



# Journal of the House of Representatives

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

**JOURNAL NO. 1  
Monday, July 25, 2016**

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

**JOURNAL NO. 1**  
**Monday, July 25, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER**

This being the day fixed in accordance with the Constitution for the beginning of the First Regular Session of the 17th Congress, the Secretary General of the House of Representatives under the 16th Congress, Atty. Marilyn B. Barua-Yap, called the session to order at ten o'clock in the morning.

**NATIONAL ANTHEM AND PRAYER**

Subsequently, Professor Ramon "Montet" Acoymo led the singing of the National Anthem and thereafter, Representative Mercedes K. Alvarez delivered the following invocation:

*Heavenly Father, our Almighty God, we come before You today and praise You for bringing us together in this august hall of the Congress of the Republic of the Philippines.*

*As we start our work for more than 100 million Filipinos, we humbly seek Your guidance and direction. Bring Your presence with each one of us so that we may all work responsibly for our brothers and sisters.*

*Anoint our thoughts, words and actions so that even our smallest accomplishment may bring You glory. Help us remember that not ours, but Your power and glory should be acknowledged over all the words spoken and actions taken within this institution. While each one of us is unique, give us the collective wisdom to always know what is right and the courage to do it.*

*As Your children, we ask for Your grace and strength to stand against the temptation to use power as a weapon, but rather as a blessing to others, especially our fellow Filipinos. Grant us the grace to hear Your voice as we make decisions. Lead our way to truth and righteousness. Help us to do our best each day and perform our duties with excellence. As You have said, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." Bless us, protect us, let Your hand be with us and keep us in Your name.*

*All these we do in Your honor, all these for all Filipinos and our country, our motherland, the Philippines.*

*Amen.*

**ROLL CALL**

Upon direction of the Presiding Officer, Deputy Secretary General Artemio A. Adasa Jr. called the Roll of Members elected by legislative districts, apportioned among the provinces, cities and municipalities, and party-list affiliations, to wit:

**NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION**

**CALOOCAN CITY**

First District

HON. DALE "ALONG" R. MALAPITAN

Second District

HON. EDGAR R. ERICE

**LAS PIÑAS CITY**

Lone District

HON. MARK A. VILLAR

**MAKATI CITY**

First District

HON. MANUEL MONSOUR T. DEL ROSARIO III

Second District

HON. LUIS JOSE ANGEL N. CAMPOS JR.

**MALABON CITY**

Lone District

HON. FEDERICO "RICKY" S. SANDOVAL II

**MANDALUYONG CITY**

Lone District

HON. ALEXANDRIA P. GONZALES

**MANILA**

First District

HON. MANUEL LUIS T. LOPEZ

Second District

HON. CARLO V. LOPEZ

Third District

HON. JOHN MARVIN "YUL SERVO" C.  
NIETO

Fourth District

HON. EDWARD VERA PEREZ MACEDA

Fifth District

HON. CRISTAL L. BAGATSING

Sixth District

HON. ROSENDA ANN OCAMPO

**MARIKINA CITY**

First District

HON. BAYANI F. FERNANDO

Second District

HON. ROMERO "MIRO" S. QUIMBO

**MUNTINLUPA CITY**

Lone District

HON. ROZZANO RUFINO B. BIAZON

**NAVOTAS CITY**

Lone District

HON. TOBIAS "TOBY" M. TIANGCO

**PARAÑAQUE CITY**

First District

HON. ERIC L. OLIVAREZ

Second District

HON. GUS S. TAMBUNTING

**PASAY CITY**

Lone District

HON. EMI G. CALIXTO-RUBIANO

**PASIG CITY**

Lone District

HON. RICHARD C. EUSEBIO

**QUEZON CITY**

First District

HON. VINCENT P. CRISOLOGO

Second District

HON. WINSTON "WINNIE" CASTELO

Third District

HON. JORGE "BOLET" BANAL

Fourth District

HON. FELICIANO BELMONTE JR.

Fifth District

HON. ALFREDO D. VARGAS

Sixth District

HON. JOSE CHRISTOPHER Y.  
BELMONTE**SAN JUAN CITY**

Lone District

HON. RONALDO B. ZAMORA

**TAGUIG CITY-PATEROS**

First District

HON. ARNEL M. CERAIFICA

Second District

HON. PIA S. CAYETANO

**VALENZUELA CITY**

First District

HON. WES GATCHALIAN

Second District

HON. ERIC M. MARTINEZ

**REGION I****ILOCOS NORTE (with the City of Laoag)**

First District

HON. RODOLFO C. FARÍÑAS

Second District

HON. IMELDA R. MARCOS

**ILOCOS SUR (with the Cities of Vigan and Candon)**

First District

HON. DEOGRACIAS VICTOR "DV" B.  
SAVELLANO

Second District

HON. ERIC D. SINGSON

**LA UNION**

First District

HON. PABLO C. ORTEGA

Second District

HON. SANDRA Y. ERIGUEL, M.D.

**PANGASINAN**

First District

HON. JESUS "BOYING" F. CELESTE

Second District

HON. LEOPOLDO N. BATAOIL

Third District

HON. ROSE MARIE "BABY" J. ARENAS

Fourth District

HON. CHRISTOPHER "TOFF" VERA  
PEREZ DE VENECIA

Fifth District

HON. AMADO T. ESPINO JR.

Sixth District

HON. MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS

**REGION II****BATANES**

Lone District

HON. HENEDINA R. ABAD

**CAGAYAN**

First District

HON. RAMON C. NOLASCO

Second District

HON. BABY ALINE VARGAS-ALFONSO

Third District

HON. RANDOLPH S. TING

**ISABELA**

First District

HON. RODOLFO T. ALBANO III

Second District

HON. ANA CRISTINA SIQUIAN GO

Third District

HON. NAPOLEON S. DY

Fourth District

HON. MA. LOURDES R. AGGABAO

**NUEVA VIZCAYA**

Lone District

HON. LUISA LLOREN CUARESMA

**QUIRINO**

Lone District

HON. DAKILA CARLO E. CUA

**REGION III (CENTRAL LUZON)****AURORA**

Lone District

HON. BELLAFLOR J. ANGARA-  
CASTILLO**BATAAN**

First District

HON. GERALDINE B. ROMAN

Second District

HON. JOSE ENRIQUE "JOET" S. GARCIA  
III**BULACAN**

First District

HON. JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO

Second District

HON. GAVINI "APOL" C. PANCHO

Third District

HON. LORNA C. SILVERIO

Fourth District

HON. LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA

**SAN JOSE DEL MONTE CITY**

Lone District

HON. FLORIDA "RIDA" P. ROBES

**NUEVA ECIJA**

First District

HON. ESTRELLITA B. SUANSING

Second District

HON. MICAELA S. VIOLAGO

Third District

HON. ROSANNA "RIA" V. VERGARA

Fourth District

HON. MAGNOLIA C. ANTONINO

**PAMPANGA**

First District

HON. CARMELO B. LAZATIN II

Second District

HON. GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

Third District

HON. AURELIO "DONG" D. GONZALES  
JR.

