

JOURNAL NO. 37  
Wednesday, December 11, 2002

CALL TO ORDER

At 4:00 p.m., Rep. Arthur D. Defensor called the session to order, pursuant to Section 14 (h), Rule IV of the Rules of the House.

NATIONAL ANTHEM AND PRAYER

Pursuant to Section 71, Rule XI of the Rules of the House, the Members sang the National Anthem and thereafter, observed a minute of silent prayer.

DEFERMENT OF THE ROLL CALL AND  
AND THE APPROVAL OF THE JOURNAL

On motion of Rep. Del R. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body deferred the calling of the Roll and the approval of the Journal of the previous session.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the Reference of Business.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read the titles of the following Bills and Resolutions, including the Message from the Senate and Communications, which were referred to the appropriate Committees hereunder indicated.

BILLS ON FIRST READING

House Bill No. 5529, entitled:

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE ANGELES CITY SUBDISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS IN THE PROVINCE OF PAMPANGA INTO A REGULAR DISTRICT ENGINEERING OFFICE"

By Representative Nepomuceno

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS AND THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 5530, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MALITBOG, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE, TO BE KNOWN AS THE MALITBOG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

By Representative Saludo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

House Bill No. 5531, entitled:

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE MUNICIPALITY OF LABO, CAMARINES NORTE PROVINCE, INTO A COMPONENT CITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE CITY OF LABO"

By Representative Unico

TO THE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

House Bill No. 5532, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MT. HILONG-HILONG RANGE SITUATED IN THE CITY OF BUTUAN AND IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF REMEDIOS T. ROMUALDEZ, CABADBARAN, AND SANTIAGO IN AGUSAN DEL NORTE, AS A PROTECTED LANDSCAPE UNDER THE NATIONAL INTEGRATED PROTECTED AREAS SYSTEM"

By Representatives Banaag and Amante

TO THE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

House Bill No. 5533, entitled:

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE MALAMIG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL EXTENSION CLASSES IN BARANGAY

MALIGAYA, MUNICIPALITY OF GLORIA, PROVINCE OF ORIENTAL MINDORO INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS PRESIDENT DIOSDADO MACAPAGAL MEMORIAL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR "

By Representative Umali (A.V.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS RESOLUTIONS

House Resolution No. 906, entitled:

"RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON GOOD GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE POSSIBLE BIDDING IRREGULARITIES OF THE LEYTE-CEBU INTERCONNECTION UPRATING PROJECT RESULTING IN PROJECT DELAYS, HUGE LOSSES BORNE BY CONSUMERS AND A PRECARIOUS POWER SUPPLY SITUATION IN THE VISAYAS"

By Representatives Rosales, Aguja, Del Mar, Jala, Libanan, Soon-Ruiz, Valdez, Chavez, Cruz, Lokin and Yapha

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 907, entitled:

"RESOLUTION COMMENDING FISHERMEN VIRGILIO C. SANCHEZ, MARIO C. SINGSON AND ALLAN A. ZUBIAGA FOR THEIR NOBLE ACT IN RESCUING SURVIVORS AND RECOVERING VICTIMS OF THE LAOAG INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES FLIGHT 585 ON 11 NOVEMBER 2002"

By Representative Sandoval (F.)

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 908, entitled:

"RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY, THE COMMITTEE ON MUSLIM AFFAIRS AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE REGULATION OF PRICES OF HALAL PRODUCTS"

By Representative Marcos

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 909, entitled:

"RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THROUGH THE COMMITTEES ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT AND CIVIL, POLITICAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT AN IMMEDIATE JOINT INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE BLATANT VIOLATIONS OF LABOR LAWS AND VIOLENT DISPERSALS OF PICKET LINES COMMITTED BY THE MANAGEMENT OF JAC LINER INCORPORATED AGAINST ITS WORKERS, MAKE APPROPRIATE RECOMMENDATIONS THEREOF, AND THEREAFTER ENACT REMEDIAL LEGISLATION TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF THE WORKING CLASS"

By Representatives Beltran, Ocampo, Maza and Barinaga

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 910, entitled:

"RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES' COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION TO INITIATE AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION (AS PETITIONED AND SOUGHT BY THE FACULTY, STUDENTS AND ACADEMIC COMMUNITY OF THE CMU), INTO THE PRESIDENTIAL INSTRUCTION/DIRECTIVE TO SEGREGATE/DELINEATE THE TITLED LAND OF CENTRAL MINDANAO UNIVERSITY (CMU) AT MUSUAN, MARAMAG, BUKIDNON FOR ANCESTRAL DOMAIN AND OTHER CLAIMS UNDER THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S RIGHTS ACT (IPRA)"

By Representative Acosta

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

House Resolution No. 911, entitled:

"RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL, POLITICAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CASES OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN BRGY. SAN RAFAEL, RODRIGUEZ, ALLEGEDLY COMMITTED BY MEMBERS OF TASK FORCE MAKILING OF THE PHILIPPINE ARMY"

By Representatives Maza, Beltran and Ocampo

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

ADDITIONAL COAUTHORS

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

Rep. Edgar M. Chatto for House Bills No. 2460, 4884, 5401 and 5439;

Rep. Ernie Dulalas Clarete for House Bill No. 5206;

Rep. Imee R. Marcos for House Bill No. 854;

Rep. Narciso D. Monfort for House Bills No. 5402 and 5429;

Rep. Augusto "Boboy" Syjuco for House Bills No. 564, 569, 2674 and House Resolution No. 906;

Rep. Luis P. Bersamin Jr. for House Resolution No. 12;

Rep. Reynaldo S. Uy for House Bill No. 5522;

Reps. Harlin Cast. Abayon and Alfredo G. Marañon Jr for House Bill No. 5547; and

Reps. Arthur R. Defensor, Ma. Victoria L. Locsin and Antonio Eduardo B. Nachura for House Resolution No. 906;

#### MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE

Message dated December 3, 2002 informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed Senate Bill No. 2379, entitled:

"AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE PROFESSIONALISM IN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES BY INCREASING THE PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF GENERALS/FLAG OFFICERS IN THE AFP TABLE OF ORGANIZATION, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED EIGHTY-ONE EIGHTY-SIX (REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8186), AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

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

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Message dated December 3, 2002 informing the House of Representatives that the Senate on even date passed Senate Bill No. 2413, entitled:

"AN ACT DECLARING DECEMBER 4 TO 10 AS NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS CONSCIOUSNESS WEEK IN THE COUNTRY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

in view of the disagreeing provisions of said Bill and House Bill No. 4526, entitled:

"AN ACT DECLARING DECEMBER 4 TO 10 AS NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS CONSCIOUSNESS WEEK IN THE COUNTRY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

the Senate has requested for a conference and has designated Senators Joker P. Arroyo, Francis N. Pangilinan, Robert Z. Barbers, Luisa "Loi" P. Ejercito Estrada and Aquilino Q. Pimentel, Jr. as its conferees.

TO THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

#### COMMUNICATIONS

Report on the amount of revenue collection of the Land Transportation Office for the period January to September 2001 and 2002, comparatively

TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS

Bangko Sentral Circulars Numbered 357 and 358, Series of 2002, dated November 8, 2002 and November 19, 2002, respectively

TO THE COMMITTEE ON BANKS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES

2001 Annual Report of the Pag-IBIG Fund

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

2001 Annual Report of the National Council for the Welfare of Disabled Persons

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

2001 Annual Report of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau, Department of Environment and Natural Resources

TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Quarterly publication of the Local Water Utilities Administration

TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Thereupon, Rep. De Guzman acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the following:

1. The second batch of guests from the Philippine School of Business Administration of Quezon City who are undergoing their National Service Training Program and Civil Welfare Training Service; and
2. Legislators from the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) led by Assembly Speaker Ibrahim P. Ibay, Assistant Majority Leader Saadudin M. Alauya Jr, and Speaker Pro Tempore Palsalin P. Tago.

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Chair recognized Rep. Liza L. Maza on a question of personal and collective privilege.

## QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE OF REP. MAZA

Rep. Maza initially underscored that International Human Rights Day was commemorated on the 10th of December 2002 in line with which she willspeak on the human rights situation of more than half of the country's population.

She then stated that there is an urgent need to uphold the human rights of women, especially from the poor sector of society. This, as she recalled that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was adopted by the United Nations (UN) General Assembly on December 10, 1948, has inspired international cooperation towards ensuring the rights of every woman and man. She stressed that said Declaration specifically proclaims in Article II the entitlement of everyone to enjoy the extensive human rights and fundamental freedoms it had set out; and that following suit, several international human rights instruments and international gatherings have reaffirmed that the human rights of women and the girl child are an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights. One such instrument, she said, is the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women or CEDAW, which was adopted by the UN Assembly in 1979 and ratified by the Philippines on August 5, 1981. She added as of June 2002, 170 countries or almost 90% of the UN member-states had ratified the Convention.

