dahil it may offend the sensibilities of some persons in power. So, iyon po ang nakakabahala doon kung wala tayong malinaw na standards on why we are going to regulate this particular entity or sector, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Well, Mr. Speaker, please do remember that inside this House Bill, the Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry does not necessarily mean na at any given time po ay puwede siyang magbaba o mag-take down ng isang website or online platform. Lahat ito dadaan pa rin ho sa due notice and hearing. Meaning, lahat po ng steps dito, magbaba ka ng website, hintuin mo ang pagbenta ng droga o hintuin mo ang pagbenta ng ipinagbabawal na gamit, lahat po ito will undergo due notice and hearing.

So, I guess through that means, doon na lang po natin makikita at madya-judge kung ito ba ay infringement na ng political rights or human rights natin or of whatever rights that it may be connected with. Sa ngayon lang, isinama natin ang online media because ang mga kumpanyang tulad ng Netflix, ito po ay international company and because of this pandemic, lahat ho ng Pilipino, napakalaki po ng sales nila at ng revenue nila na nanggagaling po sa streaming natin ngunit wala ho nagre-regulate sa kanila. Pati ho nga buwis, hindi ko ho alam kung nagbabayad ba ho sila ng buwis, saan sila hahanapin, kung may opisina ba ang Netflix dito sa Pilipinas o wala dahil everything ho is online streaming e. So, unfair naman po ito sa cinema natin. Ang cinema natin nagbibigay po ng trabaho; ang cinema natin nagbabayad ng business permit; ang cinema natin ay sumusunod sa patakaran at mga batas po ng Pilipinas; ngunit itong mga Netflix, at Amazon, mga dayuhan ho at nag-o-operate through online na hindi naman po nakakatulong sa ating gobyerno. Kaya ho ito po ang misyon po nitong batas, ito pong nilalaman nitong batas, na i-level po ang playing field natin. Maging ikaw man ay online, offline, brick-and-mortar, medium-scale or large-scale po, dapat po lahat po ito ma-regulate at mag-register sa ating gobyerno.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker. But I will just have to register, again, that concern.

Now, on to my other point for clarification. Section 15, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, Qualifications to Engage in eCommerce. So, we enumerated sino iyong qualified but again, may I raise a concern dito sa paragraph which states: "A resident of the Philippines who engages, abets, or aids in unauthorized eCommerce activities in the ordinary course of trade or business shall be subject to any appropriate penalty as may be provided by law." Now, ang concern ko rito, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, I am just an ordinary consumer, for example, tapos may nakita ako online and I am not even aware kung that person is registered or not, or is duly licensed or not, but nag-engage ako sa transaction sa kaniya. Eventually, that person was found to have

violated some provisions of this proposed Bill because he is not qualified or that merchant is not qualified. Can I now be prosecuted under this Bill because I may be considered now as a person who engaged, abetted or aided the unauthorized eCommerce activity of that particular merchant or platform, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. GATCHALIAN. Mr. Speaker, just to clarify, kayo po iyong buyer or iyong seller?

REP. ZARATE. I am the buyer.

REP. GATCHALIAN. You are the buyer. So, ang mapo-prosecute ho dito kung nalaman ninyo po na itong seller na inyong naka-transact ay hindi ho nag-register sa DTI at nalaman ninyo rin ho na wala ho siyang any of these qualifications enumerated po in this bill, then as a buyer, you have the right ho na kasuhan siya. And kung may complaint, lalong-lalo na, siguro dadating naman iyong punto na ho iyong gagawin lang naman ng isang buyer iyon kung mayroon tayong complaint po na nangyari. Nakakuha kayo ng damaged goods sa kaniya or pekeng gamit pala, so that is the time you will engage. But yes, you will have the right to file the necessary cases against that seller.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

Now, what will also be the liability of the platform? For example, kagaya noong napag-usapan natin kanina, very common na ngayon, for example, sa Facebook and even sa Instagram na may nag-a-advertise diyan. But eventually, if this becomes a law, tapos maraming hindi qualified, as enumerated in Section 15, is the platform now liable ...

At this juncture, Deputy Speaker Puno relinquished the Chair to Deputy Speaker Aurelio "Dong" D. Gonzales Jr.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Yes, Mr. Speaker.

REP. ZARATE. ... because the platform can

be considered – puwede siyang ma-consider, that the platform abetted or aided or even engaged in that unauthorized eCommerce activity of a certain merchant, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. GATCHALIAN. As long as pumasok ho siya doon sa category natin of limited liability then yes, puwede rin ho siyang – ang online platform po ay kasama ho sa makakasuhan, mape-penalize po ng not more than P500,000 or not more than P5 million but not less than P500,000, plus the revocation of their license and the possible takedown of the website ho.

REP. ZARATE. Okay. Thank you for that clarification, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

So, ang last na lang po na concern ko dito, dito sa Penalties in Section 30. Again, ang sabi po natin dito, we want to protect our consumers, that is why we want to regulate all these transactions. But, of course, second, we also have to protect our small entrepreneurs who are now – especially sa panahon ngayon ng pandemic, a lot of our entrepreneurs are, you know, resorting to, especially itong mga maliliit, they use the Internet to sell their products just to augment their income, for example. So, dito sa Section 30, once you fail to, and in relation to Section 15, failure to register will automatically make you liable even if that – just a clarification, kahit once ka lang nag-advertise, for example sa online platform using the Internet, then you will already be penalized under this Section 30, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker. Is that what the intention of this provision is, Mr. Sponsor?

REP. GATCHALIAN. Well, Mr. Speaker, the mandate of the Committee on Trade and Industry is to always protect the interest of our micro, small and medium enterprises, and our mandate is also to adhere and always protect our consumers. Iyan po ang number one mandato ng aking committee. Kaya ho dito po sa panukala natin – hopefully, I answered iyong tanong ninyo ho – ang tinatawag nating “consumer-to-consumer” or “one-off, non-commercial quantity transaction” po ay hindi ho kasama. Example po niyan, alam ko naman ngayong pandemya, talaga pong

dahil sa kahirapan ng taumbayan, nawalan po ng trabaho ang maraming OFWs natin, we are forced to stay at home, marami pong natanggal sa trabaho, marami pong nabunga na mga entrepreneurs. And the Committee is very much happy with what we have been seeing through Facebook, through the online platforms. Kaya ho sinigurado ho namin na ang mga consumer-to-consumer – let us say mayroon ka lang isang lumang item na gusto mo lang i-dispose at mayroong buyer naman na gustong bumili, lumang damit, lumang sofa, lumang sapatos, iyan po ay hindi kasama nitong panukala. Kung ang iyo namang ibinebenta ay mga maliliit lang na cake or pastry na hindi naman po of commercial quantity, kayo po ay hindi ho kasama dito sa batas na ito. Kaya ho, inilagay ho natin the exact provision there, using the words “ordinary course of business” because ito naman po ang kasalukuyang definition po under the Tax Code na mga hindi pinapatawan nang buwis. So, ipinareho lang po namin. Pero doon ho, mga Kasama, sa business-to-business or business-to-consumer, commercial quantity na at medyo maramihan na po, iyan po mga kasama ay magiging covered nitong platform at, yes, you have to register and get the necessary requirements. Pareho lang po ng tindahan sa mall, pareho lang po ng mga nakikita nating tindahan sa labas where we are requiring them these.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker.