Fourth District

HON. JUAN PABLO "RIMPY" P. BONDOC

**TARLAC**

First District

HON. CARLOS O. COJUANGCO

Second District

HON. VICTOR A. YAP

Third District

HON. NOEL L. VILLANUEVA

**ZAMBALES**

First District

HON. JEFFREY D. KHONGHUN

## Second District

HON. CHERYL P. DELOSO-MONTALLA

**REGION IV-A (CALABARZON)****ANTIPOLO CITY**

## First District

HON. CRISTINA "CHIQUI" ROA-PUNO

## Second District

HON. ROMEO M. ACOP

**BATANGAS**

## First District

HON. ELENITA MILAGROS "EILEEN"  
ERMITA-BUHAIN

## Second District

HON. RANEO "RANIE" E. ABU

## Third District

HON. MA. THERESA V. COLLANTES

## Fourth District

HON. LIANDA B. BOLILIA

## Fifth District

HON. MARVEY A. MARIÑO

## Sixth District

HON. VILMA SANTOS-RECTO

**CAVITE**

## First District

HON. FRANCIS GERALD A. ABAYA

## Second District

HON. STRIKE B. REVILLA

## Third District

HON. ALEX "AA" L. ADVINCULA

## Fourth District

HON. JENNIFER AUSTRIA-BARZAGA

## Fifth District

HON. ROY M. LOYOLA

## Sixth District

HON. LUIS "JON-JON" A. FERRER IV

## Seventh District

HON. ABRAHAM "BAMBOL" N.  
TOLENTINO**LAGUNA**

## First District

HON. ARLENE B. ARCILLAS

## Second District

HON. JOAQUIN M. CHIPECO JR.

## Third District

HON. SOL ARAGONES

## Fourth District

HON. BENJAMIN C. AGARAO JR.

**BIÑAN CITY**

## Lone District

HON. LEN B. ALONTE-NAGUIAT

**QUEZON (with the City of Lucena)**

## First District

HON. ANNA KATRINA "TRINA" M.  
ENVERGA

## Second District

HON. VICENTE "KULIT" J. ALCALA\*\*\*

## Third District

HON. DANILO E. SUAREZ

## Fourth District

HON. ANGELINA "HELEN" D.L. TAN,  
M.D.

**RIZAL**

First District

HON. MICHAEL JOHN R. DUAVIT

Second District

HON. ISIDRO S. RODRIGUEZ JR.

**REGION IV-B (MIMAROPA)****MARINDUQUE**

Lone District

HON. LORD ALLAN JAY Q. VELASCO

**OCCIDENTAL MINDORO**

Lone District

HON. JOSEPHINE RAMIREZ-SATO

**ORIENTAL MINDORO (with the City of Calapan)**

First District

HON. DOY C. LEACHON

Second District

HON. REYNALDO V. UMALI

**PALAWAN (with the City of Puerto Princesa)**

First District

HON. FRANZ E. ALVAREZ

Second District

HON. FREDERICK "ERICK" F. ABUEG

Third District

HON. GIL "KABARANGAY" P. ACOSTA

**ROMBLON**

Lone District

HON. EMMANUEL F. MADRONA

**REGION V (BICOL REGION)****ALBAY (with the Cities of Legazpi, Ligao and Tabaco)**

First District

HON. EDCCEL C. LAGMAN

Second District

HON. JOEY SARTE SALCEDA

Third District

HON. FERNANDO V. GONZALEZ

**CAMARINES NORTE**

First District

HON. RENATO J. UNICO JR.

Second District

HON. MARISOL C. PANOTES

**CAMARINES SUR (with the Cities of Naga and Iriga)**

First District

HON. ROLANDO G. ANDAYA JR.

Second District

HON. LUIS RAYMUND F. VILLAFUERTE JR.

Third District

HON. GABRIEL H. BORDADO JR.

Fourth District

HON. ARNULFO P. FUENTEBELLA

Fifth District

HON. SALVIO B. FORTUNO

**CATANDUANES**

Lone District

HON. CESAR V. SARMIENTO

**MASBATE (with the City of Masbate)**

First District

HON. MARIA VIDA ESPINOSA BRAVO\*

Second District

HON. ELISA "OLGA" T. KHO

Third District

HON. SCOTT DAVIES S. LANETE, M.D.

**SORSOGON (with the City of Sorsogon)**

First District

HON. EVELINA G. ESCUDERO

Second District

HON. DEOGRACIAS B. RAMOS JR.

**REGION VI (WESTERN VISAYAS)****AKLAN**

Lone District

HON. CARLITO S. MARQUEZ

**ANTIQUE**

Lone District

HON. PAOLO EVERARDO S. JAVIER

**CAPIZ (with the City of Roxas)**

First District

HON. EMMANUEL A. BILLONES

Second District

HON. FREDENIL "FRED" H. CASTRO

**GUIMARAS**

Lone District

HON. MA. LUCILLE L. NAVA

**ILOILO (with the City of Passi)**

First District

HON. OSCAR "RICHARD" S. GARIN JR.

Second District

HON. ARCADIO H. GORRICETA

Third District

HON. ARTHUR R. DEFENSOR JR.

Fourth District

HON. FERJENEL G. BIRON

Fifth District

HON. RAUL "BOBOY" C. TUPAS

**ILOILO CITY**

Lone District

HON. JERRY P. TREÑAS

**REGION VII (CENTRAL VISAYAS)****BOHOL (with the City of Tagbilaran)**

First District

HON. RENE L. RELAMPAGOS

Second District

HON. ERICO ARISTOTLE C.  
AUMENTADO

Third District

HON. ARTHUR C. YAP

**CEBU**

First District

HON. GERALD ANTHONY V. GULLAS JR.

Second District

HON. WILFREDO S. CAMINERO

Third District

HON. GWENDOLYN F. GARCIA



## Fourth District

HON. BENHUR L. SALIMBANGON

## Fifth District

HON. RAMON "RED" H. DURANO VI

## Sixth District

HON. JONAS C. CORTES

## Seventh District

HON. PETER JOHN D. CALDERON

**CEBU CITY**

## First District

HON. RAUL V. DEL MAR

## Second District

HON. RODRIGO A. ABELLANOSA

**LAPU-LAPU CITY**

## Lone District

HON. AILEEN C. RADAZA

**SIQUIJOR**

## Lone District

HON. RAMON V.A. "RAV" M.  
ROCAMORA**REGION VIII (EASTERN VISAYAS)****BILIRAN**

## Lone District

HON. ROGELIO J. ESPINA, M.D.