Rep. Maza explained that the CEDAW is a landmark international human rights instrument that deals exclusively with women's rights and the issue of gender equality. By emphasizing the need to accept equality of rights, she noted that the CEDAW recognizes that a truly just and humane society cannot come about without the full realization of the human rights of women. She added that two decades after the CEDAW came into being, the UN General Assembly, through UN Resolution No. 54/4, adopted the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW on October 6, 1999 and opened it for signature, ratification and accession on December 10 of the same year, on the occasion of International Human Rights Day. She pointed out that the Optional Protocol improves and adds enforcement mechanisms for women's human rights and freedoms as it provides two manners of receiving and considering complaints from individuals or groups that have exhausted all available domestic remedies: first, it provides a communications procedure that allows individuals or groups to submit claims of violations of rights to the Committee on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women; and second, it provides an inquiry procedure that enables the Committee to initiate inquiries of grave and systematic violation of women's rights.

In addition to these, she cited that the Optional Protocol was signed by 75 countries and ratified by 44 countries as of September 4, 2002. While the

Philippines had signed the Optional Protocol on March 21, 2000, she lamented that the signed Protocol has been languishing in Malacañang and has yet to be transmitted to the Senate for ratification.

Thereupon, Rep. Maza opined that President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's apparent inaction does not bode well for a nation that claims to uphold the rights and welfare of women, as mandated in numerous international instruments to which the Philippines is a signatory, as well as in the 1987 Constitution. She likewise noted that President Macapagal-Arroyo has yet to sign and transmit the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court to the Senate for ratification, despite the many progressive provisions that would serve to protect women, such as the criminalization of sexual and gender violence as war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Subsequently, she maintained that the continuous disregard by the present administration of the ratification of the aforementioned international human rights documents could not be ignored. This, as she expressed apprehension that the failure of President Macapagal-Arroyo to transmit said instruments to the Senate for proper action speaks of an insensitive attitude with regard to the human rights of women. She claimed that the human rights situation of Filipino women in the country and abroad offers a very mixed picture because in spite of some improvements in the area of women's rights, a huge array of shortcomings and serious grievances continue to exist. Moreover, she stated that mechanisms for redress are still lacking and prejudicial to women.

She then cited trafficking of women and children which continues to flourish despite the fact that it is a particularly loathsome violation of the human rights of women. Recent estimates, she said, have shown that 25,000 to 35,000 Filipinas fall prey to traffickers every year. She said that poverty, unemployment and inadequate income make women and children vulnerable to the sex trade, while illegal recruitment, sex tourism and the export of labor facilitate this exploitation.

Rep. Maza acknowledged as commendable the strong support in the Twelfth Congress for the proposed Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2002 which the Body had approved on Third Reading. She noted, however, that the Senate has been slow in passing its own version of the measure. Considering the magnitude and scope of trafficking in women and the absence of a national instrument that will punish perpetrators of this crime, she stressed the urgent need to provide a mechanism where women could seek redress and justice. She pointed out that the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW is one such mechanism, if only Malacañang would immediately forward this to the Senate.

Rep. Maza further noted that under President Macapagal-Arroyo's purported anti-terrorism campaign, political repression has resulted in death, unjustified arrest, torture, abductions and enforced disappearances of individuals and the displacement and forced evacuation of communities. She added that behind the increasing numbers of victims of political repression are women and children who have faces and stories that deserve to be told.

She then cited the brutal slaying of Manuela Abarillo, a member of GABRIELA and Bayan Muna, and her husband Expedito Abarillo, a Bayan Muna municipal coordinator, who were dragged to their backyard allegedly by armed men of the Philippine Army's 16th Infantry Battalion in San Teodoro, Mindoro Oriental while their 11-year old daughter Adeliza watched the crime. A month thereafter, she said that Rodriga Apolinar, a member of GABRIELA, along with her husband Ruben, a Bayan Muna coordinator, and their eight-year old daughter Nina Angela were slaughtered inside their own house in Barangay Ilag, also in San Teodoro. Along with the other victims, she said that the Apolinars were dubiously included in the military's "order of

battle" which includes members of legal people's organizations.

Rep. Maza deplored that there has been no justice for these women and their families because when their relatives try to seek justice through court cases and legitimate protests, they are harassed and assaulted even further. She claimed that these indiscriminate killings committed against women violate the UN Security Council Resolution No. 1325 which was adopted on October 31, 2000. She stressed that said Resolution, among others, calls upon all parties to armed conflict to fully respect international laws applicable to the rights and protection of women and children, especially civilians, and particularly the obligations applicable to them such as the CEDAW and the Optional Protocol, and to bear in mind the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. She added that UN Security Council Resolution No. 1325 is binding for all member-states of the United Nations.

Thereafter, Rep. Maza appealed to the Members to give full recognition to the human rights of women, and to support the resolution that she will be filing that day, urging President Macapagal-Arroyo to reaffirm the Philippines' commitment to the Optional Protocol to the CEDAW and to immediately submit the signed Protocol to the Senate for ratification. She further urged the House to call on the President to adhere to the provisions of UN Security Council Resolution No. 1325 on women in armed conflict situations. Stressing that the protection of the human rights of women must go beyond theory and must be a reality for millions of Filipino women, she pointed out that as a call of action, the Members should reassert their commitment to basic human rights and the fundamental freedoms of women and all the people.

REFERRAL OF REP. MAZA'S SPEECH

At this point, on motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body referred the speech of Rep. Maza to the Committee on Rules.

INSERTION OF REP. ROSALES'  
SPEECH INTO THE RECORD

Likewise, on motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body inserted the speech of Rep. Loretta Ann P. Rosales into the Record.

Subsequently, the Chair recognized Rep. Gerardo S. Espina Sr., for his parliamentary inquiry.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY  
OF REP. ESPINA

Whereupon, Rep. Espina asked whether the written speech of a Member which had not been delivered on the floor but instead had been inserted into the Record, would be reflected in the Journal in its entirety.

With the permission of the Chair, Rep. De Guzman replied that said speech shall be reflected only in the Record but not in the Journal.

Thereafter, Rep. Espina pointed out that he had long wanted to raise this question because the Members owe it to their colleagues in the House and to the public to let them know the subject matter of their privilege speeches which are being put on Record but were not delivered on the floor. This, as he pointed out the possibility that such privilege speeches may have subject matters which are of direct personal interest to a particular Member, a particular district, or to a very substantive issue concerning national interest and the Members would not be able to react thereon.

Subsequently, the Chair asked whether Rep. Espina wished that the entire speech be reflected in the Journal of the House.

Rep. Espina replied in the affirmative and explained that this would allow the Members and the press to go over the Journal and be informed about the important subject matters taken up by the Members in plenary session. Inasmuch as the insertion of speeches into the Record requires a formal motion, he suggested that said motion be presented to the Body. He noted, however, that this is not provided for in the Rules but opined that nothing is more powerful than Congress itself in plenary session such that it can overrule any House committee. Thereafter, the Chair next asked whether Rep. Espina was only referring to speeches which were not delivered but were inserted into the Record of the House.

After Rep. Espina replied in the affirmative, the Chair stated that he will refer the matter to the Committee on Rules for appropriate action, and that Rep. Espina will then be informed of any action thereon.

Agreeing therewith, Rep. Espina pointed out that this has been done several times already wherein a Member would only request that his or her speech be inserted into the Record without the Members knowing the subject of said speech.

Thereafter, the Chair recognized Minority Leader Carlos M. Padilla for his parliamentary inquiry.

#### PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY OF REP. PADILLA

In consonance with Rep. Espina's parliamentary inquiry, Rep. Padilla pointed out that the inclusion into the Journal of the House of speeches which have not been delivered on the floor will arouse the interest of every Member to pursue some points in said speeches which they might think are very important. He then asked whether it would also be in order for a Member to interpellate the Member whose speech had been inserted into the Record and published in the Journal. He then requested that this matter be likewise referred to the Committee on Rules.

The Chair affirmed the points raised by Rep. Padilla and thereafter, referred the same to the Committee on Rules for appropriate action.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

At this point, Rep. De Guzman acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the Sangguniang Kabataan Federation of the City of Mandaluyong, headed by Tomasin K. Dominguez, who were guests of Majority Leader Neptali A. Gonzales II.

Subsequently, the Chair recognized Rep. Monico O. Puentevella on a question of personal and collective privilege.

#### QUESTION OF PRIVILEGE OF REP. PUENTEVELLA

At the outset, Rep. Puentevella invited the Members to take a closer look at one of the stalwarts of the country's economy, the hog-raising industry. He stressed that said industry is a significant pillar of the country's economic foundation as it can be found in every legislative district both big and small. Unfortunately, he lamented the government has been knocking it down. He then surmised that the country's swine industry has a total value of P85.5 billion wherein the big players

employ about 45,000 workers while an additional 2.2 million workers comprise the backyard farmers. He added that two million Filipinos are dependent on the swine industry, including allied workers like corn farmers, copra producers, veterinary medicine manufacturers and distributors, feed millers and feed haulers. For the past years, due to the epidemics that plagued many farms and the devaluing Philippine peso, he pointed out that a number of piggeries had closed down but the majority of them still survive and that new ones continue to sprout all over the country even when the economy is suffering many losses.

Whereupon, Rep. Puentevella stated that the Philippine hog industry has generally been stable, and being a pork eating country, Filipino businessmen farmers consider it a lucrative field to go into even in the Metro Manila areas. Asking why the government has been knocking it down, he underscored that the first blow to the country's hog industry came when the rules against importations were relaxed to provide a solution during the economic slowdown; and the second blow came when giant meat processors were allowed to import cheap carabao meat to replace the pork component in their products. In this regard, he asked whether these measures were necessary in helping stabilize the country's economy and pointed out that the backyard farmers are asking why the government is now destabilizing what was once a stable industry.