Just for the record, what is the standard when we say it is a “non-commercial quantity transaction”? If my transaction, for example, is only 100,000, or 10,000, or 25,000, or one million, is that commercial or non-commercial?

REP. GATCHALIAN. Well, Mr. Speaker, kung ano lang po ang definition natin sa existing batas natin, in the Tax Code, which is the ordinary course of business. Hindi naman po natin spinecify dito sa House Bill.

REP. ZARATE. So, ang reference, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, is the definition of the ordinary course of business as defined in our Tax Code?

REP. GATCHALIAN. Yes.

REP. ZARATE. That is what the good Sponsor is saying?

REP. GATCHALIAN. Yes.

REP. ZARATE. And ...

REP. GATCHALIAN. Sorry, paki-ulit ho iyong tanong.

REP. ZARATE. Gusto ko hong ma-define, malaman. Binanggit ninyo kasi ang reference natin dito is the ordinary transaction made in the ordinary course of business, or not made in the ordinary course of business, will not be considered as commercial. So, ang banggit ninyo kanina, kung iyong transaksyon naman dito sa – if it is a consumer-to-consumer transaction, C-to-C, for as long as it is non-commercial quantity, you will not be penalized, you will not be covered. So, kaya iyon po ang itinatanong natin, ano ba ang standards? How much transaction is considered commercial and how much transaction is not considered commercial, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. GATCHALIAN. So, basically, on the quantity – the exact figures po, wala po tayong nakasaad dito sa loob po ng panukala natin. Ang ginawa lang ho natin is to follow ho, without prejudice ho sa existing Tax Code ho natin, kung ano po iyong definition nila ng ordinary course of business.

REP. ZARATE. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, those are the matters that I want to be clarified regarding this proposed Bill. Thank you for entertaining my questions. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, the next colleague who wishes to interpellate the sponsor is the Gentleman representing the

Party-List APEC. I move that we recognize Rep. Sergio Dagooc, who is present through Zoom, Representative Dagooc.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Representative Dagooc is recognized for his interpellation.

REP. DAGOOC. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Good afternoon everyone.

Would the distinguished Sponsor yield to some clarificatory questions from this Representation?

REP. GATCHALIAN. Yes, Mr. Speaker.

REP. DAGOOC. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Sponsor.

Sorry that I have no copy of the measure being deliberated on but I just want to be clarified on some important matters. First, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor, may quasi-judicial authority ba ang batas with regard to the imposition of penalties and the conduct of – as I have heard in the deliberation, this Body will be conducting hearings, due process. So, does the Body have a quasi-judicial power or authority?

REP. GATCHALIAN. Mr. Speaker, if the good Gentleman is referring to the eCommerce Bureau, no, they do not have quasi-judicial powers.

REP. DAGOOC. So meaning, Mr. Speaker, distinguished Sponsor, they cannot – they are not the Body that will impose the sanctions and penalties under this proposed measure?

REP. GATCHALIAN. No, Mr. Speaker, it is the court and there is always due process that will be given to both parties.

REP. DAGOOC. Does this Body like the – because they are under the Department of Trade and Industry, may kapangyarihan din ba ang Body na ito that will impose price regulations?

REP. GATCHALIAN. No, Mr. Speaker,

mayroon na pong ahensiya na nagha-handle po niyan under the Department of Trade and Industry.

REP. DAGOOC. So, price regulation, when it comes to products, is still under the regulation of the appropriate Department of Trade and Industry unit, including product standards?

REP. GATCHALIAN. Yes, Mr. Speaker.

REP. DAGOOC. Iyon lang po ang nililinaw ko, Mr. Speaker, distinguished Sponsor. Thank you po.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Thank you to the good Gentleman and thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7805

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the consideration of House Bill No. 7805.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) Hearing none, the motion is approved.

Majority Leader.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7904 ON SECOND READING

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider House Bill No. 7904 and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the said measure.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The Secretary General is directed to read the title of the Bill.*

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7904, entitled: "AN ACT FURTHER STRENGTHENING THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING LAW, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING ACT OF 2001, AS AMENDED."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the distinguished Sponsor of the said measure, Cong. Junie Cua, to sponsor the measure.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The distinguished Sponsor, Congressman...

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF REP. CUA

REP. CUA. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Majority Leader.

It is my honor and pleasure to sponsor House Bill No. 7904. In the interest of time, I would like to submit for the record my Explanatory Note on the Bill as my sponsorship speech. And suffice it to say that the objectives of this Bill are first, to protect and preserve the integrity and confidentiality of bank accounts and to ensure that the Philippines shall not be used as a money laundering site for the proceeds of any unlawful activity; second, to facilitate the prosecution of persons involved in money laundering activities, wherever committed, by extending the government's cooperation in transnational investigation and on money laundering cases; and, finally, to enforce targeted financial sanctions relative to the financing or proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism and financing of terrorism pursuant to the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions. These are the noble objectives of this bill, Mr. Speaker, and I appeal to this august Body to support the passage of this Bill as this is one of the measures that are being awaited

* Copies of the bill were distributed to the members earlier. Section 53, Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives provides that "[a] bill or joint resolution on Second Reading shall be read in full unless copies thereof have been distributed to the Members."

by the Financial Action Task Force so that the Philippines will not be gray-listed in the evaluation of the FATF.

Thank you so much, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Majority Leader.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Thank you, Cong. Junie Cua for your sponsorship speech

Majority Leader.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7904

REP. BAGATSING. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the consideration of House Bill No. 7904.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) Hearing none, the motion is approved.

Majority Leader.

REP. BAGATSING. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Kit Belmonte from the Sixth District of Quezon City.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The Hon. Kit Belmonte is recognized for his interpellation.

ELECTION OF MEMBERS TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

REP. BELMONTE. Thank you very much and good afternoon, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, on the part of the Minority, I move for the nomination and election of the following as members of the Committee on Rules:

Rep. Belmonte read the names of the House Members elected to the Committee on Rules, per Journal No. 9, dated November 18, 2020.

As Deputy Minority Leader:

Rep. Stella Luz A. Quimbo, vice Rep. Joseph Stephen "Caraps" S. Paduano

As Assistant Minority Leader:

Rep. Irene Gay F. Saulog, vice Rep. Arnolfo "Arnie" A. Teves Jr.

As Assistant Minority Leader:

Rep. Sergio C. Dagooc, vice Rep. Stella Luz A. Quimbo.

I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) There is none, the motion is approved.

Congratulations to the newly elected members from the Minority.

The Majority Leader.