**EASTERN SAMAR**

## Lone District

HON. BEN P. EVARDONE

**LEYTE**

## First District

HON. YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ

## Second District

HON. HENRY C. ONG

## Third District

HON. VICENTE "CHING" S.E. VELOSO

## Fourth District

HON. LUCY T. GOMEZ

## Fifth District

HON. JOSE CARLOS L. CARI

**NORTHERN SAMAR**

## First District

HON. RAUL A. DAZA

## Second District

HON. EDWIN C. ONG

**SOUTHERN LEYTE**

## Lone District

HON. ROGER G. MERCADO

**SAMAR**

## First District

HON. EDGAR MARY S. SARMIENTO

## Second District

HON. MILAGROSA "MILA" T. TAN

**REGION IX (ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA)****ZAMBOANGA CITY**

## First District

HON. CELSO L. LOBREGAT

## Second District

HON. MANUEL JOSE "MANNIX" M.  
DALIPE

**ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE**

First District

HON. SETH FREDERICK P. JALOSJOS

Second District

HON. GLONA G. LABADLABAD

Third District

HON. ISAGANI S. AMATONG

**ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR**

First District

HON. DIVINA GRACE C. YU

Second District

HON. AURORA ENERIO CERILLES

**ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY**

First District

HON. WILTER "SHARKY" WEE PALMA II

Second District

HON. ANN K. HOFER

**REGION X (NORTHERN MINDANAO)****BUKIDNON**

First District

HON. MA. LOURDES ACOSTA-ALBA

Second District

HON. FLORENCIO T. FLORES JR., M.D.

Third District

HON. MANUEL F. ZUBIRI

Fourth District

HON. ROGELIO NEIL PEPITO ROQUE

**CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY**

First District

HON. ROLANDO "KLAREX" A. UY

Second District

HON. MAXIMO B. RODRIGUEZ JR.

**CAMIGUIN**

Lone District

HON. XAVIER JESUS D. ROMUALDO

**ILIGAN CITY**

Lone District

HON. FREDERICK W. SIAO

**LANAO DEL NORTE**

First District

HON. MOHAMAD KHALID Q.  
DIMAPORO

Second District

HON. ABDULLAH D. DIMAPORO

**MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL**

First District

HON. JORGE T. ALMONTE

Second District

HON. HENRY S. OAMINAL

**MISAMIS ORIENTAL**

First District

HON. PETER "SR. PEDRO" M. UNABIA

Second District

HON. JULIETTE T. UY

**REGION XI (DAVAO REGION)****COMPOSTELA VALLEY**

First District

HON. MARIA CARMEN S. ZAMORA

Second District

HON. RUWEL PETER S. GONZAGA

**DAVAO CITY**

First District

HON. KARLO ALEXEI B. NOGRALES

Second District

HON. MYLENE J. GARCIA-ALBANO

Third District

HON. ALBERTO T. UNGAB

**DAVAO DEL NORTE**

First District

HON. PANTALEON D. ALVAREZ

Second District

HON. ANTONIO R. FLOIRENDO JR.

**DAVAO DEL SUR**

Lone District

HON. MERCEDES "DIDI" C. CAGAS

**DAVAO OCCIDENTAL**

Lone District

HON. LORNA BAUTISTA-BANDIGAN

**DAVAO ORIENTAL**

First District

HON. CORAZON T. NUÑEZ-  
MALANYAON

Second District

HON. JOEL MAYO Z. ALMARIO

**REGION XII (SOCCSKSARGEN)****NORTH COTABATO**

First District

HON. JESUS NONATO SACDALAN

Second District

HON. NANCY A. CATAMCO

Third District

HON. JOSE "PINGPING" I. TEJADA

**SARANGANI**

Lone District

HON. ROGELIO "RUEL" D. PACQUIAO

**SOUTH COTABATO**

First District

HON. PEDRO B. ACHARON JR.

Second District

HON. FERDINAND L. HERNANDEZ

**SULTAN KUDARAT**

First District

HON. SUHARTO T. MANGUDADATU\*\*\*

Second District

HON. HORACIO P. SUANSING JR.

**AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM  
MINDANAO (ARMM)****BASILAN**

Lone District

HON. JUM J. AKBAR

**LANAO DEL SUR**

First District

HON. ANSARUDDIN A.M. A. ADIONG\*

Second District

HON. MAUYAG "JUN" B. PAPANDAYAN  
JR.**MAGUINDANAO AND COTABATO CITY**

First District

HON. BAI SANDRA SINSUAT A. SEMA

Second District

HON. ZAJID G. MANGUDADATU

**SULU**

First District

Second District

HON. MUNIR M. ARBISON

**TAWI-TAWI**

Lone District

HON. RUBY M. SAHALI

**CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION**  
**(CAR)**

**ABRA**

Lone District

HON. JOSEPH STO. NIÑO B. BERNOS

**APAYAO**

Lone District

HON. ELEANOR C. BULUT-BEGTANG

**BAGUIO CITY**

Lone District

HON. MARK O. GO

**BENGUET**

Lone District

HON. RONALD M. COSALAN

**IFUGAO**

Lone District

HON. TEDDY BRAWNER BAGUILAT JR.

**KALINGA**

Lone District

HON. ALLEN JESSE C. MANGAOANG

**MOUNTAIN PROVINCE**

Lone District

HON. MAXIMO B. DALOG

**CARAGA REGION**

**AGUSAN DEL NORTE**

First District

HON. LAWRENCE H. FORTUN

Second District

HON. ERLPE JOHN "PING" M. AMANTE

**AGUSAN DEL SUR**

First District

HON. MARIA VALENTINA G. PLAZA

Second District

HON. EVELYN P. MELLANA

**DINAGAT ISLANDS**

Lone District

HON. KAKA J. BAG-AO

**SURIGAO DEL NORTE**

First District

HON. FRANCISCO JOSE F. MATUGAS II\*

Second District

HON. ROBERT ACE S. BARBERS

**SURIGAO DEL SUR**

First District

HON. PROSPERO A. PICHAY JR.

Second District

HON. JOHNNY TY PIMENTEL

**NEGROS ISLAND REGION****NEGROS OCCIDENTAL (with the Cities of San Carlos, Cadiz, Bago, La Carlota, Silay, Kabankalan, Sagay, Victorias, Escalante, Sipalay and Himamaylan)**

First District

HON. MELECIO J. YAP JR.

Second District

HON. LEO RAFAEL M. CUEVA

Third District

HON. ALFREDO "ALBEE" B. BENITEZ

Fourth District

HON. JULIET MARIE DE LEON- FERRER

Fifth District

HON. ALEJANDRO Y. MIRASOL

Sixth District

HON. MERCEDES K. ALVAREZ

**BACOLOD CITY**

Lone District

HON. GREG G. GASATAYA

**NEGROS ORIENTAL**

First District

HON. JOCELYN SY LIMKAICHONG

Second District

HON. MANUEL T. SAGARBARRIA

Third District

HON. ARNOLFO "ARNIE" A. TEVES JR.

**PARTY-LIST REPRESENTATIVES****1 ANG EDUKASYON (UNA ANG EDUKASYON)**

HON. SALVADOR B. BELARO JR.