At this point, Rep. Puentevella recalled that in the year 2001, about 29.5 million kilos of imported meat were brought into the country and in 2002, based on the volume trend from January to August, total importations increased to a whopping 11% or about 32.7 million kilos. He said that carabao meat from India is projected to reach 49 million kilos by December of this year or an increase of 11% from the previous year and the huge volume of imported meat has displaced 817,555 heads of local hogs. Thereafter, he pointed out that the huge number of imported hogs will likewise displace ones grown by small scale piggeries or by Filipinos to whom the Members are answerable. He then noted that from January to April 2002, the total volume of imported carabao meat had reached 18.8 million kilos which is equivalent to a 32% increase for the same period the previous year, all of this achieved in just four months.

What is unusual about this development, Rep. Puentevella said is that in January 2002, the period after the Christmas season when the meat processors slowed down their production, the volume of importation was at its highest at 5.4 million. In this regard, he said that imported carabao meat is being peddled in the wet markets and in some groceries at very low prices. He added that India is internationally-known to have widespread unchecked incidences of foot and mouth disease or FMD and it is for the same reason that carabao meat from this country is banned in other countries. He said that India has been dumping all the rejected carabao meats in a country where livestock diseases like FMD spread so fast and control is lacking. He also stressed that the Philippines has been importing tons of meats monthly which could possibly wipe out the country's entire livestock industry. Another threat, he said, is the packaging used to transport said meat, considering that under quarantine regulations, the packages should be burned to prevent possible FMD contamination, however, the packages do not make their way to the incinerators.

Furthermore, Rep. Puentevella stated that tons of smuggled imported pork and even minor cuts such as pork liver and pork skin from China and Korea are flooding Philippine markets at very cheap prices. He then asked how could restaurants, canteens and food manufacturers refuse such major cost-saving offers, even at the expense of the local hog industry or 2.25 million backyard piggeries and other big players. Usually, he noted that the peak season for the hog industry is December or Christmas but, for the first time in the history of the country's hog industry, prices dropped as early as April of this year by about P20.00 to P22.00 per kilo



which total value is equal to the expected profit margins of the 2.25 Filipino backyard farmers. He then asked the Members why they are doing this to their constituents, the farmers, and why they are knocking down a pillar in their very House. He suggested that the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) be renamed as "Department of Trade and Importation" so that the government will be consistent. For the past years, he recalled, the country's hog industry had survived various crises over which it had no control--the FMD outbreak and the collapse of the economy. This time, he said that it will not be able to survive the present crises if the Body will not stop killing the country's hog industry, as he pointed out that although viruses and economic slumps have a natural life span, greed does not.

Rep. Puentevella then said that the Members can introduce legislation to stop the excessive volume of meat importation and smuggling, protect the industry from possible FMD contaminants, and confiscate and stop contraband pork stock. After stressing in Filipino that the government should not allow a repeat of the recent importation of contaminated pork from an Asian country, he added that the Body can support the significant contributions of the hog industry to the growth of the economy and can protect Filipino consumers. He urged his colleagues not to fail the country.

In ending his speech, Rep. Puentevella commended former Agriculture Secretary Leonardo Q. Montemayor for having done his best to arrest FMD in the country during his last month in office by disallowing the importation of Australian beef. He lamented Secretary Montemayor's replacement a few weeks after making such a gallant stand even as he remarked that this decision of the Chief Executive was another issue to tackle.

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, the Chair recognized Rep. Gerardo S. Espina Sr. for his interpellation.

#### INTERPELLATION OF REP. ESPINA

Rep. Espina asked whether the gist of Rep. Puentevella's speech is that the government must reduce if not stop the abuses arising from certain decisions such as the importation of foreign products, including meat. Rep. Puentevella affirmed the accuracy of the statement.

Even while he then observed that the importation and smuggling of vegetables, rice and chicken has also been freely going on in the country, Rep. Espina opined that Rep. Puentevella's view contradicts the concept of globalization and free trade. He said that protecting local producers by giving them subsidies and limiting importation would make them non-competitive in the long run and leave them lagging behind in technology. In view of the absence of free market competition between local and imported goods, he added, consumers will become victims of the resulting high prices. He noted that in China, Thailand and Bangkok where the sale of fake brand products is allowed, legally-produced or genuine brand products have to be sold at lower prices or else risk not being patronized by consumers who prefer the cheaper fake products. In Filipino, he explained that local producers can dictate prices when there is no competition but have to improve the quality of their products when there is competition. He pointed out that his district produces only 56% of its pig requirements plus that of the provinces of Leyte, Southern Leyte, Samar, Northern Samar and Eastern Samar; and has to source the balance from Cotabato and Davao.

Rep. Espina stressed that the government should balance protectionism and importation in order to achieve a truly reflective pricing index based on the law of supply and demand, noting in Filipino that the cost of goods goes up when supply is

down and vice versa. He emphasized that the government must support local industry but not overprotect it, explaining that millions of consumers will suffer when prices are dictated by dominant industries. He pointed out in Filipino that if free competition is allowed in the media industry including the cable television industry, for example, the two or three giant companies who dictate the prices therein will try to outdo each other in lowering their prices and improving their services.

Agreeing with Rep. Espina's position, Rep. Puentevella clarified that he is asking the DTI to come up with a better solution to the problems of the local hog industry which would satisfy both the need to protect the local industry as well as to make importations. He urged Congress to file laws that will supplement existing regulations in trade and industry so as to satisfy the needs of 2.25 million backyard, farm, and big farm hog producers who depend on it for a living, as well as protect the interest of consumers. Agreeing that the country is being besieged by imported and smuggled rice, chicken and pork, he stressed in Filipino that the local economy, in general, and local hog producers, in particular, will suffer if not enough legislative remedies are applied. He said that he hoped that the House will conduct a Committee hearing with representatives of the DTI, meat processors, and the hog industry in this regard.

#### INTERPELLATION OF REP. MITRA

Upon recognition by the Chair, Rep. Abraham Kahlil B. Mitra said at the outset that his family understands the plight of hog farmers because they are also involved in cattle and hog raising. Acknowledging the serious state of FMD in Metro Manila and Luzon, he stated his support for Rep. Espina's call to support the local hog industry as well as to stop meat importation or ensure that imported meat will be quarantined well.

Rep. Mitra then inquired whether Rep. Puentevella is aware of what the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) and Meat Inspection Board have been doing to control FMD in the country.

Saying he would give Rep. Mitra a copy of his speech, Rep. Puentevella said that he is not sure whether the data he obtained from small and big hog producers is the same as the data which the former got from the BAI.

Rep. Mitra said that he is not satisfied with the assurance of the DA Undersecretary in charge of the livestock industry, that the Department is trying its best to control the entry of imported meat or to quarantine the same. He lamented the fact that imported carabao beef from countries that are not FMD-free are being mixed with local beef and sold as cow beef. He agreed that the House should ask for an investigation of the matter and remarked that the Bureau of Customs should be included therein inasmuch as DA officials had affirmed that a certain shipment that was confiscated one night was released the following morning.

At this point, Rep. Defensor (A.) relinquished the Chair to Speaker Jose De Venecia Jr.

#### REFERRAL OF REP. PUENTEVELLA'S SPEECH

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body referred Rep. Puentevella's speech to the Committee on Agriculture, Food and Fisheries.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF GUESTS

Subsequently, Rep. De Guzman acknowledged the presence in the Session Hall of the students from the Our Lady of Mercy School of Quezon City, headed by Directress Virginia Reyes, Principal Susan Morillo and Foundress Illuminada Reyes.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, the Chair suspended the session at 5:01 p.m.

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:02 p.m., the session was resumed.

Upon resumption of session, Rep. De Guzman informed the Members that the House was in receipt of a Notice of Judgment of the Supreme Court allowing Honorable Eufrocino M. Codilla Sr. to take his oath as Member of the House of Representatives.

Rep. De Guzman subsequently moved that Rep. Codilla be allowed to take his oath of office before Speaker De Venecia.

#### OATH-TAKING OF REP. CODILLA

Thereupon, Rep. Codilla ascended the rostrum with his family and took his oath of office before the Body, with the Speaker administering his oath as Representative of the Fourth District of Leyte.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, the Chair suspended the session at 5:07 p.m.

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:11 p.m., the session was resumed.

#### MOTION OF REP. DE GUZMAN

Thereupon, Rep. De Guzman moved that the Body take up the Unfinished Business and resume consideration on Second Reading of House Bill No. 4740 as embodied in Committee Report No. 399 as reported out by the Committee on Justice.

#### QUESTION OF QUORUM

Whereupon, Rep. Celso L. Lobregat raised a question of quorum.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair motu proprio suspended the session at 5:12 p.m.

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:16 p.m., the session was resumed with Rep. Florencio B. Abad presiding.

#### WITHDRAWAL OF REP. DE GUZMAN'S MOTION

Upon resumption of session, Rep. De Guzman withdrew his previous motion to take up the Unfinished Business.