ELECTION OF REP. GUYA TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES

REP. BELMONTE. Mr. Speaker. If I may, Mr. Speaker. I further move on the part of the Minority, I move for the nomination and election of Rep. Godofredo N. Guya as member for the Minority of the Committee on Legislative Franchises, vice Rep. Arnolfo "Arnie" A. Teves Jr.

I so move, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) There is none; the motion is approved.

Congratulations to the new member of the committee.

Majority Leader.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7904

Continuation

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. BAGATSING. Mr. Speaker, I move that we resume the consideration of House Bill No. 7904 and direct the Secretary General to read the title.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The Secretary General is directed to read the title of the Bill.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7904, entitled: "AN ACT FURTHER STRENGTHENING THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING LAW, AMENDING FOR

THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING ACT OF 2001, AS AMENDED.”

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. BAGATSING. Mr. Speaker, I move that we recognize the Hon. Ferdinand Gaité from the BAYAN MUNA Party-List for his interpellation.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Cong. Ferdinand Gaité of BAYAN MUNA is hereby recognized for his interpellation.

REP. GAITE. Maraming salamat po, Mr. Speaker.

Sa ating mga kasamahan sa Kongreso dito sa loob ng plenaryo at gayundin sa Zoom, at ang ating mga kababayan, isang magandang hapon sa ating lahat.

Pahihintulutan po ba ng ating kagalang-galang na Chair ng Committee on Banks and Financial Intermediaries, Chairperson Junie Cua, na makapag-clarify lang sa mga ilang provisions ng panukalang House Bill No. 7904, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mr. Chairman, can you answer that? Mr. Sponsor, Cong. Junie Cua is recognized.

REP. CUA. Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am online.

In response to the honorable Congressman Gaité, isa pong malaking karangalan sa Kinatawan na ito na sumagot sa anumang katanungan na itatanong ng atin pong kaibigan.

REP. GAITE. Maraming salamat po, Mr. Speaker. Salamat po, Mr. Sponsor.

Ang unang batas na lumabas hinggil sa Anti-Money Laundering ay noong 2000 po—2001. Tama po ba, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor?

REP. CUA. Tama po iyon. Iyon po ang kauna-unahang pagkakataong ito po ay naipasa ng ating Kongreso.

REP. GAITE. At ito po iyong Republic Act No. 9160. Tama po, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor?

REP. CUA. Tama po iyon, Mr. Speaker.

REP. GAITE. Salamat po.

At kung titingnan natin iyong background noong 2001, kung maaalala po natin, ito po iyong panahon noong—naaalala po natin iyong 9-11 na kung saan naganap nga po iyong trahedyang sa Estados Unidos. Kung kaya ito iyong parang naging aksyon ng gobyerno bilang pagtugon doon sa paglaganap ng terorismo, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor. Tanong ko lang po, karugtong, mula noong 2001, noong inilabas ang Republic Act No. 9160, ilang beses na ho ba naamyendahan ang naturang batas, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor?

REP. CUA. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, if I am not mistaken, there had been several amendments to the law. There are four amendments already and let me read the Republic Acts that preceded this amendment: R.A. No. 9194, R.A. No. 10167, R.A. No. 10365, and R.A. No. 10927.

REP. GAITE. Salamat po, Mr. Speaker.

So, in a span of 19 years, tama po ba, naka-apat—R.A. No. 9194 was in 2002; R.A. No. 10365 was in 2012; 10927, Republic Act, was in 2016. Ano po iyong isa pang nabanggit, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. CUA. One-zero-one-six-seven.

REP. GAITE. One-zero-one-six-seven. At ngayon naman po ay balak muling amendahan ang naturang batas. At nabanggit ninyo nga po iyong layunin, una, to protect and preserve the integrity and confidentiality of bank accounts and ensure that the Philippines shall not be used as a money laundering site for the proceeds of any unlawful activity. Maitanong ko, Mr. Speaker, ano iyong naging inadequacy ng naturang batas noong panahon na noong 2016, kung hindi ako nagkakamali, or some years ago where apparently nagamit ang Pilipinas sa isang money laundering na paraan, ang pondo ng Bangladesh Federal Reserves ay nakarating sa banking system ng Pilipinas? Ano ho ba ang naging inadequacy ng batas na ito para maharangan ang ganitong uri ng mga illegal na transaksyon sa ating bansa, Mr.

Speaker, Mr. Sponsor. At tanong na rin, paano ngayon makatutulong itong batas na ito, or even the previous amendments, in preventing itong tinatawag nating mga pondong acquired illegally at nilo-launder para palabasin na legitimate na mga transactions ito, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. CUA. As a result po, Mr. Speaker, noong money laundering, noong money laundering—hello, we ask you to start your video.

Mr. Speaker, ito pong Bangladesh ay nangyari po noong 2016 at noong panahon po na iyon, ang atin pong Anti-Money Laundering Law ay hindi po nakasama iyong pagmo-monitor dito sa mga casino. At iyon pong laundering ng pera na iyan ay ipinadaan po sa casino. Kaya po noong 2017 ay ipinasa natin ang R.A. No. 10927 upang sakupin at isama as a covered institution itong casino.

REP. GAITE. Salamat po, Mr. Speaker. Salamat po, Mr. Sponsor.

Ano ho kaya ang dahilan kung bakit napakabilis ng proseso ng amendment ng batas na ito na halos one, two, three—kung ito ay maisabatas pala, Mr. Speaker, panlima na itong amendment since 2001. Ano ho bang mga nagiging problema sa batas? Ang problema ho ba ay masyado itong specific o masyado itong broad kung kaya't hindi masaklawan ang mga nabanggit? Example, iyong casinos, nabanggit ninyo po, dati hindi ito saklaw. Ngayon, dito po, ang isang napansin ko sa panukalang batas, ang isinama po ngayon iyong real estate, real estate developers and brokers will be considered as covered persons. Parang doon sa naturang batas, na nagiging very specific, na kung saan every time na lang, after the fact na may nangyaring insidente, isang money laundering crime, ay doon pa lang natin aamendahan iyong batas. Hindi ba parang nangyayari ay aanhin pa iyong damo kung patay na iyong kabayo? Meaning, hindi natin proactively nasasawata iyong money laundering mula noong panimula pa lamang. Dahil everytime nangyayari ang isang insidente—nabanggit ninyo po iyong sa Bangladesh, ngayon real estate naman, ano ang assurance natin na this

will provide a mechanism where iyong mga tinatawag nga nating “kriminal” o “iligal” na mga pondong pumapasok sa ating mga bangko ay maiiwasan, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Chair?