**1-PACMAN (ONE PATRIOTIC COALITION OF MARGINALIZED NATIONALS)**

HON. MICHAEL ODYLON L. ROMERO

HON. ENRICO A. PINEDA

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

HON. RODANTE D. MARCOLETA

**A TEACHER, INC. (ADVOCACY FOR TEACHER EMPOWERMENT THROUGH ACTION, COOPERATION AND HARMONY TOWARDS EDUCATIONAL REFORMS, INC.)**

HON. JULIETA R. CORTUNA

**AAMBIS-OWA (ANG ASOSASYON SANG MANGUNGUMA NGA BISAYA-OWA MANGUNGUMA, INC.)**

HON. SHARON S. GARIN

**AANGAT TAYO (AANGAT TAYO)**

HON. HARLIN NEIL J. ABAYON III

**AASENSO (ATING AGAPAY SENTRONG SAMAHAN NG MGA OBRERO, INC.)**

HON. TEODORO "TED" G. MONTORO

**ABANG LINGKOD, INC.**

HON. JOSEPH STEPHEN S. PADUANO

**ABONO (ABONO PARTY-LIST)**

HON. CONRADO M. ESTRELLA III

HON. VINI NOLA A. ORTEGA

**ABS (ARTS BUSINESS AND SCIENCE PROFESSIONALS)**

HON. EUGENE MICHAEL B. DE VERA

**ACT TEACHERS (ACT TEACHERS PARTY-LIST)**

HON. ANTONIO L. TINIO

HON. FRANCE L. CASTRO

**ACTS-OFW (ACTS-OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS COALITION OF ORGANIZATIONS)**

HON. ANICETO "JOHN" D. BERTIZ III

**AGAP (AGRICULTURAL SECTOR ALLIANCE OF THE PHILIPPINES)**

HON. RICO B. GERON

**AGBIAG (AGBIAG! TIMPUYOG ILOCANO, INC.)**

HON. MICHELLE M. ANTONIO

**AGRI (AGRI-AGRA NA REPORMA PARA SA MAGSASAKA NG PILIPINAS MOVEMENT)**

HON. DELPHINE GAN LEE

HON. ORESTES T. SALON

**AKBAYAN (AKBAYAN CITIZENS' ACTION PARTY)**

HON. TOM S. VILLARIN

**AKO BICOL (AKO BICOL POLITICAL PARTY)**

HON. RODEL M. BATOCABE

HON. ALFREDO A. GARBIN JR.

HON. CHRISTOPHER S. CO

**ALONA (ALLIANCE OF ORGANIZATIONS, NETWORKS AND ASSOCIATIONS OF THE PHILIPPINES, INC.)**

HON. ANNA MARIE VILLARAZA-SUAREZ

**AMIN (ANAK MINDANAO PARTY-LIST)**

HON. SITTI DJALIA A. TURABIN-HATAMAN

HON. MAKMOD D. MENDING JR.

**AN WARAY (AN WARAY)**

HON. VICTORIA ISABEL G. NOEL

**ANAC-IP (ANG NATIONAL COALITION OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES ACTION NA! INC.)**

HON. JOSE T. PANGANIBAN JR., CPA, LIB.\*

**ANAKPAWIS**

HON. ARIEL B. CASILAO

**ANG KABUHAYAN**

HON. DENNIS C. LAOGAN

**ANGKLA (ANG PARTIDO NG MGA PILIPINONG MARINO, INC.)**

HON. JESULITO "JESS" A. MANALO

**BAYAN MUNA**

HON. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE

**BH (BAGONG HENERASYON)**

HON. BERNADETTE "BH" HERRERA-DY

**BUHAY (BUHAY HAYAAN YUMABONG)**

HON. MARIANO MICHAEL M. VELARDE JR.

HON. JOSE L. ATIENZA JR.

**BUTIL (BUTIL FARMERS PARTY)**

HON. CECILIA LEONILA V. CHAVEZ

**CIBAC (CITIZENS' BATTLE AGAINST CORRUPTION)**

HON. SHERWIN N. TUGNA

**COOP NATCCO (COOPERATIVE NATCCO NETWORK PARTY)**

HON. ANTHONY M. BRAVO, PH.D.

HON. SABINIANO S. CANAMA

**DIWA (DEMOCRATIC INDEPENDENT WORKERS ASSOCIATION, INC.)**

HON. EMMELINE AGLIPAY-VILLAR

**GABRIELA (GABRIELA WOMEN'S PARTY)**

HON. EMMI A. DE JESUS

HON. ARLENE D. BROSAS

**KABATAAN (KABATAAN PARTY-LIST)**

HON. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO

**KABAYAN (KABALIKAT NG MAMAMAYAN)**

HON. H. HARRY L. ROQUE JR.

HON. RON P. SALO

**KALINGA (ADVOCACY FOR SOCIAL EMPOWERMENT AND NATION BUILDING THROUGH EASING POVERTY, INC.)**

HON. ABIGAIL FAYE C. FERRIOL-PASCUAL

**KUSUG TAUSUG**

HON. SHERNEE ABUBAKAR TAN

**LPGMA (LPG MARKETERS ASSOCIATION, INC.)**

HON. ARNEL U. TY

**MAGDALO (MAGDALO PARA SA PILIPINO)**

HON. GARY C. ALEJANO

**MANILA TEACHERS (MANILA TEACHERS' SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, INC.)**

HON. VIRGILIO S. LACSON

**MATA (ANG MATA'Y ALAGAN)**

HON. TRICIA NICOLE Q. VELASCO-CATERA

**PBA (PUWERSA NG BAYANING ATLETA)**

HON. MARK AERON H. SAMBAR

HON. JERICHO JONAS B. NOGRALES

**SBP (SERBISYO SA BAYAN PARTY)**

HON. RICARDO T. BELMONTE JR.\*\*\*

**YACAP (YOU AGAINST CORRUPTION AND POVERTY)**

HON. BENHUR B. LOPEZ JR.

Thereafter, with 285 Members responding to the Call, the Presiding Officer declared the presence of a quorum.

**DESIGNATION OF REP. FARIÑAS AS ACTING FLOOR LEADER**

In the interest of orderly proceedings, the Presiding Officer designated Representative Rodolfo C. Fariñas of the First District of Ilocos Norte as Acting Floor Leader.

**ADOPTION OF THE RULES OF THE HOUSE, AS AMENDED**

On motion of Rep. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Body adopted the Rules of the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress as the Provisional Rules of the House to govern its proceedings until the adoption of the Rules for the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress, subject to the amendment that the first sentence of Section 94, Rule 12, entitled, "Conduct and Attire During Sessions and Committee Meetings," shall read as follows: MEMBERS SHALL WEAR PROPER ATTIRE WHICH IS BARONG FILIPINO OR COAT AND TIE OR BUSINESS ATTIRE FOR MEN, AND FILIPINA DRESS OR BUSINESS SUIT FOR WOMEN, AND OBSERVE PROPER DECORUM DURING SESSIONS AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

**PERIOD OF NOMINATIONS FOR THE POSITION OF THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE**

In accordance with the constitutional duty of the House to organize and receive the President's State of the Nation Address later in the day, on motion of Rep. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the period of nominations for the position of Speaker of the House.

**POINT OF CLARIFICATION OF REP. ATIENZA**

Upon recognition by the Chair, Rep. Jose L. Atienza Jr. said that he wanted to ask clarificatory questions on the election process. Rep. Fariñas said that he will entertain the same after the nomination period which the Chair thereafter adopted.