#### ROLL CALL

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General called the Roll and the following Members were present:

Abad Biazon  
 Abaya (A.) Bondoc  
 Abayon Bueser  
 Ablan Bulut  
 Acosta Cabilao  
 Albano Cajes  
 Alfelor Calalay  
 Amin Calizo  
 Ancheta Carloto  
 Apostol Castelo Daza  
 Aquino (A.) Chatto  
 Aquino (B.) Chavez  
 Arbison Chiongbian  
 Barinaga Chipeco  
 Baterina Chungalao  
 Beltran Clarete  
 Bernardo- Lokin Codilla  
 Bersamin Cojuangco (C.)  
 Cojuangco (M.) Montilla  
 Cruz Nepomuceno  
 Cruz-Ducut Nieva  
 Cua Ocampo  
 Cuenco Olaño  
 Dadivas Pablo  
 Dangwa Padilla  
 De Guzman Pichay  
 De Venecia Pingoy  
 Del Mar Plaza  
 Dumarpa Puentevella  
 Dumpit Ramiro  
 Dy (F.) Real  
 Espina Reyes (E.)  
 Espinosa (V.) Reyes (V.)  
 Estrella Rodriguez (I.)  
 Failon Rodriguez (O.)  
 Falcon San Juan  
 Floirendo Santiago  
 Garcia (E.) Singson  
 Gordon Soon-Ruiz  
 Gullas Suarez  
 Jala Sumulong  
 Jalosjos-Carreon Taganas Layus  
 Jaraula Taliño-Santos  
 Joaquin Torres  
 Kintanar Umali (Alfonso)  
 Leviste Unico  
 Libanan Uy (E.)  
 Lobregat Uy (R.)  
 Locsin Valdez  
 Lozada Vicencio  
 Macias Villanueva  
 Madamba Wacnang  
 Malanyaon Yapha  
 Mamba Ylagan  
 Maraño Zamora (M.)  
 Marcos Zamora (R.)  
 Maza Zubiri

Monfort

With 115 Members present, the Chair declared the presence of a quorum. (See also Appendix I)

The following Members appeared after the Roll Call:

Almario	Duavit
Amatong	Durano
Angping	Dy (C.)
Angara-Castillo	Echiverri
Banaag	Erice
Barbers	Espino
Cari Fuentebella	
Defensor (A.)	Garin
Defensor (Ma. T.)	Gunigundo
Dilangalen	Hizon
Domogon	Ipong
Joson Roco	
Lagman-Luistro	Romualdo
Lapus Saludo	
Lopez (J.)	Sandoval (F.)
Macarambon	Sandoval (V.)
Martinez	Silverio
Mathay	Solis
Mitra Suplico	
Nachura	Sy-Alvarado
Nantes	Teodoro
Nicolas	Teves
Nograles	Umali (M.)
Ortega	Veloso
Perez Villar	
Ramirez-Sato	Villareal

At this juncture, the Speaker relinquished the Chair to Rep. Emmanuel Joel J. Villanueva.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, the session was suspended at 5:30 p.m.

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:36 p.m., the session was resumed.

#### SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE UNFINISHED BUSINESS

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of the Unfinished Business.

#### MOTION OF REP. DE GUZMAN

Whereupon, Rep. De Guzman moved for the approval on Third Reading of House Bill No. 455.

#### PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

OF REP. ALBANO

Before the Body could act on the motion, Rep. Rodolfo B. Albano inquired whether there is a deliberate move to skip the other bills to be approved on Third Reading and not to follow the order of priority in the day's Calendar of Business.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, the session was suspended at 5:38 p.m.

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:39 p.m., the session was resumed.

#### APPROVAL ON THIRD READING

#### OF HOUSE BILL NO. 455

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the approval on Third Reading of House Bill No. 455, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 2, 2002, pursuant to Section 57, Rule X of the Rules of the House.

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

"AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES AS THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY."

The Chair directed the Secretary General to call the Roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second Roll Call was made.

#### RESULT OF THE VOTING

The result of the voting was as follows:

In favor:

Abad	Chavez
Abaya (A.)	Chiongbian
Abayon	Chipeco
Ablan	Chungalao
Acosta	Clarete
Albano	Codilla
Alfelor	Cojuangco (C.)
Amatong	Cojuangco (M.)
Amin	Cruz
Ancheta	Cruz-Ducut
Angara-Castillo	Cua
Apostol	Cuenco
Aquino (A.)	Dadivas
Aquino (B.)	Dangwa
Arbison	De Guzman
Barinaga	De Venecia
Baterina	Defensor (Ma. T.)
Beltran	Del Mar
Bernardo-Lokin	Dilangalen
Bersamin	Dumarpa
Biazon	Dumpit
Bondoc	Dy (C.)

Bueser	Dy (F.)
Bulut Espino	
Cabilao	Espinosa (V.)
Cajes Estrella	
Calalay	Failon
Calizo	Falcon
Carloto	Floirendo
Castelo Daza	Garcia (E.)
Chatto	Garin
Gordon	Plaza
Gullas	Puentevella
Ipong Ramiro	
Jala Real	
Jalosjos-Carreon	Reyes (E.)
Jaraula	Reyes (V.)
Joaquin	Roco
Joson Rodriguez	(I.)
Kintanar	Rodriguez (O.)
Lagman-Luistro	San Juan
Leviste	Santiago
Libanan	Silverio
Lobregat	Singson
Locsin (T.)	Soon-Ruiz
Lozada	Suarez
Macias	Sumulong
Madamba	Sy-Alvarado
Malanyaon	Taganas Layus
Mamba Taliño-Santos	
Marañon	Teves
Marcos	Torres
Martinez	Umali (Alfonso)
Maza Unico	
Monfort	Uy (E.)
Montilla	Uy (R.)
Nepomuceno	Valdez
Nicolas	Veloso
Nieva Vicencio	
Nograles	Villareal
Ocampo	Wacnang
Olaño Yapha	
Pablo Ylagan	
Padilla	Zamora (M.)
Pichay	Zamora (R.)
Pingoy	Zubiri

Against:

None

Abstention:

None

With 132 affirmative votes, no negative votes and no abstentions, the Body approved on Third Reading House Bill No. 455.

MANIFESTATION OF REP. DE GUZMAN

Whereupon, Rep. De Guzman manifested that the following Members be made coauthors of House Bill No. 455: Reps. Ronaldo B. Zamora, Prospero A. Pichay Jr., Angel M. Carloto, Celso L. Lobregat, Didagen P. Dilangalen Eduardo K. Veloso, Gerardo S. Espina Sr., Gregorio T. Ipong and Prospero C. Nograles.

POINT OF ORDER OF REP. CHIPECO

Upon recognition by the Chair, Rep. Joaquin M. Chipeco Jr. said that he heard the number of affirmative votes but did not hear the number of negative votes. He then inquired whether there were any negative votes.

The Chair replied that there were no negative votes and no abstentions.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION  
OF BILLS ON THIRD READING

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of Bills on Third Reading.

Subsequently, Rep. De Guzman moved that the Body consider the Business for the Day.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, the session was suspended at 5:44 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:45 p.m., the session was resumed.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION  
OF THE BUSINESS FOR THE DAY

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of the Business for the Day to take up other Bills on Third Reading.

APPROVAL ON THIRD READING  
OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 23

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the approval on Third Reading of House Joint Resolution No. 23, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 5, 2002, pursuant to Section 57, Rule X of the Rules of the House.

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

"JOINT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE AVAILABILITY OF 2002 APPROPRIATIONS FOR MAINTENANCE AND OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES TO DECEMBER 31, 2003, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 61 OF THE GENERAL PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9162, THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT OF FISCAL YEAR 2002."

The Chair then directed the Secretary General to call the Roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second Roll Call was made.

RESULT OF THE VOTING

The result of the voting was as follows:



In favor:

Abad Cuenco  
Abaya (A.) Dadivas  
Abayon Dangwa  
Ablan De Guzman  
Acosta De Venecia  
Albano Defensor (Ma. T.)  
Alfelor Del Mar  
Almario Dilangalen  
Amatong Domogan  
Amin Dumarpa  
Ancheta Dumpit  
Angara-Castillo Durano  
Apostol Dy (C.)  
Aquino (A.) Dy (F.)  
Aquino (B.) Echiverri  
Arbison Espino  
Barinaga Espinosa (V.)  
Baterina Estrella  
Beltran Failon  
Bernardo-Lokin Falcon  
Bersamin Floirendo  
Biazon Garcia (E.)  
Bondoc Garin  
Bueser Gordon  
Bulut Gullas  
Cabilao Ipong  
Cajes Jala  
Calalay Jalosjos-Carreon  
Calizo Jaraula  
Carloto Joaquin  
Castelo Daza Joson  
Chatto Kintanar  
Chavez Lagman-Luistro  
Chiongbian Leviste  
Chipeco Libanan  
Chungalao Lobregat  
Clarete Locsin (T.)  
Codilla Lozada  
Cojuangco (C.) Macias  
Cojuangco (M.) Madamba  
Cruz Malanyaon  
Cruz-Ducut Mamba  
Cua Marañon  
Marcos Santiago  
Martinez Silverio  
Maza Singson  
Monfort Soon-Ruiz  
Montilla Suarez  
Nepomuceno Sumulong  
Nicolas Sy-Alvarado  
Nieva Taganas Layus  
Nograles Taliño-Santos  
Ocampo Teves  
Olaño Torres

Pablo Umali (Alfonso)  
Padilla Unico  
Pichay Uy (E.)  
Pingoy Uy (R.)  
Plaza Valdez  
Puentevella Veloso  
Ramiro Vicencio  
Real Villanueva  
Reyes (E.) Wacnang  
Reyes (V.) Yapha  
Roco Ylagan  
Rodriguez (I.) Zamora (M.)  
Rodriguez (O.) Zamora (R.)  
San Juan Zubiri

Against:

None

Abstention:

None

With 136 affirmative votes, no negative votes and no abstentions, the Body approved on Third Reading House Joint Resolution No. 23.