REP. CUA. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, napakaganda po ng observation ng ating kaibigan, subali't alam ninyo po, ang ating legislature ay dynamic at we are responding to what is happening outside and inside the Philippines. So siyempre po, ang ating reaction ay nakasalalay din sa mga recommendations ng evaluator natin, o ito iyong tinatawag nating “FATF” or “Financial Action Task Force.” Every so often, ito ay nagko-conduct ng evaluation at sila po ay nag-aaral ng mga bagong scheme na ginagamit ng mga money launderer. So, maaari po na at the time na ang ating batas ay *sufficiente*, siyempre ayaw din naman nating ma-over burden ang ating mga citizen at ating mga business institutions, so we respond accordingly. And very recently, the evaluation of the FATF in their what is called the “MER” or “Mutual Evaluation Report,” ang isa po nilang napansin, na ang mga money launderers ay nagbabago ng estratehiya at ang kanilang laundered money ay nai-invest sa mga real estate, at karamihan ng ating nahuhuli na mga personalities na involved sa illegal activities ay pawang ang pera nila ay nate-trace doon sa investment sa real estate, kaya po ganyan po ang nangyayari.

REP. GAITE. Salamat po sa kasagutan, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor.

At ito nga, nabasa ko nga po iyong binabanggit ninyo pong MER o iyong Mutual Evaluation Report released in October 2019. Ito iyong Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Measure evaluation ng Asia/Pacific Group under the auspices of the FATF. At tama po na may mga pagbabago iyong mga kriminal at iba pang mga puwersang maitim para gamitin ang banking system para mai-launder ang kanilang mga sources and funds. Kung gayon, tama po ba iyong pagkaintindi ko, Mr. Chair, Mr. Speaker, that the amendments, the fifth amendment, itong ika-limang amendment natin na gagawin sa Anti-Money Laundering Act ay also in response to the evaluation

made by the APG and based on the Mutual Evaluation Report, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor?

REP. CUA. Tama po iyong inyong statement. Ito po ay in response to the evaluation of the FATF. Nakikita po nila na ang ating kasalukuyang batas ay mayroong mga ganitong pagkukulang kaya iyan po ang ating ipinapanukala ngayon.

REP. GAITE. Salamat po, Mr. Speaker, salamat po, Mr. Sponsor.

Binabasa ko rito iyong isang item of the Executive Summary and sabi naman that the Philippines has made significant improvements in its technical compliance etcetera. But number seven states, "However, certain challenges noted in the previous MER remain, particularly in relation to the timeliness of competent authorities (other than the AMLC) accessing records held by banking institutions that are protected under bank secrecy legislation."

Mr. Speaker, will the proposed amendments open the veil of banking secrecy through the proposed legislation, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker?

REP. CUA. Iyan pong bank secrecy ay wala pong gaanong mababago dito sa ating panukala sapagkat iyan pong bank secrecy ay covered ng ibang batas, iyong ating Bank Secrecy Law. So, ...

REP. GAITE. Tama po ba ang intindi ko, hindi specifically i-a-address ng proposed House Bill No. 7904 iyong nabanggit ninyo doon sa objective na to protect and preserve the integrity and confidentiality of bank accounts and to ensure that the Philippines shall not be used as a money laundering site for the proceeds of any unlawful activity? Ang sabi ninyo po, it will be addressed by the Bank Secrecy Law. Tama po, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor?

Mr. Speaker, nawala po yata ang ating ...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mr. Sponsor, Congressman Junie Cua, nandiyan pa po kayo?

REP. CUA. Yeah. May – oo, oo ...

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Please proceed, Mr. Sponsor.

REP. CUA. ... medyo nagkaroon lang ng technical problem. So, I would like to state that the AMLC has limited access to bank deposits and that particular fact is recognized by the FATF.

REP. GAITE. Salamat, Mr. Speaker. Kasi ang pagkaintindi ko, this is an act further strengthening the AMLA, the Anti-Money Laundering Law.

Nevertheless, Mr. Speaker, ilang katanungan na lang po. Tama po ba, hindi ako masyado o hindi ako lawyer, pero ano ho ba ang pinagkaiba noong freeze order sa asset – basahin ko lang po iyong nabanggit dito. Ano ho iyong pinagkaiba ng freeze order sa provisional asset preservation order or asset preservation order? Ano ho ang pagkakaiba noon para sa clarity lang ng Kinatawang ito, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor?

REP. CUA. Yes. Ang asset preservation order, ito po ay ini-issue ng Regional Trial Court, samantala po iyong freeze order ay ini-issue ng Court of Appeals and limited lang po iyan. Iyong freeze order na iyan ay limited to six months.

REP. GAITE. Ano po iyong sinasaklaw ng – ano ho ba iyong effect ng freeze order? Ano ang pinagkaiba noong freeze order sa provisional asset preservation order liban sa kung sino iyong nag-i-issue nito? Ano ho iyong pagkakaiba noong effect nitong naturang mga orders na ito, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor?

REP. CUA. Iyan pong freeze order, iyan po ay ini-issue ng Court of Appeals at ang buhay po niyan ay anim na buwan lamang. Ngayon, bago pa po iyan mag-expire, ang ginagawa po ng AMLC para maipagpatuloy pa ay nag-a-apply po sila ng asset preservation order. Kumukuha naman po sila niyan doon sa Regional Trial Court. So, iyan po ay dalawang paraan para habang kinakailangan na magkaroon ng kontrol ang AMLC sa mga pag-aari ...

REP. ZARATE. Mr. Speaker.

REP. CUA. ... ng mga personalities involved sa kaso ay...

REP. ZARATE. Mr. Speaker.

REP. CUA. ... ay ginagamit po nila iyan.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Congressman Zarate is recognized.

REP. ZARATE. Yes, Mr. Speaker. May I raise a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Much as we want to continue to hear the interpellation between the Honorable Gaité and the Honorable Cua, we have a technical difficulty, Mr. Speaker. We cannot clearly hear, especially we observed that the bandwidth of the Honorable Cua is very low and in that case, Mr. Speaker, can we possibly recommend ...

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the session.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. CUA. This has...

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. I move to suspend the session, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The session is suspended.

It was 5:29 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:29 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The session is resumed.
Majority Leader.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7904

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the

consideration of House Bill No. 7904 while our IT is fixing our facilities through Zoom.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7805 *Continuation*

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider...

REP. CUA. Mr. Speaker ...

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. ... House Bill No. 7805 ...and direct the Secretary General to read the title of the said measure.
I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the Secretary General is now directed to read the title of the Bill.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7805, entitled: "AN ACT PROVIDING PROTECTION TO CONSUMERS AND MERCHANTS ENGAGED IN INTERNET TRANSACTIONS, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE ELECTRONIC COMMERCE BUREAU, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the parliamentary status of this Bill is that the distinguished Sponsor, Congressman Gatchalian, was in the period of sponsorship and debate. He was sponsoring the said measure.

Mr. Speaker, there being no more legislator who wishes to interpellate the distinguished Sponsor, I move that we close the period of sponsorship and debate.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Any objection? (*Silence*) Hearing none, the motion is approved.
Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of amendments.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) Hearing none, the motion is approved.

Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we close the period of Committee amendments since there are no Committee amendments.

I so move.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) Hearing none, the motion is approved.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we open the period of individual amendments.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) Hearing none; the motion is carried.

Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, for his proposed individual amendments, I move that we recognize the distinguished Assistant Majority Leader from Bukidnon, the distinguished Cong. Manuel Zubiri.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Congressman Zubiri is recognized.

REP. ZUBIRI. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Thank you very much, DML Mikey Arroyo and, of course, my chairman, Chairman Wes Gatchalian.

May he be amenable to—I have proposed amendments, Mr. Speaker. Is it okay with the Chairman of the Trade Committee?

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Please proceed. Please proceed.

INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS

REP. ZUBIRI. Yes, Mr. Speaker, on page 11, line 24, insert the phrase, UPON DUE NOTICE AND HEARING before the word “shall,” Mr. Speaker.

REP. GATCHALIAN. I accept, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the Majority joins the distinguished Congressman from Bukidnon in his individual amendment.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Congressman Zubiri.

REP. ZUBIRI. Second, on page 11, line 28, delete the phrase “upon due notice and hearing.”

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mr. Sponsor.

REP. GATCHALIAN. I accept, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the Majority joins the distinguished Sponsor, Congressman Gatchalian, and Congressman Zubiri in their individual amendment.

REP. ZUBIRI. Amendment number three, on page 12, line 29, replace the number “11” to number 5, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mr. Sponsor.

REP. GATCHALIAN. I accept, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the Majority joins the distinguished Sponsor in accepting the amendment.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Congressman Zubiri.

REP. ZUBIRI. On page 17, line 22, after the word "publish." insert the phrase AT A CONSPICUOUS PART, Mr. Speaker.

REP. GATCHALIAN. I accept, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The Sponsor accepted. Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the Majority joins the distinguished Sponsor in accepting the amendment.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Congressman Zubiri.

REP. ZUBIRI. On page 26, line two, after the word "disputes," insert the following sentence, WHERE AN ECOMMERCE PLATFORM OPERATOR DOES NOT HAVE AN INTERNAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION MECHANISM, ALL COMPLAINTS THROUGH AN ODR AGAINST AN ECOMMERCE PLATFORM OPERATOR SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED BY PROOF THAT INTERNAL DISPUTE RESOLUTIONS WERE EXHAUSTED, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mr. Sponsor.

REP. GATCHALIAN. I accept, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the Majority joins the distinguished Sponsor in accepting the amendment.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Congressman Zubiri.

REP. ZUBIRI. On page 27, line 21, replace the word "solidary" with the word LIMITED. Then after the word "liability," insert the phrase OF ECOMMERCE PLATFORM OPERATORS, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mr. Sponsor.

REP. GATCHALIAN. I accept, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the Majority joins the distinguished Sponsor in accepting the amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Honorable Zubiri.

REP. ZUBIRI. On page 27, line 21, insert a new paragraph which shall state: ECOMMERCE PLATFORM OPERATORS SHALL BE SOLIDARILY LIABLE WITH AN ONLINE MERCHANT TO THE CONSUMER ONLY TO THE EXTENT OF CIVIL DAMAGES SUFFERED BY THE CONSUMER AS A DIRECT RESULT OF THE TRANSACTION, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO LIABILITIES THAT MAY INCUR UNDER THE NEXT SUCCEEDING PARAGRAPH OR THE PROVISIONS OF OTHER EXISTING LAWS, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mr. Sponsor.

REP. GATCHALIAN. I accept, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the Majority, again, joins the distinguished Sponsor in accepting the amendment.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The Honorable Zubiri.

REP. ZUBIRI. On page 27, line 22 replace the word “solidarily” to HELD and insert the word ONLY between “merchant” and “under,” Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mr. Sponsor.

REP. GATCHALIAN. I accept, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGALARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the Majority joins, again, the distinguished Sponsor in accepting the amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Congressman Zubiri.

REP. ZUBIRI. On page 27, line 25, after the word “diligence,” insert the following phrase: IN COMPLYING WITH ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER SECTION 18 HEREOF, RESULTING, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mr. Sponsor.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Accepted, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the Majority accepts the amendment.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The Honorable Zubiri.

REP. ZUBIRI. On page 27, line 26, omit the words “prevent any,” Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mr. Sponsor.

REP. GATCHALIAN. I accept, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGALARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the Majority again joins the distinguished Sponsor in accepting the amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Congressman Zubiri.

REP. ZUBIRI. On page 27, line 31, after the word “operator,” insert the following phrase: FAILS, AFTER NOTICE, TO ACT EXPEDITIOUSLY TO REMOVE, OR DISABLE ACCESS TO GOODS OR SERVICES APPEARING ON THEIR PLATFORM THAT THEY, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mr. Sponsor.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Accepted, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the Majority joins the distinguished Sponsor in accepting the amendment.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Congressman Zubiri.

REP. ZUBIRI. On page 27, line 31, omit the phrase “that the goods and services appearing on their platform do not comply with,” Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mr. Sponsor.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Accepted, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the Majority joins the distinguished Sponsor in accepting the amendment.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Congressman Zubiri.

REP. ZUBIRI. On page 27, line 33, before the word "law," insert the following phrase, TO BE NOT COMPLIANT WITH, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mr. Sponsor.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Accepted, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the Majority joins the Sponsor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The Honorable Zubiri.

REP. ZUBIRI. On page 27, line 34, omit the phrase "and fails to take necessary measures," Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mr. Sponsor.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Accepted, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the Majority joins the Sponsor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The Honorable Zubiri.

REP. ZUBIRI. On page 28, line 1, omit the entire paragraph (d), Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mr. Sponsor.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Accepted, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the Majority joins the Sponsor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Congressman Zubiri.

REP. ZUBIRI. On page 28, line 4, omit the entire paragraph (e), Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mr. Sponsor.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Accepted, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the Majority joins the Sponsor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Congressman Zubiri.

REP. ZUBIRI. On page 28, line 9 replace the phrase "duly registered with the appropriate regulatory agencies" to NOT OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THE PHILIPPINES TO OFFER ITS GOODS AND SERVICES FOR SALE, RESULTING IN LOSS OR DAMAGE TO THE CONSUMER, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mr. Sponsor.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Accepted, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the Majority joins the Sponsor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Congressman Zubiri.

REP. ZUBIRI. On page 28, line 11, insert the following:

ECOMMERCE PLATFORM OPERATORS SHALL NOT BE HELD LIABLE UNDER THE FOLLOWING INSTANCES:

(1) THE ECOMMERCE PLATFORM

OPERATOR RELIED ON THE ACCURACY, AUTHENTICITY, AND VERACITY OF AN ONLINE MERCHANT'S REPRESENTATIONS, WARRANTIES OR SUBMITTED REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS, EVEN IF SUCH INFORMATION OR DOCUMENTS ARE LATER PROVED TO BE INACCURATE, FALSE OR UNTRUE: PROVIDED THAT, THE ECOMMERCE PLATFORM OPERATORS ARE ABLE TO SHOW EVIDENCE OF GOOD FAITH AND THAT REASONABLE EFFORTS WERE EXERTED TO ASCERTAIN THE ACCURACY AND RELIABILITY OF THE DOCUMENTS OR INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY SUCH ONLINE MERCHANT.