**POINT OF ORDER OF REP. FUENTEBELLA**

Recognized by the Chair, Rep. Arnulfo P. Fuentebella asked that the Chamber proceed to the oath-taking of the Members before the election of the Speaker, as was stated in the Order of Business.

**RULING OF THE CHAIR**

The Chair ruled that in accordance with (1) parliamentary tradition and practice and (2) the

\* Appeared after the Roll Call

\*\* With Notice of Absence

\*\*\* Without Notice of Absence

amended Rules of the House that the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress had adopted, it is the Speaker of the House that administers the oath to the new Members. She added that the oath-taking before the Speaker at the commencement of the First Regular Session is an affirmation of the oaths they had already taken before noontime of June 30, 2016. She explained that in accordance with several Supreme Court decisions, the Members had already complied with the three requirements for membership into the Chamber, namely, a valid certificate of proclamation; oath-taking before any duly authorized officer; and assumption into office without any question by noontime of June 30, 2016. She also stressed that the House's highest constitutional privilege was to organize itself before proceeding with its business.

#### **MOTION OF REP. FUENTEBELLA**

As he appealed the ruling of the Chair, Rep. Fuentebella said that it was anomalous for the House to elect the Speaker before the oath-taking of the Members. He then asked for a suspension of session as well as a voting on his point of order.

#### **REMARKS OF REP. FARIÑAS**

Upon recognition by the Chair, Rep. Fariñas read into the records Section 1, Rule 1 of the aforementioned House Rules as he observed that Rep. Fuentebella did not cite any rule that was being violated.

Thereupon, Rep. Fariñas moved that the Body recognize Rep. Feliciano Belmonte Jr. from the Fourth District of Quezon City for his nomination speech.

#### **MANIFESTATION OF REP. FUENTEBELLA**

For his part, Rep. Fuentebella said that he will discuss his position at the proper time.

#### **NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. BELMONTE (F.)**

In nominating Rep. Pantaleon D. Alvarez from the First District of Davao del Norte to be the Speaker of the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress, Rep. Belmonte cited his personal and professional relationship with the former who was a Member of the 11<sup>th</sup> Congress and then the Secretary of Transportation and Communications under the administration of former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. He stressed that the nation should grant the incoming Speaker the same overwhelming mandate it gave to President Rodrigo Duterte. He stressed that despite a rainbow coalition, the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress can pass important measures because the Members' sense of nationalism will always prevail over their political and personal interests. He committed the Liberal Party's

support for the quest for change which, while not easy, could be achieved through consensus and compromise. He opined that Rep. Alvarez (P.) will ensure that Congress will work together with President Duterte to achieve the people's aspirations and welfare.

#### **SECONDING NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. SINGSON**

On motion of Rep. Fariñas, the Chair recognized Rep. Eric D. Singson who seconded the nomination of Rep. Alvarez (P.) on behalf of the PDP-Laban Party.

#### **SECONDING NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. ALVAREZ (M.)**

On motion of Rep. Fariñas, the Chair recognized Rep. Mercedes K. Alvarez who seconded the nomination of Rep. Alvarez (P.) on behalf of the Nationalist Peoples' Coalition (NPC) Party.

#### **SECONDING NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. CASTRO**

On motion of Rep. Fariñas, the Chair recognized Rep. Fredenil "Fred" H. Castro who seconded the nomination of Rep. Alvarez (P.) on behalf of the National Unity Party (NUP).

#### **SECONDING NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. ABU**

On motion of Rep. Fariñas, the Chair recognized Rep. Raneo "Ranie" E. Abu who seconded the nomination of Rep. Alvarez (P.) on behalf of the Nacionalista Party (NP).

#### **NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. ROQUE**

Upon motion of Rep. Fariñas, the Chair recognized Rep. H. Harry L. Roque Jr. from Kabayan Party-List for his nomination speech for Rep. Danilo E. Suarez from the Third District of Quezon to be the Speaker of the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress. Rep. Roque cited Rep. Suarez' humble beginnings which gave him keen insight and wisdom on the pulse of all classes of society, and also stressed the latter's advocacies and leadership qualities.

#### **SECONDING NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. CAMPOS**

On motion of Rep. Fariñas, the Chair recognized Rep. Luis Jose Angel N. Campos Jr. who seconded the motion to nominate Rep. Suarez as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

On motion of Rep. Fariñas, the Chair recognized Rep. Raul A. Daza to deliver his nomination speech.



## NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. DAZA

Rep. Daza, a member of the Liberal Party for half a century and its President for five challenging years, nominated Rep. Teddy Brawner Baguilat Jr. from the Lone District of Ifugao Province as Speaker of the House of Representatives. For the record, he took pride in emphasizing that this was the first time that a Member who belongs to the so-called cultural minority was nominated to the highest office of the Chamber. He thereafter recalled Rep. Baguilat's political career and enumerated his achievements as a Governor and Representative of Ifugao Province. He underscored that despite regionalism in the current political air, it is by sheer intent that he was nominating Rep. Baguilat because all the Members are first and foremost Filipinos, regardless of regional, religious and cultural background, and underscored his Party's hopes and ideals for the nation.

## SECONDING NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. VILLARIN

On motion of Rep. Fariñas, the Chair recognized Rep. Tom S. Villarin who seconded the motion to nominate Rep. Baguilat as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

## TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD FOR NOMINATIONS

On motion of Rep. Fariñas, there being no other nominations and there being no objection, the Body closed the period of nominations.

## PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY OF REP. ATIENZA

Recognized by the Chair, Rep. Atienza inquired as to who would elect the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

## REMARKS OF REP. FARIÑAS

In reply, Rep. Fariñas referred to Section 8 of the Rules of the House on membership to the Majority and the Minority. He explained that the Members who voted for the winning candidate for the Speaker shall constitute the Majority and shall elect from among themselves the Majority Leader, while those who voted against the winning Speaker or did not vote at all shall belong to the Minority and would thereafter elect their Minority Leader.

## NOMINAL VOTING ON THE NOMINEES FOR SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

Thereafter, on motion of Rep. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Members proceeded to the election

of the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Presiding Officer then directed Deputy Secretary General Adasa to call the Roll for nominal voting for the Speaker of the House and requested each Member to state the name of the candidate he or she will vote for.