APPROVAL ON THIRD READING  
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 2041

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the approval on Third Reading of House Bill No. 2041, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on October 15, 2002, pursuant to Section 57, Rule X of the Rules of the House.

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

"AN ACT GRANTING THE SEASHORE TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN PUBLIC RADIOTELEPHONE COASTAL STATIONS FOR THE TRANSMISSION AND RECEPTION OF RADIOTELEPHONE COMMUNICATIONS WITHIN AND OUTSIDE THE PHILIPPINES."

The Chair then directed the Secretary General to call the Roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second Roll Call was made.

RESULT OF THE VOTING

The result of the voting was as follows:

In favor:

Abad Cuenco  
Abaya (A.) Dadivas  
Abayon Dangwa  
Ablan De Guzman  
Acosta De Venecia  
Albano Defensor (Ma. T.)

Alfelor	Del Mar
Almario	Dilangalen
Amatong	Domogan
Amin Dumarpa	
Ancheta	Dumpit
Angara-Castillo	Durano
Apostol	Dy (C.)
Aquino (A.)	Dy (F.)
Aquino (B.)	Echiverri
Arbison	Espino
Barinaga	Espinosa (V.)
Baterina	Estrella
Beltran	Failon
Bernardo-Lokin	Falcon
Bersamin	Floirendo
Biazon	Garcia (E.)
Bondoc	Garcia (V.)
Bueser	Garin
Bulut Gordon	
Cabilao	Gullas
Cajes Hizon	
Calalay	Ipong
Calizo	Jala
Carloto	Jalosjos-Carreon
Castelo Daza	Jaraula
Chatto	Joaquin
Chavez	Joson
Chiongbian	Kintanar
Chipeco	Lagman-Luistro
Chungalao	Leviste
Clarete	Libanan
Codilla	Lobregat
Cojuangco (C.)	Locsin (T.)
Cojuangco (M.)	Lozada
Cruz Macias	
Cruz-Ducut	Madamba
Cua Malanyaon	
Mamba Santiago	
Marañon	Silverio
Marcos	Singson
Martinez	Soon-Ruiz
Maza Suarez	
Monfort	Sumulong
Montilla	Sy-Alvarado
Nepomuceno	Taganas Layus
Nicolas	Taliño-Santos
Nieva Teves	
Nograles	Torres
Ocampo	Umali (Alfonso)
Olaño Unico	
Pablo Uy (E.)	
Padilla	Uy (R.)
Pichay	Valdez
Pingoy	Veloso
Plaza Vicencio	
Puentevella	Villanueva
Ramiro	Villareal

Real Wacnang  
Reyes (E.) Yapha  
Reyes (V.) Ylagan  
Roco Zamora (M.)  
Rodriguez (I.) Zamora (R.)  
Rodriguez (O.) Zubiri  
San Juan

Against:

None

Abstention:

None

With 139 affirmative votes, no negative votes and no abstentions, the Body approved on Third Reading House Bill No. 2041.

APPROVAL ON THIRD READING  
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5253

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the approval on Third Reading of House Bill No. 5253, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on November 11, 2002, pursuant to Section 57, Rule X of the Rules of the House.

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

"AN ACT PROFESSIONALIZING THE PRACTICE OF GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING AND CREATING FOR THIS PURPOSE A PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BOARD OF GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

The Chair then directed the Secretary General to call the Roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second Roll Call was made.

RESULT OF THE VOTING

The result of the voting was as follows:

In favor:

Abad Cuenco  
Abaya (A.) Dadivas  
Abayon Dangwa  
Ablan De Guzman  
Acosta De Venecia  
Albano Defensor (Ma. T.)  
Alfelor Del Mar  
Almario Dilangalen  
Amatong Domogan  
Amin Dumarpa  
Ancheta Dumpit  
Angara-Castillo Durano  
Apostol Dy (C.)  
Aquino (A.) Dy (F.)

Aquino (B.)	Echiverri
Arbison	Espino
Barinaga	Espinosa (V.)
Baterina	Estrella
Beltran	Failon
Bernardo-Lokin	Falcon
Bersamin	Floirendo
Biazon	Garcia (E.)
Bondoc	Garcia (V.)
Bueser	Garin
Bulut Gordon	
Cabilao	Gullas
Cajes Hizon	
Calalay	Ipong
Calizo	Jala
Carloto	Jalosjos-Carreon
Castelo Daza	Jaraula
Chatto	Joaquin
Chavez	Joson
Chiongbian	Kintanar
Chipeco	Lagman-Luistro
Chungalao	Leviste
Clarete	Libanan
Codilla	Lobregat
Cojuangco (C.)	Locsin (T.)
Cojuangco (M.)	Lozada
Cruz Macias	
Cruz-Ducut	Madamba
Cua	Malanyaon
Mamba Santiago	
Marañon	Silverio
Marcos	Singson
Martinez	Soon-Ruiz
Maza Suarez	
Monfort	Sumulong
Montilla	Sy-Alvarado
Nepomuceno	Taganas Layus
Nicolas	Taliño-Santos
Nieva Teves	
Nograles	Torres
Ocampo	Umali (Alfonso)
Olaño Unico	
Pablo Uy (E.)	
Padilla	Uy (R.)
Pichay	Valdez
Pingoy	Veloso
Plaza Vicencio	
Puentevella	Villanueva
Ramiro	Villareal
Real Wacnang	
Reyes (E.)	Yapha
Reyes (V.)	Ylagan
Roco Zamora (M.)	
Rodriguez (I.)	Zamora (R.)
Rodriguez (O.)	Zubiri
San Juan	

Against:

None

Abstention:

None

With 139 affirmative votes, no negative votes and no abstentions, the Body approved on Third Reading House Bill No. 5253.

APPROVAL ON THIRD READING  
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 2693

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the approval on Third Reading of House Bill No. 2693, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on November 28, 2002, pursuant to Section 57, Rule X of the Rules of the House.

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

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE PROVINCIAL ROAD CONNECTING THE MUNICIPALITIES OF MAHAYAG AND DUMINGAG IN THE PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR TO THE MUNICIPALITIES OF SIAYAN AND SINDANGAN IN THE PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE INTO A NATIONAL ROAD, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

The Chair then directed the Secretary General to call the Roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second Roll Call was made.

RESULT OF THE VOTING

The result of the voting was as follows:

In favor:

Abad Cruz-Ducut  
Abaya (A.) Cua  
Abayon Cuenco  
Ablan Dadvivas  
Acosta Dangwa  
Albano De Guzman  
Alfelor De Venecia  
Almario Defensor (Ma. T.)  
Amatong Del Mar  
Amin Dilangalen  
Ancheta Domogan  
Angara-Castillo Dumarpa  
Apostol Dumpit  
Aquino (A.) Durano  
Aquino (B.) Dy (C.)  
Arbison Dy (F.)  
Barinaga Echiverri  
Baterina Espino  
Beltran Espinosa (V.)  
Bernardo-Lokin Estrella  
Bersamin Failon

Biazon	Falcon
Bondoc	Floirendo
Bueser	Garcia (E.)
Bulut Garcia (V.)	
Cabilao	Garin
Cajes Gordon	
Calalay	Gullas
Calizo	Hizon
Carloto	Ipong
Castelo Daza	Jala
Chatto	Jalosjos-Carreon
Chavez	Jaraula
Chiongbian	Joaquin
Chipeco	Joson
Chungalao	Kintanar
Clarete	Lagman-Luistro
Codilla	Leviste
Cojuangco (C.)	Libanan
Cojuangco (M.)	Lobregat
Cruz Locsin (T.)	
Lozada	Rodriguez (O.)
Macias	San Juan
Madamba	Santiago
Malanyaon	Silverio
Mamba Singson	
Marañon	Soon-Ruiz
Marcos	Suarez
Martinez	Sumulong
Maza Sy-Alvarado	
Monfort	Taganas Layus
Montilla	Taliño-Santos
Nepomuceno	Teves
Nicolas	Torres
Nieva Umali (Alfonso)	
Nograles	Unico
Ocampo	Uy (E.)
Olaño Uy (R.)	
Pablo Valdez	
Padilla	Veloso
Pichay	Vicencio
Pingoy	Villanueva
Plaza Villareal	
Puentevella Wacnang	
Ramiro	Yapha
Real Ylagan	
Reyes (E.)	Zamora (M.)
Reyes (V.)	Zamora (R.)
Roco Zubiri	
Rodriguez (I.)	

Against:

None

Abstention:

None

With 139 affirmative votes, no negative votes and no abstentions, the Body approved on Third Reading House Bill No. 2693.

APPROVAL ON THIRD READING  
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5407

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the approval on Third Reading of House Bill No. 5407, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on November 28, 2002, pursuant to Section 57, Rule X of the Rules of the House.

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

"AN ACT SEPARATING THE GREENFIELD NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL - DALLAG ANNEX IN BARANGAY DALLAG, MUNICIPALITY OF ARAKAN, PROVINCE OF NORTH COTABATO FROM THE GREENFIELD NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING THE SAME INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS THE DALLAG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR."