2. ECOMMERCE PLATFORM OPERATORS RELIED ON THE REPRESENTATIONS, WARRANTIES OR SUBMISSIONS OF AN ONLINE MERCHANTS STATING THAT IT IS DULY ORGANIZED, VALID AND EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF THE PHILIPPINES OR UNDER THE LAWS OF ITS RESPECTIVE JURISDICTIONS TO ENGAGE IN ECOMMERCE, OR HAS OBTAINED ALL NECESSARY LICENSES, PERMITS OR APPROVALS REQUIRED FOR THE SALE OF GOODS AND SERVICES, OR THAT SAID GOODS AND SERVICES CONFORM TO APPLICABLE LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS, Mr. Speaker.

That is all, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Mr. Sponsor.

REP. GATCHALIAN. I accept, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, the Majority joins the distinguished Sponsor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Congressman Zubiri.

REP. ZUBIRI. Everything has been said, Mr. Speaker, thank you very much.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). All individual amendments are carried. Majority Leader.

REP. GATCHALIAN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Majority Leader.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Thank you, Mr. Sponsor. Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, before we close the period of individual amendments, I move that we manifest the request of the honorable Senior Deputy Majority Leader Boying Remulla of Cavite that he be made a coauthor of the said measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The Secretary General shall take note of that. Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, there being no more individual amendments, I move that we close the period of individual amendments.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved. Majority Leader.

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we approve on Second Reading House Bill No. 7805. I so move.

VIVA VOCE VOTING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). All those in favor, please say *Aye*.

SEVERAL MEMBERS. *Aye*.

APPROVAL OF H.B. NO. 7805
ON SECOND READING

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). And those who are against please say *Nay*. (*Silence*) The *ayes* have it; House Bill No. 7805 is now approved on Second Reading. Majority Leader.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend as we wait for the distinguished Sponsor of the Anti-Money Laundering Bill amendments to come down here.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The session is suspended. (*Gavel*)

It was 5:42 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:48 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The session is resumed.
Majority Leader.

CONSIDERATION OF H.B. NO. 7904
Continuation

PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we resume the consideration of House Bill No. 7904, as contained in Committee Report No. 565, and that the Secretary General be directed to read the title of the measure.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) Hearing none, the motion is approved.

Majority Leader.

The Secretary General is now hereby directed to read the title of the Bill.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Bill No. 7904, entitled: "AN ACT FURTHER STRENGTHENING THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING LAW, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING ACT OF 2001, AS AMENDED."

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, the parliamentary status is that we are in the period of sponsorship and debate. To continue the sponsorship and debate on the measure, I move that we recognize the Chairman of the Committee on Banks and Financial Intermediaries, Rep. Junie Cua, to resume sponsorship and that we also recognize Rep. Ferdinand Gaité of the Party-List BAYAN MUNA for his chance to interpellate the Sponsor.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) Hearing none, the motion is approved.

The Chairman now – the Sponsor now is here and Congressman Gaité, you may proceed with your interpellation on the Sponsor.

REP. GAITE. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Thank you, Mr. Sponsor, at humihingi ako ng paumanhin sa ating Sponsor na akala ko po kasi nasa probinsya ang ating kagalang-galang na Sponsor pero nandiyan lang pala sa kuwarta, pero hindi rin maganda iyong signal at nahihirapan na unawain ang binibigkas ng ating kagalang-galang na Sponsor. At nagpapasalamat po ako at pinaunlakan ninyo po ang aking hiling na magkaroon tayo ng tuloy-tuloy na pagtatalakay hinggil sa panukalang batas. At actually, Mr. Sponsor, Mr. Speaker, ay padulo na iyong aking katanungan. At kanina, babalikan ko lang po, Mr. Speaker, kung mamarapatin ng ating kagalang-galang na Sponsor, ang tinatanong ko po kanina, ano ho iyong pinagkaiba ng provisional asset preservation order or asset preservation order doon sa freeze order? Kasi nga po, doon sa mismong batas, sa R.A. No. 9160, nakasaad na po na ang freeze order ay maaari lamang – ang maaaring mag-issue lamang ng temporary restraining order/injunction ay ang Court of Appeals or Supreme Court. Pero dito po, iyong dating binabanggit ninyo po na Regional Trial Court, RTCs, ang puwede naman mag-issue ng restraining order doon sa asset preservation order or provisional asset preservation order or asset preservation order ay, ngayon sa inyong proposed bill, pareho na rin, ang

mag-i-issue na lamang ay Court of Appeals or Supreme Court.

Ano ho ba ang naging suliranin kung bakit kailangang baguhin rin ito? So, una po sa katanungan, ano ho bang pinagkaiba noong freeze order at itong asset preservation or provisional asset preservation order that warrants that either only the Supreme Court or the Court of Appeals shall issue said TRO or injunction order, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor?

REP. CUA. Maraming salamat po sa Kagalang-galang na Gaité, napakaganda po ng tanong.

Ang freeze order ay isa pong order na ina-apply ng AMLC sa Court of Appeals ayon sa ating AMLA at ang PAPO naman po o Provisional Asset Preservation Order ay isa pong dokumento na ini-issue naman ng Regional Trial Court. Kung mayroon pong asset na ating pini-freeze ang AMLC, bago po ito mag-expire kasi ang buhay lang ng freeze order ay anim na buwan at kung hindi pa nase-settle iyong case at kinakailangan pang ipagpatuloy iyong freeze order na iyon ay naga-apply naman po sa Regional Trial Court ng tinatawag na "PAPO" na later on, after due notice and hearing, ay magiging APO naman, asset preservation order. Itong freeze order na ito ay freeze order na ini-issue ng korte. At iyon namang freeze order na ating inilalagay na bilang empowerment ng AMLC o noong council ngayon, ito po ay patungkol lamang sa enforcement ng tinatawag na targeted financial sanction. Ito pong targeted financial sanction na ito po, ito po ay patungkol lamang, patungkol lamang sa financing ng proliferation ng weapon of mass destruction na nakapatungkol din po sa North Korea at tsaka sa Iran. So, iyan lang po ang ibinigay nating karapatan o poder sa AMLC patungkol sa pag-issue ng freeze order.

REP. GAITE. Salamat po, Mr. Speaker.

Tanong ko lang po, noong nakaraan ay pinag-uusapan na ang posibilidad na noon iyong FATF ay nilagay na daw o ilalagay tayo sa gray list dahil doon sa compliance natin sa mga provisions ng international money laundering. Ngayon ho ba wala ho namang—mayroon ho bang existing na

danger, na iyong graylisting ng Pilipinas in relation dito sa ipinapanukala ninyong batas ay may tinutugunan po doon sa mga concerns ng FATF na compliance ng Pilipinas?