The result of the voting was as follows:

*For Rep. Pantaleon D. Alvarez:*

Abad  
Abaya  
Abellanos  
Abu  
Abueg  
Acharon  
Acop  
Acosta  
Acosta-Alba  
Adiong  
Advincula  
Agarao  
Aglipay-Villar  
Akbar  
Albano  
Almario  
Almonte  
Alvarez (F.)  
Alvarez (M.)  
Amante  
Amatong  
Andaya  
Angara-Castillo  
Antonino  
Antonio  
Arbison  
Arenas  
Aumentado  
Austria-Barzaga  
Bag-ao  
Banal  
Barbers  
Bataoil  
Bautista-Bandigan  
Belaro  
Belmonte (F.)  
Belmonte (J.)  
Benitez  
Biazon  
Biron  
Bolilia  
Bondoc  
Bordado  
Bravo (M.)  
Brosas  
Bulut-Begtang  
Cagas

Calderon	Go (A.C.)
Calixto-Rubiano	Go (M.)
Caminero	Gomez
Canama	Gonzaga
Cari	Gonzales (A.P.)
Casilao	Gonzales (A.D.)
Castelo	Gonzalez
Castro (F.L.)	Gorriceta
Castro (F.H.)	Gullas
Catamco	Hernandez
Cayetano	Herrera-Dy
Celeste	Hofer
Cerilles	Jalosjos
Chipeco	Javier
Cojuangco	Kho
Collantes	Khonghun
Cortes	Labadlabad
Cosalan	Lacson
Crisologo	Lanete
Cua	Laogan
Cuaresma	Lazatin
Cueva	Leachon
Dalipe	Limkaichong
Dalog	Lobregat
De Jesus	Lopez (B.)
De Leon-Ferrer	Lopez (C.)
De Venecia	Lopez (M.)
Defensor	Loyola
Del Mar	Macapagal-Arroyo
Deloso-Montalla	Maceda
Dimaporo (A.)	Madrona
Dimaporo (M.)	Malapitan
Duavit	Manalo
Durano	Mangaoang
Dy	Mangudadatu (Z.)
Elago	Marcos
Enverga	Mariño
Eriguel	Marquez
Ermita-Buhain	Martinez
Escudero	Matugas
Espina	Mellana
Espino	Mending
Estrella	Mercado
Evardone	Mirasol
Fariñas	Montoro
Fernando	Nava
Ferrer	Nieto
Floirendo	Noel
Flores	Nogralles (J.)
Fortun	Nogralles (K.)
Fortuno	Nolasco
Fuentebella	Nuñez-Malanyaon
Garcia (G.)	Oaminal
Garcia-Albano	Ocampo
Garin (R.)	Olivarez
Gasataya	Ong (E.)
Gatchalian	Ong (H.)
Geron	Ortega (P.)

Ortega (V.)  
 Pacquiao  
 Paduano  
 Palma  
 Pancho  
 Panganiban  
 Panotes  
 Papandayan  
 Pichay  
 Pimentel  
 Pineda  
 Plaza  
 Primicias-Agabas  
 Quimbo  
 Radaza  
 Ramirez-Sato  
 Ramos  
 Relampagos  
 Revilla  
 Roa-Puno  
 Robes  
 Rocamora  
 Rodriguez (I.)  
 Rodriguez (M.)  
 Roman  
 Romero  
 Romualdez  
 Romualdo  
 Roque (R.)  
 Sacdalan  
 Sagarbarria  
 Sahali  
 Salceda  
 Salimbangon  
 Salo  
 Sambar  
 Sandoval  
 Santos-Recto  
 Sarmiento (C.)  
 Sarmiento (E.)  
 Savellano  
 Sema  
 Siao  
 Silverio  
 Singson  
 Suansing (E.)  
 Suansing (H.)  
 Suarez  
 Sy-Alvarado  
 Tambunting  
 Tan (A.)  
 Tan (M.)  
 Tan (S.)  
 Tejada  
 Teves  
 Ting  
 Tinio  
 Tolentino

Treñas  
 Tugna  
 Tupas  
 Turabin-Hataman  
 Ty  
 Umali  
 Unabia  
 Ungab  
 Unico  
 Uy (J.)  
 Uy (R.)  
 Vargas  
 Vargas-Alfonso  
 Velarde  
 Velasco  
 Velasco-Catera  
 Veloso  
 Vergara  
 Villafuerte  
 Villanueva  
 Villar  
 Villarica  
 Violago  
 Yap (A.)  
 Yap (M.)  
 Yap (V.)  
 Yu  
 Zamora (M.)  
 Zamora (R.)  
 Zarate  
 Zubiri

*For Rep. Teddy Brawner Baguilat Jr.*

Alejano  
 Baguilat  
 Billones  
 Daza  
 Erice  
 Lagman  
 Marcoleta  
 Villarin

*For Rep. Danilo E. Suarez*

Atienza  
 Campos  
 Del Rosario  
 Lee  
 Roque (H.)  
 Salon  
 Villaraza-Suarez

*Abstained*

Abayon  
 Aggabao  
 Alonte-Naguiat

Alvarez (P.)  
 Aragones  
 Arcillas  
 Bagatsing  
 Batocabe  
 Bernos  
 Bertiz  
 Bravo (A.)  
 Cerafica  
 Chavez  
 Co  
 Cortuna  
 De Vera  
 Eusebio  
 Ferriol-Pascual  
 Garbin  
 Garcia (J.)  
 Garin (S.)

\*With 252 Members voting for Rep. Alvarez (P.), eight voting for Rep. Baguilat, seven voting for Rep. Suarez, 21 abstaining and one registering a no vote, the Presiding Officer declared Rep. Alvarez (P.) as the duly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives for the 17th Congress.

#### COMMITTEE ON NOTIFICATION

On motion of Rep. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Body constituted a committee composed of the following Members to notify Rep. Alvarez (P.) of his election as Speaker of the House of Representatives and to escort the Speaker-elect to the rostrum for his oath-taking: Reps. Eric D. Singson, Mercedes K. Alvarez, Fredenil “Fred” H. Castro, Raneo “Ranie” E. Abu, Lucy T. Gomez, Nancy A. Catamco, Elenita Milagros “Eileen” Ermita-Buhain, Rose Marie “Baby” J. Arenas, Mylene J. Garcia-Albano, Gwendolyn F. Garcia, Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas, Emmeline Aglipay-Villar, Sarah Jane I. Elago and Victoria Isabel G. Noel.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Presiding Officer *motu proprio* suspended the session at 12:43 p.m.

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

Upon resumption of session at 12:45 p.m., the Presiding Officer requested Rep. Dennis C. Laogan to ascend the rostrum to administer the oath of office to Speaker-elect Alvarez (P.). She likewise requested all the Members to rise.

#### OATH-TAKING OF SPEAKER ALVAREZ (P.)

Thereafter, Rep. Laogan administered the oath of office to Rep. Pantaleon D. Alvarez as Speaker of the

House of Representatives in the presence of the members of his family and the Members of the House of Representatives.