The Chair then directed the Secretary General to call the Roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second Roll Call was made.

RESULT OF THE VOTING

The result of the voting was as follows:

In favor:

Abad Codilla  
Abaya (A.) Cojuangco (C.)  
Abayon Cojuangco (M.)  
Ablan Cruz  
Acosta Cruz-Ducut  
Albano Cua  
Alfelor Cuenco  
Almario Dadivas  
Amatong Dangwa  
Amin De Guzman  
Ancheta De Venecia  
Angara-Castillo Defensor (Ma. T.)  
Apostol Del Mar  
Aquino (A.) Dilangalen  
Aquino (B.) Domogan  
Arbison Dumarpa  
Barinaga Dumpit  
Baterina Durano  
Beltran Dy (C.)  
Bernardo-Lokin Dy (F.)  
Bersamin Echiverri  
Biazon Espino  
Bondoc Espinosa (V.)  
Bueser Estrella  
Bulut Failon  
Cabilao Falcon  
Cajes Floirendo  
Calalay Garcia (E.)



Calizo	Garcia (V.)
Carloto	Garin
Castelo Daza	Gordon
Chatto	Gullas
Chavez	Hizon
Chiongbian	Ipong
Chipeco	Jala
Chungalao	Jalosjos-Carreon
Clarete	Jaraula
Joaquin	Reyes (E.)
Joson Reyes	(V.)
Kintanar	Roco
Lagman-Luistro	Rodriguez (I.)
Leviste	Rodriguez (O.)
Libanan	San Juan
Lobregat	Santiago
Locsin (T.)	Silverio
Lozada	Singson
Macias	Soon-Ruiz
Madamba	Suarez
Malanyaon	Sumulong
Mamba Sy-Alvarado	
Marañon	Taganas Layus
Marcos	Taliño-Santos
Martinez	Teves
Maza Torres	
Monfort	Umali (Alfonso)
Montilla	Unico
Nepomuceno	Uy (E.)
Nicolas	Uy (R.)
Nieva Valdez	
Nograles	Veloso
Ocampo	Vicencio
Olaño Villanueva	
Pablo Villareal	
Padilla	Wacnang
Pichay	Yapha
Pingoy	Ylagan
Plaza Zamora	(M.)
Puentevella	Zamora (R.)
Ramiro	Zubiri
Real	

Against:

None

Abstention:

None

With 139 affirmative votes, no negative votes and no abstentions, the Body approved on Third Reading House Bill No. 5407.

APPROVAL ON THIRD READING  
OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5428

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the approval on Third Reading of House Bill No. 5428, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on November 28, 2002, pursuant to Section 57, Rule X of the Rules of the House.

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

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL IN LAS PINAS CITY, TO BE KNOWN AS THE LAS PIÑAS CITY NATIONAL SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR."

The Chair then directed the Secretary General to call the Roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second Roll Call was made.

#### RESULT OF THE VOTING

The result of the voting was as follows:

In favor:

Abad	Cruz
Abaya (A.)	Cruz-Ducut
Abayon	Cua
Ablan	Cuenco
Acosta	Dadivas
Albano	Dangwa
Alfelor	De Guzman
Almario	De Venecia
Amatong	Defensor (Ma. T.)
Amin	Del Mar
Ancheta	Dilangalen
Angara-Castillo	Domogan
Apostol	Dumarpa
Aquino (A.)	Dumpit
Aquino (B.)	Durano
Arbison	Dy (C.)
Barinaga	Dy (F.)
Baterina	Echiverri
Beltran	Espino
Bernardo-Lokin	Espinosa (V.)
Bersamin	Estrella
Biazon	Failon
Bondoc	Falcon
Bueser	Floirendo
Bulut Garcia (E.)	
Cabilao	Garcia (V.)
Cajes	Garin
Calalay	Gordon
Calizo	Gullas
Carloto	Hizon
Castelo Daza	Ipong
Chatto	Jala
Chavez	Jalosjos-Carreon
Chiongbian	Jaraula
Chipeco	Joaquin
Chungalao	Joson
Clarete	Kintanar

Codilla	Lagman-Luistro
Cojuangco (C.)	Leviste
Cojuangco (M.)	Libanan
Lobregat	Rodriguez (I.)
Locsin (T.)	Rodriguez (O.)
Lozada	San Juan
Macias	Santiago
Madamba	Silverio
Malanyaon	Singson
Mamba	Soon-Ruiz
Marañon	Suarez
Marcos	Sumulong
Martinez	Sy-Alvarado
Maza	Taganas Layus
Monfort	Taliño-Santos
Montilla	Teves
Nepomuceno	Torres
Nicolas	Umali (Alfonso)
Nieva Unico	
Nograles	Uy (E.)
Ocampo	Uy (R.)
Olaño Valdez	
Pablo Veloso	
Padilla	Vicencio
Pichay	Villanueva
Pingoy	Villareal
Plaza Wacnang	
Puentevella Yapha	
Ramiro	Ylagan
Real	Zamora (M.)
Reyes (E.)	Zamora (R.)
Reyes (V.)	Zubiri
Roco	

Against:

None

Abstention:

None

With 139 affirmative votes, no negative votes and no abstentions, the Body approved on Third Reading House Bill No. 5428.

#### MANIFESTATION OF REP. ALBANO

Rep. Albano, upon recognition by the Chair, disclosed that when the Roll was called to determine whether there was a quorum, there were only 115 Members. He then noted that in the first voting, the number of Members had increased to 132, in the third voting, it was 136, and that the latest count is 139. He said that he is happy with this development because it only proves that many of his colleagues have arrived and were participating in the plenary session.

#### APPROVAL ON THIRD READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5455

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the

approval on Third Reading of House Bill No. 5455, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on November 28, 2002, pursuant to Section 57, Rule X of the Rules of the House.

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

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY EUREKA, GINGOOG CITY, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL TO BE KNOWN AS THE EUREKA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR."

The Chair then directed the Secretary General to call the Roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second Roll Call was made.

#### RESULT OF THE VOTING

The result of the voting was as follows:

In favor:

Abad	Cajes
Abaya (A.)	Calalay
Abayon	Calizo
Ablan	Carloto
Acosta	Castelo Daza
Albano	Chatto
Alfelor	Chavez
Almario	Chiongbian
Amatong	Chipeco
Amin	Chungalao
Ancheta	Clarete
Angara-Castillo	Codilla
Apostol	Cojuangco (C.)
Aquino (A.)	Cojuangco (M.)
Aquino (B.)	Cruz
Arbison	Cruz-Ducut
Barinaga	Cua
Baterina	Cuenco
Beltran	Dadivas
Bernardo-Lokin	Dangwa
Bersamin	De Guzman
Biazon	De Venecia
Bondoc	Defensor (Ma. T.)
Bueser	Del Mar
Bulut	Dilangalen
Cabilao	Domogan
Dumarpa	Nograles
Dumpit	Ocampo
Durano	Olaño
Dy (C.)	Pablo
Dy (F.)	Padilla
Echiverri	Pichay
Espino	Pingoy
Espinosa (V.)	Plaza
Estrella	Puentevella
Failon	Ramiro
Falcon	Real

Floirendo Reyes (E.)  
Garcia (E.) Reyes (V.)  
Garcia (V.) Roco  
Garin Rodriguez (I.)  
Gordon Rodriguez (O.)  
Gullas San Juan  
Hizon Santiago  
Ipong Silverio  
Jala Singson  
Jalosjos-Carreon Soon-Ruiz  
Jaraula Suarez  
Joaquin Sumulong  
Joson Sy-Alvarado  
Kintanar Taganas Layus  
Lagman-Luistro Taliño-Santos  
Leviste Teves  
Libanan Torres  
Lobregat Umali (Alfonso)  
Locsin (T.) Unico  
Lozada Uy (E.)  
Macias Uy (R.)  
Madamba Valdez  
Malanyaon Veloso  
Mamba Vicencio  
Marañon Villanueva  
Marcos Villareal  
Martinez Wacnang  
Maza Yapha  
Monfort Ylagan  
Montilla Zamora (M.)  
Nepomuceno Zamora (R.)  
Nicolas Zubiri  
Nieva

Against:

None

Abstention:

None

With 139 affirmative votes, no negative votes and no abstentions, the Body approved on Third Reading House Bill No. 5455.

POINT OF ORDER OF REP. CHIPECO

Upon recognition by the Chair, Rep. Chipeco said that he was constrained to rise again on a point of order because he did not hear the number of affirmative votes, and neither the negative nor abstention votes. He then sought clarification as to the actual result of the voting.

The Chair replied that there were 139 affirmative votes, no negative votes and no abstentions.

INQUIRY OF REP. VILLAREAL

Upon recognition by the Chair, Rep. Raul L. Villareal inquired whether there were

indeed 139 affirmative votes.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The Chair motu proprio suspended the session at 5:57 p.m.

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:58 p.m., the session was resumed.

#### APPROVAL ON THIRD READING OF HOUSE BILL NO. 5354

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the approval on Third Reading of House Bill No. 5354, printed copies of which were distributed to the Members on December 2, 2002, pursuant to Section 57, Rule X of the Rules of the House.

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

"AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE MAGNA CARTA FOR SOCIAL WORKERS AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT WORKERS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

The Chair then directed the Secretary General to call the Roll for nominal voting. Thereafter, pursuant to the Rules of the House, a second Roll Call was made.