Mayroon ho bang o ano iyong, kung mayroon nga ba, basis ng sinasabing graylisting dahil ito rin ay pinag-usapan doon sa noong kina-craft iyong Anti-Terror Law, na iyong graylisting ang sinasabing dahilan kung bakit kailangan iyong terrorist financing daw ay malagyan ng probisyon doon sa Anti-Terror Law? Hindi ho ba iyong AMLC na ay may sufficient na provision doon sa usapin ng terrorist financing, Mr. Speaker, lalo na doon sa usapin sa ating bansa, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor?

REP. CUA. Mr. Speaker, hindi ko po masyadong marinig ...

REP. GAITE. Pasensya na.

REP. CUA. ... iyong katanungan. Medyo muffled po ang dating sa akin, pasensya na po at medyo senior na po tayo at medyo mahina na ang pandinig. Baka puwede pong pakiulit lang.

REP. GAITE. Salamat po, Mr. Speaker.

Iyong naalala ko po, noong tinatalakay iyong Anti-Terror Law, ang isang ginamit na dahilan kung bakit kailangan noong Anti-Terror Law ay dahil doon sa threat na tayo ay malagay sa gray list ng FATF. At ang ilang obserbasyon ay hindi po ba sapat iyong probisyon ng Anti-Money Laundering Act, including the amendments para dito sa sinasabing terrorist financing and in addition, will the provisions, will the proposed amendments to the current law provide measures to address the said concerns? Kasi nga po, ang isa ring concern ng Kinatawag ito, totoo, may terrorist financing pero ang danger rin po iyong kabila naman, iyong abuse, kung paano rin mapo-protektahan ang ordinaryong mga mamamayan hinggil sa labis na kapangyarihan ng AMLC dahil dito po, sabi ninyo nga po, it will strengthen, pero sa kabila namang bahagi ay iyong potensyal na ma-abuse. So, paano ho ba ito in relation dito sa terrorist financing? Maa-address rin

pa ba nito o hindi na, necessarily? Iyong mga proposed provisions ay maa-address pa ba iyong nabanggit sa usapin ng Anti-Terror Law, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor?

REP. CUA. Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, ang pagkakaalam ko po, ang amendment na atin pong ginagawa ngayon ay tungkol lamang sa poder ng AMLC na mag-issue ng freeze order at ang freeze order, actually, ay magagawa lamang – ngayon lang magkakaroon ng freeze order power ang AMLC sapagkat ang freeze order ay nasa korte. So, walang karapatan ang AMLC na mag-issue nito. Subali't dahil sa gravity noong global threat or threat to global peace and stability brought about by the continuous engagement of North Korea and Iran in the pursuit of their nuclear armaments ay naging kasunduan ng United Nations na kinakailangan na magkaroon ng mabilis o magkaroon ng paraan upang mabilis na maka-aksyon ang AMLC dito sa pag-monitor at pag-enforce ng batas tungkol sa mga transactions involving the financing of the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. So, iyon po ang naidagdag lang natin na poder na hindi kaya ng present law.

REP. GAITE. Salamat po, Mr. Speaker

So, doon sa pino-propose ninyo, it will prohibit courts from issuing TROs or writs of injunction orders against the AMLC in its exercise of freeze and forfeiture powers, with the exception of the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court.

Currently po ba, ano ho pa ba iyong mga ilang instances na may ganito ring prohibition in other related cases? Kasi ibig sabihin po, binibigyan ninyo po ng mas malaking diin o emphasis na dahil sa gravity nito, hindi puwede itong isyuhan lamang ng TRO ng lower courts, ibinibigay ninyo po sa Court of Appeals at Supreme Court. Would the Sponsor have an idea kung ano ho pa bang instances o cases na similarly situated, na ang Court of Appeals o Supreme Court lang at hindi lower courts ang puwede mag-issue ng TRO injunction? Offhand, ang pagkaintindi ko lang po ay iyong mga cases with national importance, iyong mga infrastructure at iba pa, sa pagkaintindi ko, nilalagay natin

sa parehong pamantayan iyong ganitong prohibition para po supposedly, ito iyong paraan para rin iyong lower courts, the trial courts ay hindi makagawa ng aksyon laban sa AMLC in their exercise doon sa pag-issue ng freeze order at iba pa. Tama po ba ang pagkaintindi ko, Mr. Speaker?

REP. CUA. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for that question.

Ang intindi ko po sa tanong ay ano pa ang mga batas na ating puwedeng mabanggit na kategorya, kapareho ng kategorya nitong batas na ito, proposal na ito, na hindi puwedeng ang Regional Trial Court lang ang mag-restrain kundi ang Court of Appeals. Now, offhand Mr. Speaker, Your Honor, because I am not a lawyer, I have difficulty recalling which are these laws, but I am certain that I have encountered them and we will furnish you those laws or those laws or proposed legislations for that matter, na mayroong ganitong feature. This only emphasizes the gravity of the situation, na in a situation like this, where life is involved and it could mean death to thousands of people, e kinakailangan po talaga na hindi ganoon kadali na ma-restrain. So, thank you, Mr. Speaker, Your Honor.

REP. GAITE. Salamat po doon sa clarification na iyon.

Totoo po, ano, pasensya na, I had my metaphors mixed kanina. What I meant to say kanina, nangyayari sa ating bansa, sararhan natin iyong pintuan kapag nakalabas na iyong kabayo. Iyon iyong parang ibig sabihin kanina and I think iyon na nga, naghahabol tayo especially ngayon, I think. Hindi ko na alam iyong status ng case about the Bangladesh Federal Bank and the others. Pero sa kabila naman noon ay iyong abuse nga at iyon iyong isang concern rin ng Kinatawang ito, na kapag bibigyan ng napakalaking kapangyarihan iyong AMLC, although mayroong mga provisions regarding protecting those, na mabigyan ng freeze order, magkaroon ng asset preservation order, ano ang mechanisms – pero kailangan rin talagang balansehin, ano? Tama po iyong binanggit niyo, para protektahan iyong ating bayan, iyong ating ekonomiya, iyong ating mamamayan.

So, iyon lang po iyong aking katanungan, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor. At salamat po sa inyong kasagutan. At salamat po doon sa inyong pagpunta sa Plenary Hall para maging mas malinaw iyong pagsagot sa mga katanungan. Maraming salamat po, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Sponsor.

REP. CUA. Thank you, thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Thank you, Your Honor.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION
OF H.B. NO. 7904

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the consideration of House Bill No. 7904.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

Majority Leader.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the session for a few minutes.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The session is suspended.

It was 6:05 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:38 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The session is resumed.

Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, we are in receipt of the letter of Atty. Jocelia Bighani Sipin tendering her resignation as Secretary General of the House of Representatives, which deserves to be read into the records of

the House. It reads as follows:

Honorable Lord Allan Jay Q. Velasco
Speaker, House of Representatives

Dear Speaker Velasco,

May I respectfully tender my resignation effective November 18, 2020. It has been an honor and privilege to serve the House of Representatives as an institution which I am confident will get stronger under your able leadership.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) ATTY. JOCELIA
BIGHANI SIPIN

Mr. Speaker, I move that this Body accept the resignation of Secretary General Jocelia Bighani Sipin.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved. The House hereby accepts the resignation of Atty. Jocelia Bighani Sipin as Secretary General of the House of Representatives.

Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, in view of the vacancy created by our acceptance of the resignation of Secretary General Sipin, I move that we elect Mark Llandro L. Mendoza as Secretary General of the House of Representatives.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; Mark Llandro L. Mendoza is unanimously elected as the Secretary General of the House of Representatives. (*Applause*)

May we request Secretary General-elect Mark Llandro L. Mendoza to proceed to the Speaker's rostrum for his oath-taking.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The session is suspended.

It was 6:41 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:41 p.m., the session was resumed with Speaker Lord Allan Jay Q. Velasco presiding.

THE SPEAKER. The session is resumed.

Mr. Mark Llandro L. Mendoza, accompanied by several Members of the House of Representatives, ascended the rostrum and took his oath of office as Secretary General of the House of Representatives before the honorable Speaker Lord Allan Jay Q. Velasco.

OATH-TAKING

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

I, MARK LLANDRO L. MENDOZA, having been elected as the 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.

THE SPEAKER. Congratulations! *(Applause)*

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

THE SPEAKER. The session is suspended.

It was 6:43 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:44 p.m., the session was resumed with Deputy Speaker Aurelio "Dong" D. Gonzales Jr. presiding.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The session is resumed.
Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we take up the Additional Reference of Business and that the Secretary General be directed to read the same.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? *(Silence)* The Chair hears none; the Secretary General is hereby directed to read the title of the resolution.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Secretary General read the following House Resolution on First Reading, and the Deputy Speaker made the corresponding reference:

RESOLUTION

House Resolution No. 1365, entitled:

"RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE HONORABLE ATTY. JOCELIA BIGHANI CUEVAS SIPIN FOR HER EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE AND HER DEDICATED SERVICE AS SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES"

By Representatives Velasco, Romualdez (Ferdinand) and Paduano
TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

CONSIDERATION OF H. RES. NO. 1365

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we consider for adoption House Resolution No. 1365 and that the Secretary General be directed to read the title of the Resolution.

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

The Secretary General is directed to read the title of House Resolution No. 1365.

* Copies of the resolution were distributed to the members earlier. Section 53, Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives provides that "[a] bill or joint resolution on Second Reading shall be read in full unless copies thereof have been distributed to the Members."

THE SECRETARY GENERAL. House Resolution No. 1365, entitled: RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE HONORABLE ATTY. JOCELIA BIGHANI CUEVAS SIPIN FOR HER EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE AND HER DEDICATED SERVICE AS SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE HOUSE REPRESENTATIVES.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adopt House Resolution No. 1365.

ADOPTION OF H. RES. NO. 1365

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

House Resolution No. 1365 is hereby adopted.

Majority Leader.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKERS

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, on the part of the Majority, I move for the nomination and election of Rep. Rufus B. Rodriguez as Deputy Speaker, vice Rep. Fredenil H. Castro.

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

Congratulations, Deputy Speaker.

Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, on the part of the Majority, I move for the nomination and election of Rep. Lito L. Atienza Jr. as Deputy Speaker, vice Rep. Dan S. Fernandez.

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

Congratulations, Deputy Speaker Lito Atienza.

Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, on the part of the Majority, I move for the nomination and election of Rep. Camille A. Villar as Deputy Speaker, vice Rep. Raneo E. Abu.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) Hearing none, the motion is approved.

Rep. Camille A. Villar as Deputy Speaker, congratulations.

Majority Leader.

ELECTION OF REP. MACAPAGAL ARROYO TO THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, on the part of the Majority, I move for the nomination and election of Rep. Juan Miguel Macapagal Arroyo as Chairperson of the Committee on Energy.

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

Rep. Juan Miguel Macapagal Arroyo is now the Chairman of the Committee on Energy.
Majority Leader.

ELECTION OF REP. MALAPITAN TO THE HRET

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, on the part of the Majority, I move for the nomination and election of Rep. Dale "Along" R. Malapitan as the Head of the House Contingent to the House of Representatives Electoral Tribunal, vice Rep. Ron T. Salo.

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

Rep. Dale "Along" R. Malapitan is now the Head of the House Contingent to the House of Representative Electoral Tribunal.

Majority Leader.

ELECTION OF REP. YAP TO THE COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, on the part of the Majority, I move for the

nomination and election of Rep. Eric Go Yap as Vice Chairperson of the Committee on Accounts.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) Hearing none; the motion is approved.

Cong. Eric Go Yap as Vice Chairperson of the Committee on Accounts. Congratulations. Majority Leader.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The session is suspended.

It was 6:48 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:48 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The session is resumed. Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, upon the wishes of the late Rep. Raul V. Del Mar, as communicated by his family and constituency, the honorable Speaker Lord Allan Jay Q. Velasco is hereby designated as caretaker of the First Legislative District of Cebu City.

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

The honorable Speaker Lord Allan Jay Q. Velasco is hereby designated as caretaker of the First Legislative District of Cebu City.

Majority Leader.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the session for a few minutes.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The session is suspended.

It was 6:49 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:50 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The session is resumed. Majority Leader. Majority Leader.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we suspend the session.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The session is suspended.

It was 6:51 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:53 p.m., the session was resumed.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The session is resumed. Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we include as additional coauthors of House Bills Nos. 135, 7838, 7839, 7840, 7841, 7869, 7871, 7879 and 7904, and House Resolution No. 1279 the Members whose names are contained in the list to be submitted by the Committee on Rules.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

Majority Leader.

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move for the change of referral of the following measures:

1. House Bill No. 6476, from the Committee on Labor and Employment to the Special Committee on Creative Industry and Performing Arts;
2. House Bill No. 6516, from the Committee

on Banks and Financial Intermediaries to the Committee on Ways and Means;

3. House Bill No. 7850 from the Committee on Public Works and Highways to the Committee on Natural Resources;

4. House Resolution No. 15, from the Committee on Public Works and Highways to the Committees on Indigenous Cultural Communities and Indigenous Peoples, and Public Works and Highways;

5. House Resolution No. 309 from the Committee on Public Works and Highways to the Committees on Indigenous Cultural Communities and Indigenous Peoples, and Public Works and Highways; and

6. House Resolution No. 738 from the Special Committee on Bases Conversion to the Committee on Transportation.

I so move, Mr. Speaker.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the referral of House Bills Nos. 6476, 6516, 7850 and House Resolutions Nos. 15, 309 and 738 is hereby changed.

Majority Leader.

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

REP. ROMUALDO. Mr. Speaker, I move that we adjourn the session until Monday, November 23, 2020, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

THE DEPUTY SPEAKER (Rep. Gonzales, A.). The session is adjourned until Monday, at three o'clock in the afternoon, November 23, 2020.

It was 6:55 p.m.