*At this juncture, the Presiding Officer relinquished the Chair to Speaker Alvarez who delivered the following acceptance speech.*

#### ACCEPTANCE SPEECH OF SPEAKER ALVAREZ (P.)

*Colleagues, guests, ladies and gentlemen: President Rodrigo Roa Duterte was elected into office on the basis of a simple promise to the Filipino people—genuine change. Those were refreshing words for a people tired and weary of rising criminality, proliferation of illegal drugs, traffic congestion, corruption and plain incompetence. Those were the words that blew on the mainsail of his campaign and brought him to a new horizon, the horizon of national transformation. But the President knows, as we all know, that genuine change is impossible if he acts alone. No one, man or woman, not even a superman, can forge genuine change without the cooperation of the other branches of government and the cooperation of the people themselves.*

*True and genuine change can only come if we, as a people, and as a nation join hands with the President in achieving it. That is why, we, in the Legislative Branch of government have our work cut out for us. We must give the President the necessary legislation, which will be his tools as we effect meaningful and genuine change.*

*In some, we too must be instruments of change. We must re-impose the death penalty for heinous crimes.*

*Among ASEAN nations, only Cambodia and the Philippines have no capital punishment. All the other eight countries imposed death penalty in various forms and for various crimes.*

*As the President has said, it is a simple universal law of karma “If you borrow from me a thousand pesos, then, you must pay back the same amount plus interest.” If you take a human life, especially if you do it deliberately and with premeditation, you must pay with your life. If by being a drug lord, you destroyed the lives and futures of a thousand people, then, you must pay accordingly.*

*The same philosophy is behind the move to revert the minimum age of criminal responsibility, from 15 years to nine years old. This is not, as critics say, a throwback to a barbarian age. The age of exemption from criminal responsibility in Singapore is seven. The same age as in most states in the USA.*

\* See *Journal No. 3*, p. 175 for amendment on this page.

*The Pangilinan Law was admittedly motivated by noble intentions, but it has been a failure on the ground. We must teach our young that there are consequences for everything we say and do. Coddling teenagers by making them immune from crimes they commit will only breed a culture of impunity. We should instead build a culture of responsibility at an early age.*

*As all commuters know, and that includes all of us here, the traffic in Metro Manila and Metro Cebu is simply terrible. We waste so many hours sitting in cars or buses or riding in jam-packed and rickety MRT and PNR trains instead of spending time at work or being with our families at home. ₱2.4 billion a day is lost to traffic alone. The situation is, in most certain terms, a true crisis which needs emergency powers to enable the President to act.*

*In this vein, we should revisit and revise the Government Procurement Act. Since its passage into law, many government agencies as well as those in the private sector have felt discomforted with R.A. No. 9184 as amended. Unlike a free size shirt, the Procurement Law should not be a one-size-fits-all kind of law. We should put in enough flexibility to address all foreseeable possibilities that may arise in the course of government procurement.*

*The President has started the ball rolling in the direction of greater transparency in government with an Executive Order on Freedom of Information. We should do our part and enact a meaningful Freedom of Information Law, applicable to all branches of government. The greatest crimes are committed in dark secrecy. A Freedom of Information Law will bring the light of truth and transparency into government transactions.*

*The Law on Income Taxation should be simplified into one imposed on gross income progressively. Tax laws have become so complicated that they are exploited by corrupt BIR officials in order to extort money from the taxpayers. Ordinary individuals for their part choose not to pay taxes precisely because they do not understand tax laws. A simplified law on taxation would encourage people to pay taxes and contribute to a society that they know will take care of them.*

*As for mining, we would like to see mining companies securing a legislative franchise before they are allowed to operate. That way, their activities would be subject to legislative oversight and their franchises can be revoked by the oversight body instead of a probably bribable bureaucrat in an obscure DENR office if they violate the terms and conditions thereof.*

*Also, we would like to ensure that these companies do not export the ores they mine. Processing or semi-processing of these ores should be done within the Philippines. This is one way to give jobs to our people, instead of enriching only the stockholders of mining companies.*

*The labor laws need revision. We should increase the penalties presently in our statutes for the non-payment of minimum wage. And, the National Wages and Productivity Commission, the DOLE, should have an arm that will make sure violators are prosecuted. The practice of “endo” should be looked into. Manpower supply agencies should be mandated upon paying of criminal liability to comply with all labor standards of wages and benefits and the employer beneath solidarity liable.*

*As for social security, it is only right and just that the pensions of our retirees should be adjusted upwards so they can buy their groceries and their medicines at today’s prices. If we need to increase contributions so we can fund the increase in pension benefits, then we must. We must adjust not only to meet the present needs but also to anticipate future needs.*

*During elections, our senior citizens and PWDs or differently abled citizens should have the option to avail of the procedures of absentee voting. The fact that you are elderly or in a wheelchair should not disenfranchise you from participating in the most sacred exercise in a democratic nation, electing your leaders into office.*

*Instead, and of course, the most holy grail of all, the revision of the 1987 Constitution and the transformation of our system of government from a unitary, presidential form to a federal parliamentary one. The unitary and highly centralized form of government was imposed on us by the colonizing power of Spain and the United States of America. And, for one reason, total control over the country. The results have been stunted growth in about 80 percent of our country, and the over dependence of local government units upon the national government. The power of imperial Manila over the rest of our nation has to end.*

*Our LGUs need to be allowed to stand on their own feet and to develop and go as they see fit subject only to standards that the national government may set. These among others should be done by a Constitutional Convention within a time limit set by Congress. If this legislative agenda seem overly ambitious to some, it is only because of inertia. A body at rest tends to rest indefinitely and will resist movement. But we should not be like the admiral who because he feels the big waves of the Pacific and the*

*journey into the unknown, drop anchor in a harbor and held office there. Let us not fear change, the only thing we should fear is the fear of change itself. Instead, let us invade change, let us be instruments of change. And apply the other side of the law of inertia, "A body on the move, tends to move indefinitely." Starting today then, let us roll up our sleeves and get to work. Our mission in this 17<sup>th</sup> Congress is clear, to enact laws that will deliver to our nation and our peoples, a future better than yesterday's and brighter than today's. Tinuod na kausaban, daghang salamat.*

#### **CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF HOUSE RESOLUTION NOS. 106, 107 AND 108**

On successive motions of Rep. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Body considered House Resolution Nos. 106, 107, and 108; dispensed with the reading of the texts thereof without prejudice to their insertion into the Record of the House; and unanimously adopted said Resolutions, entitled:

1. House Resolution No. 106, entitled: "RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE HONORABLE SPEAKER FELICIANO BELMONTE, JR. FOR HIS STERLING AND SUCCESSFUL STEWARDSHIP OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DURING THE SIXTEENTH CONGRESS";
2. House Resolution No. 107, entitled: "RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE HONORABLE NEPTALI M. GONZALES II, REPRESENTATIVE, LONE DISTRICT OF MANDALUYONG CITY, FOR HIS STERLING QUALITIES AND HIS DEDICATED AND EXEMPLARY SERVICE AS MAJORITY LEADER DURING THE ELEVENTH, TWELFTH, FIFTEENTH AND SIXTEENTH CONGRESSES"; and
3. House Resolution No. 108, entitled: "RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE HONORABLE RONALDO B. ZAMORA FOR HIS STERLING QUALITIES AND HIS DEDICATED AND EXEMPLARY SERVICE AS MINORITY LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES."

#### **OATH-TAKING OF MEMBERS**

On motion of Rep. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the oath-taking of the Members of the House.

Thereafter, Speaker Alvarez (P.) administered the oath of office to all the Members of the House under the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress.

#### **ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKERS**

On motion of Rep. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Body elected Reps. Eric D. Singson, Mercedes K. Alvarez, Fredenil "Fred" H. Castro, and Raneo "Ranie" E. Abu as Deputy Speakers of the House of Representatives.