#### RESULT OF THE VOTING

The result of the voting was as follows:  
In favor:

Abad Dy (C.)  
Abaya (A.) Dy (F.)  
Abayon Echiverri  
Ablan Espino  
Acosta Espinosa (V.)  
Albano Estrella  
Alfelor Failon  
Almario Falcon  
Amatong Floirendo  
Amin Garcia (E.)  
Ancheta Garcia (V.)  
Angara-Castillo Garin  
Apostol Gordon  
Aquino (A.) Gullas  
Aquino (B.) Hizon  
Arbison Ipong  
Barinaga Jala  
Baterina Jalosjos-Carreon  
Beltran Jaraula  
Bernardo-Lokin Joaquin  
Bersamin Joson  
Biazon Kintanar  
Bondoc Lagman-Luistro  
Bueser Leviste  
Bulut Libanan

Cabilao	Lobregat
Cajes Locsin (T.)	
Calalay	Lozada
Calizo	Macias
Carloto	Madamba
Castelo Daza	Malanyaon
Chatto	Mamba
Chavez	Marañon
Chiongbian	Marcos
Chipeco	Martinez
Chungalao	Maza
Clarete	Mitra
Codilla	Monfort
Cojuangco (C.)	Montilla
Cojuangco (M.)	Nachura
Cruz Nantes	
Cruz-Ducut	Nepomuceno
Cua Nicolas	
Cuenco	Nieva
Dadivas	Nograles
Dangwa	Ocampo
De Guzman	Olaño
De Venecia	Pablo
Defensor (A.)	Padilla
Defensor (Ma. T.)	Pichay
Del Mar	Pingoy
Dilangalen	Plaza
Domogan	Puentevella
Dumarpa	Ramiro
Dumpit	Real
Durano	Reyes (E.)
Reyes (V.)	Umali (Alfonso)
Roco Unico	
Rodriguez (I.)	Uy (E.)
Rodriguez (O.)	Uy (R.)
San Juan	Valdez
Santiago	Veloso
Silverio	Vicencio
Singson	Villanueva
Soon-Ruiz	Villareal
Suarez	Wacnang
Sumulong	Yapha
Sy-Alvarado	Ylagan
Taganas Layus	Zamora (M.)
Taliño-Santos	Zamora (R.)
Teves Zubiri	
Torres	

Against:

None

Abstention:

None

With 143 affirmative votes, no negative votes and no abstentions, the Body approved

on Third Reading House Bill No. 5354.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, the session was suspended at 6:00 p.m.

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:02 p.m., the session was resumed.

#### SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF BILLS ON THIRD READING

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of Bills on Third Reading.

#### APPROVAL OF SENATE AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 49

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body approved Senate Bill No. 2168 as amendment by way of substitution to House Bill No. 49 which recognizes the Cebu International School as an educational institution of international character.

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, the session was suspended at 6:03 p.m.

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:05 p.m., the session was resumed.

#### ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body proceeded to the Additional Reference of Business.

Upon direction of the Chair, the Secretary General read the titles of the following Resolution and Committee Report which were referred to the Committee on Rules:

#### RESOLUTION

House Resolution No. 912, entitled:

"RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT FORMER PRESIDENT JOSEPH ESTRADA BE GIVEN A CHRISTMAS FURLOUGH."

By Representatives Defensor (Ma. T.), Villanueva, Barbers, Andaya Jr., Antonino-Custodio, Biazon, De Guzman, Duavit, Ermita-Buhain, Fuentebella, Garcia (V.), Gatchalian, Jaafar and Remulla

#### COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee Report No. 1098 on House Bill No. 5547, entitled:

"AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7875, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT INSTITUTING A NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM FOR ALL FILIPINOS AND ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION FOR THE PURPOSE."

By Speaker De Venecia Jr., Reps. Yapha Jr., Angara-Castillo, Zialcita, Macias II, Soon-Ruiz, Taganas-Layus, Uy, Jaraula and Badelles

#### BUSINESS FOR THE DAY:

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1065

ON HOUSE BILL NO. 3782



On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 3782 as embodied in Committee Report No. 1065 and reported out by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations.

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

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE PUROG-STO. NIÑO-ANGARE-DILA-AN, DUENAS PROVINCIAL ROADS IN THE FOURTH DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF ILOILO, INTO A NATIONAL ROAD, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR."

Thereupon, on motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the text of the Bill without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House.

#### SPONSORSHIP REMARKS OF REP. DE GUZMAN

Upon request of the author of House Bill No. 3782, on motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body approved to consider the Explanatory Note of the Bill as the sponsorship remarks on the measure.

#### TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

There being no interpellations and speeches en contra, on motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate.

Thereafter, the Body proceeded to the period of amendments.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

As proposed by Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body approved the following Committee amendments:

1. On Section 1, to delete the entire provision and in lieu thereof, to substitute the following:

SECTION 1. THE PUROG-STO. NIÑO-ANGARE-DILA-AN PROVINCIAL ROAD IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF DUEÑAS, PROVINCE OF ILOILO IS HEREBY CONVERTED INTO A NATIONAL ROAD.;

2. On Section 2, to delete the entire provision and in lieu thereof, to substitute the following:

SECTION 2. THE SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS SHALL INCLUDE IN THE DEPARTMENT'S PROGRAM THE IMPROVEMENT, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF THE SAID ROAD, THE FUNDING OF WHICH SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT.; and

3. To change the title of the Bill to read as follows:

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE PUROG-STO. NIÑO-ANGARE-DILA-AN PROVINCIAL ROAD IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF DUEÑAS, PROVINCE OF ILOILO INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR."

#### TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no other Committee and individual amendments, on motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of amendments.

APPROVAL ON SECOND READING OF  
HOUSE BILL NO. 3782, AS AMENDED

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body approved on Second Reading House Bill No. 3782, as amended.

BUSINESS FOR THE DAY:  
COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1066  
ON HOUSE BILL NO. 3768

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Bill No. 3768 as embodied in Committee Report No. 1066 and reported out by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations.

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

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE POBLACION-JARDIN-SAPAO TO MALO-OY DUMANGAS ROAD IN THE PROVINCE OF ILOILO INTO A NATIONAL ROAD, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR."

Thereupon, on motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the text of the Bill without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House.

SPONSORSHIP REMARKS  
OF REP. DE GUZMAN

Upon request of the author of House Bill No. 3768, on motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body approved to consider the Explanatory Note of the Bill as the sponsorship remarks on the measure.

TERMINATION OF THE PERIOD  
OF SPONSORSHIP AND DEBATE

There being no interpellations and speeches en contra, on motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body terminated the period of sponsorship and debate.

Thereafter, the Body proceeded to the period of amendments.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

As proposed by Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body approved the following Committee amendments:

1. On Section 1, to delete the entire provision and in lieu thereof, to substitute the following:

SECTION 1. THE POBLACION-JARDIN-SAPAO-MALO-OY PROVINCIAL ROAD, MUNICIPALITY OF DUMANGAS, PROVINCE OF ILOILO IS HEREBY CONVERTED INTO A NATIONAL ROAD.;

2. On Section 2, to delete the entire provision and in lieu thereof, to substitute the following:

SECTION 2. THE SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYAS SHALL INCLUDE IN THE DEPARTMENT'S PROGRAM THE IMPROVEMENT, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF THE SAID ROAD, THE

FUNDING OF WHICH SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT.; and

3. To change the title of the Bill to read as follows:

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE POBLACION-JARDIN - SAPAO - MALO-OY PROVINCIAL ROAD, MUNICIPALITY OF DUMANGAS, PROVINCE OF ILOILO INTO A NATIONAL ROAD AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR."

TERMINATION OF THE  
PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS

There being no other Committee and individual amendments, on motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body closed the period of amendments.

APPROVAL ON SECOND READING  
OF HOUSE BILL 3768, AS AMENDED

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body approved on Second Reading House Bill No. 3768, as amended.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY  
OF REP. ALBANO

Upon recognition by the Chair, Rep. Albano noted that the Body was considering local bills even if it was only Wednesday and inquired whether a special order had been issued for this purpose.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

At 6:09 p.m., the Chair motu proprio suspended the session.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 6:15 p.m., the session was resumed.