#### **OATH-TAKING OF ELECTED DEPUTY SPEAKERS**

At this point, Reps. Singson, Alvarez (M.), Castro and Abu one at a time ascended the rostrum together with their respective families, and took their oaths of office as Deputy Speakers before Speaker Alvarez (P.).

#### **ELECTION OF SECRETARY GENERAL**

On motion of Rep. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Body elected Atty. Cesar S. Pareja as the Secretary General of the House.

#### **OATH-TAKING OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL**

Attorney Pareja, upon request of Speaker Alvarez (P.), ascended the rostrum together with his family and took his oath as the Secretary General of the House.

#### **ADOPTION OF HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 109**

On successive motions of Rep. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Body considered House Resolution No. 109, dispensed with the reading of the text thereof without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House, and unanimously adopted the measure, entitled: "RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE HONORABLE ATTY. MARILYN B. BARUA-YAP FOR HER STERLING QUALITIES AND HER DEDICATED AND EXEMPLARY SERVICE AS SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DURING THE FOURTEENTH, FIFTEENTH, AND SIXTEENTH CONGRESSES."

#### **ELECTION OF SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**

On another motion of Rep. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Body elected Retired Lieutenant General Roland M. Detabali as Sergeant-at-Arms of the House.

## **OATH-TAKING OF THE SERGEANT-AT-ARMS**

Upon request of Speaker Alvarez (P.), retired Lieutenant General Detabali ascended the rostrum, with the members of his family, and took his oath as Sergeant-at-Arms of the House.

## **ADOPTION OF HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 110**

On successive motions of Rep. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Body considered House Resolution No. 110, dispensed with the reading of the text thereof without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House, and unanimously adopted the measure, entitled: “RESOLUTION COMMENDING GENERAL NICASIO J. RADOVAN JR. (RET.) FOR HIS DEDICATED AND EXEMPLARY SERVICE AS SERGEANT-AT-ARMS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES DURING THE FIFTEENTH AND SIXTEENTH CONGRESSES.”

## **NOMINATION SPEECH OF REP. ZAMORA (R.)**

Upon recognition by the Chair, Rep. Ronaldo B. Zamora initially acknowledged the laborious process of plenary and committee works and pointed out that the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress would require a majority leader who is not adverse to change, is ready to sacrifice even his personal and family time if they need to bring about legislative consensus, has passion for public service, has an established track record in the legislature and proven public administration skills, and who will not fear or develop second thoughts in helping stir Congress into possibly uncharted legislative waters.

He said that he can only think of one name and that is Rep. Fariñas whose qualities include the following, among others: a bar topnotcher, at one time Laoag City’s and the country’s youngest mayor, governor of the Province of Ilocos Norte for more than a decade, a multiple term Member of the House of Representatives, an expert in the impeachment process, and most importantly, a public servant who turns to prayer and the rosary on a daily basis as a venue for reflection and divine guidance.

Rep. Zamora thereafter nominated, with immense pride, great honor and complete confidence Rep. Rodolfo C. Fariñas as Majority Leader of the House.

## **ELECTION OF MAJORITY LEADER FARIÑAS**

On a subsequent motion of Rep. Zamora (R.), there being no objection, the Body elected Rep. Fariñas as the Majority Leader of the House.

## **OATH-TAKING OF MAJORITY LEADER FARIÑAS**

Whereupon, Rep. Fariñas ascended the rostrum with his family and took his oath of office before the Speaker as Majority Leader of the House.

## **ELECTION OF REP. QUIMBO AS DEPUTY SPEAKER**

On motion of Rep. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Body elected Rep. Romero “Miro” S. Quimbo as Deputy Speaker on behalf of the Liberal Party.

## **OATH-TAKING OF REP. QUIMBO AS DEPUTY SPEAKER**

At this juncture, Rep. Quimbo ascended the rostrum, accompanied by Rep. Belmonte (F.), and took his oath of office as Deputy Speaker before Speaker Alvarez (P.).

## **ADOPTION OF CERTAIN HOUSE RESOLUTIONS/CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

On successive motions of Rep. Fariñas, there being no objection, The Body considered the following House Resolutions/Concurrent Resolution; dispensed with the reading of the texts thereof without prejudice to their insertion into the Record of the House; and unanimously adopted said measures, entitled:

1. House Resolution No. 91, entitled: “RESOLUTION INFORMING THE SENATE THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HAS BEEN ORGANIZED AND HAS ENTERED UPON THE EXERCISE OF ITS FUNCTIONS”;
2. House Resolution No. 92, entitled: “RESOLUTION INFORMING PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HAS BEEN ORGANIZED AND HAS ENTERED UPON THE EXERCISE OF ITS FUNCTIONS.”; and
3. House Concurrent Resolution No. 3, entitled: “CONCURRENT RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO HOLD A JOINT SESSION TO HEAR THE MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES.”

**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

The Chair *motu proprio* suspended the session at 1:46 p.m. for the House to transmit the messages to the Senate.

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

The session resumed at 1:46 p.m.

**MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE**

On motion of Rep. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Secretary General read the following Message from the Senate which the Chair referred to the Archives:

Message dated July 25, 2016 informing the House that the Senate on even date adopted Senate Resolution No. 18.

**ADOPTION OF SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1**

On successive motions of Rep. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Body considered Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1, dispensed with the reading of the text thereof without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House, and adopted the measure, entitled: "CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CREATING A JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO NOTIFY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES THAT CONGRESS, NOW CONVENED FOR ITS FIRST REGULAR SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES, IS READY TO HEAR HIS STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS IN A JOINT SESSION OF BOTH HOUSES."

**DESIGNATION OF MEMBERS TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON NOTIFICATION**

With the adoption of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 1, on motion of Rep. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Body designated Deputy Speakers Singson, Alvarez (M.), Castro, and Abu to notify the President that Congress was already convened and ready to receive his message in a joint session.

**SUSPENSION OF SESSION**

Whereupon, on motion of Rep. Fariñas, the session was suspended at 1:49 p.m.

**RESUMPTION OF SESSION**

The session resumed at 1:50 p.m.

**ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAJORITY LEADERS**

On motion of Rep. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Body elected Reps. Juan Pablo "Rimpy" P. Bondoc and Sherwin N. Tugna as Deputy Majority Leaders.

**REMARKS OF REP. FARIÑAS**

Whereupon, Rep. Fariñas informed the Body that the House had received a report from the Joint Committee on Notification that President Duterte had been informed that Congress will convene in Joint Session at four o'clock that afternoon to hear his State of the Nation Address. He further reminded the Members to be at the Session Hall before the four o'clock joint session.

The Chair noted Rep. Fariñas' remarks.

**ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION**

Thereupon, on motion of Rep. Fariñas, there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until four o'clock in the afternoon of Tuesday, July 26, 2016.

It was 1:51 p.m.

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I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

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

Approved on July 26, 2016.  
Reconsidered and approved, as amended,  
on July 27, 2016.