OMNIBUS APPROVAL OF  
CERTAIN HOUSE BILLS

On an omnibus motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body approved the following House Bills contained in various Committee Reports, as submitted by the Committees concerned, together with the amendments, if any:

1. Committee Report No. 1067 on House Bill No. 3786 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Burgos-Rigidor Poblacion-Lacturan-Bacay-Sapao, Dumangas Road in the Province of Iloilo into a national road;

2. Committee Report No. 1068 on House Bill No. 3783 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Bangga Ermita-Sulangan-Balabag, Dumangas Road in the Province of Iloilo into a national road;

3. Committee Report No. 1069 on House Bill 3784 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations converting the Calaca-an-Romblon-Catig, Dueñas to Lambunao Provincial Roads in the Fourth District of Iloilo into a national road;

4. Committee Report No. 1070 on House Bill No. 3779 submitted by the Committees

on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Poblacion-Dela Paz, Banate-Sitio Dawatan, Catan-agan, San Enrique Provincial Roads in the Province of Iloilo into a national road;

5. Committee Report No. 1071 on House Bill No. 3773 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Agcayawan Calsada-Agcayawan Pulo Barotac Nuevo to Barasan Bolilao Dumangas Provincial Roads in the Province of Iloilo into a national road;

6. Committee Report No. 1073 on House Bill No. 366 submitted by the Committee on Justice, and Appropriations creating one additional Regional Trial Court branch for the Province of Northern Samar;

7. Committee Report No. 1075 on House Bill No. 4288 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Pinamungajan-Guimbawian-San Fernando Provincial Road, Province of Cebu into a national road;

8. Committee Report No. 1076 on House Bill No. 4289 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations converting the Aloguinsan-Olango-Valencia Provincial Road, Province of Cebu into a national road;

9. Committee Report No. 1077 on House Bill No. 3916 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Marigondon Sur-Victoria Provincial Road in San Andres, Romblon into a national road;

10. Committee Report No. 1078 on House Bill No. 3917 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Carmen-Mahabang-baybay Provincial Road in San Agustin, Romblon into a national road;

11. Committee Report No. 1079 on House Bill No. 3918 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Anahao - Balatucan Provincial Road in Odiongan, Romblon into a national road;

12. Committee Report No. 1080 on House Bill No. 3919 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Odiongan - Canduyong Provincial Road in Odiongan, Romblon into a national road;

13. Committee Report No. 1081 on House Bill No. 3920 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Anahao - Recto - Balatucan Provincial Road in Ferrol, Romblon into a national road;

14. Committee Report No. 1082 on House Bill No. 3922 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Romblon - Sawang - Agpanabat Provincial Road in Romblon, Romblon into a national road;

15. Committee Report No. 1083 on House Bill No. 3923 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Looc - Loho Provincial Road in Looc, Romblon into a national road;

16. Committee Report No. 1084 on House Bill No. 3924 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Taguilos - Lumbang - Marigondon Provincial Road in Cajidiocan, Romblon into a national road;

17. Committee Report No. 1085 on House Bill No. 3925 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Lamao - Calabogo - Sablayan Provincial Road in Romblon, Romblon into a national road;

18. Committee Report No. 1086 on House Bill No. 3926 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Magdiwang - España Provincial Road in Magdiwang, Romblon into a national road;
19. Committee Report No. 1087 on House Bill No. 3927 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Romblon - Bagacay - ITT Provincial Road in Romblon, Romblon into a national road;
20. Committee Report No. 1088 on House Bill No. 3928 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Calatrava - Linao - Talisay Provincial Road in Calatrava, Romblon into a national road;
21. Committee Report No. 1089 on House Bill No. 3929 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the España - Cross Country Road in San Fernando, Romblon into a national road;
22. Committee Report No. 1090 on House Bill No. 3930 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Busay - Agcogon Provincial Road in San Jose, Romblon into a national road;
23. Committee Report No. 1091 on House Bill No. 3931 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Alcantara - Kahayagan Provincial Road in Alcantara, Romblon into a national road;
24. Committee Report No. 1092 on House Bill No. 3932 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Alcantara - Guinbirayan Provincial Road in Alcantara, Romblon into a national road;
25. Committee Report No. 1093 on House Bill No. 3933 submitted by the Committees on Public Works and Highways, and Appropriations, converting the Malbog - Guinbirayan Provincial Road in Santa Fe, Romblon into a national road; and
26. Committee Report No. 1094 on House Bill No. 5534 submitted by the Committees on Higher and Technical Education, Appropriations, and Ways and Means converting the Panay State Polytechnic College in the Province of Capiz into a State University, to be known as the Capiz State University (CAPSU).  
On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body suspended consideration of the Bills on Third Reading.

CHANGE OF REFERRAL  
OF CERTAIN MEASURES

Whereupon, on motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body changed the referral of the following measures:

1. House Bill No. 4955 -- from the Committee on Justice to the Committees on Justice, and Health;
2. House Bill No. 1008 -- from the Committee on Government Reorganization to the Committees on Government Reorganization, and the Special Committee on Twenty (20) Priority Provinces;
3. House Bill No. 4539 -- from the Committee on Appropriations to the Committees on Appropriations, and the Special Committee on Twenty (20) Priority Provinces;
4. House Resolution No. 672 -- from the Committee on Appropriations to the Committees on Appropriations, and the Special Committee on Twenty (20) Priority Provinces; and

5. House Resolution No. 673 -- from the Committee on Appropriations to the Committees on Appropriations, and Special Committee on Twenty (20) Priority Provinces.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE  
RESOLUTION NO. 912

Upon conferring with the Minority, on motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body considered on Second Reading House Resolution No. 912.

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

"RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT FORMER PRESIDENT JOSEPH ESTRADA BE GIVEN A CHRISTMAS FURLOUGH."

As copies of the Resolution had been distributed to the Members, on motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body dispensed with the reading of the text of the Resolution without prejudice to its insertion into the Record of the House.

ADOPTION OF HOUSE  
RESOLUTION NO. 912

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body adopted House Resolution No. 912.

ELECTION OF additional MEMBERS TO THE COMMITTEE ON constitutional AMENDMENTS

On motion of Rep. De Guzman, there being no objection, the Body elected the following Members to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments on the part of the Majority: Reps. Ruben D. Torres; Edelmiro A. Amante; Corazon N. Malanyaon and Angel M. Carloto.

MANIFESTATION OF REP. AQUINO (A.)

Upon recognition by the Chair, Rep. Agapito A. Aquino stated that he had no objections to the election of the Members of the Majority to said Committee provided it will not exceed the number of Members allowed under the Rules. Otherwise, the Minority will only accept up to the number of Members allowed by the Rules.

The Chair noted Rep. Aquino's (A.) manifestation.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

At this point, Rep. De Guzman moved that the Body adjourn the session.

However, before the Body could act on the motion, the Chair recognized Rep. Aquino (A.)

QUERY OF REP. AQUINO (A.)

Whereupon, inasmuch as the House has a new Member, Rep. Eufrocino M. Codilla Sr., Rep. Aquino inquired whether the latter is with the Majority or the Minority.

Rep. De Guzman stated that upon consultation with Rep. Codilla, he has clarified that he is a member of the Majority.

In this regard, Rep. Aquino expressed hope that Rep. Codilla will be given the right number of committee memberships to replace those Members who are continuously absent

in committee hearings. Thereafter, on behalf of the Minority, he welcomed Rep. Codilla and stated that if he becomes dissatisfied with the Majority, he can always join the Minority.

#### ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

Thereupon, on Rep. De Guzman's previous motion, there being no objection, the Chair declared the session adjourned until four o'clock in the afternoon of Monday, December 16, 2002.

It was 6:30 p.m.

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I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing.

(Sgd.) ROBERTO P. NAZARENO  
Secretary General

#### DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTED

Printed copies of the following documents were distributed to the Members during the session:

1. House Bill No. 1776, entitled:

"AN ACT CONVERTING THE TAGUM NATIONAL TRADE SCHOOL IN THE CITY OF TAGUM, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL NORTE INTO A COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY TO BE KNOWN AS THE DAVAO DEL NORTE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;"

2. House Bill No. 2460, entitled:

"AN ACT EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF THE EMPLOYEES COMPENSATION AND STATE INSURANCE FUND TO INCLUDE RETIRED EMPLOYEES AGED SEVENTY (70) AND BELOW WHO SUBSEQUENTLY REACQUIRED EMPLOYMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE LABOR CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AS AMENDED;"

3. House Bill No. 5468, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY GATE, MUNICIPALITY OF BULAN, PROVINCE OF SORSOGON TO BE KNOWN AS THE GATE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;"

4. House Bill No. 5472, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY SOUTHERN DAVAO, CITY OF PANABO, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL NORTE TO BE KNOWN AS THE SOUTHERN DAVAO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;"

5. House Bill No. 5473, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY VILLARICA, ISLAND GARDEN CITY OF SAMAL, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL NORTE TO BE KNOWN AS THE VILLARICA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;"

6. House Bill No. 5474, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY LALIGAN, CITY OF VALENCIA, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON TO BE KNOWN AS THE LALIGAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;"

7. House Bill No. 5475, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY TABID, OZAMIZ CITY, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL TO BE KNOWN AS THE TABID NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;"

8. House Bill No. 5476, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY GALA, OZAMIZ CITY, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL TO BE KNOWN AS THE GALA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;"

9. House Bill No. 5477, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY KAUSWAGAN, CITY OF PANABO, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL NORTE TO BE KNOWN AS THE KAUSWAGAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;"

10. House Bill No. 5478, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY BARACATAN, TORIL DISTRICT, DAVAO CITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE BARACATAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;"

11. House Bill No. 5479, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY BANTOL, MARILOG DISTRICT, DAVAO CITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE BANTOL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;"

12. House Bill No. 5480, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY DEL PILAR, MUNICIPALITY OF CAGDIANAO, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE TO BE KNOWN AS THE DEL PILAR NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;"

13. House Bill No. 5481, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY SINANGGUYAN, MUNICIPALITY OF DON CARLOS, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON TO BE KNOWN AS THE DON CARLOS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;"

14. House Bill No. 5482, entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY RITAGLENDIA, MUNICIPALITY OF BASILISA, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE TO BE KNOWN AS THE RITAGLENDIA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;" and

15. House Bill No. 5485, entitled:



"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY SEMONG, MUNICIPALITY OF KAPALONG, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL NORTE TO BE KNOWN AS THE SEMONG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR."

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