

Senate of the Philippines

Linkages Circular

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The **LINKAGES CIRCULAR** is a regular publication of the **Institutional Linkages Service**. This publication is meant to guide and inform the external clients of the Senate, individuals and organizations, on the bills and resolutions filed/adopted by our Senators, as well as committee reports, which were taken up on the floor during or for a particular week/month.

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Reference : Journals of the Senate
Covering the period October 2017

The Institutional Linkages Service is under the External Affairs and Relations headed by Deputy Secretary Enrique Luis D. Papa and Executive Director Diana Lynn Le-Cruz.

THE 17th CONGRESS
2nd REGULAR SESSION

BILLS ON FIRST READING

SBN 1596 "AN ACT DECLARING NOVEMBER 8 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NONWORKING PUBLIC HOLIDAY IN THE EASTERN VISAYAS REGION TO BE KNOWN AS THE YOLANDA COMMEMORATION DAY"

- *Introduced by Senator Juan Edgardo "Sonny" M. Angara*
- *Referred to the Committee on Rules*

SBN 1597 "AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE GRANT OF STUDENT FARE DISCOUNT PRIVILEGES ON PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

- *Introduced by Senators Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV, Juan Edgardo "Sonny" M. Angara, Sherwin T. Gatchalian, Francis "Chiz" G. Escudero, and Grace L. Poe*
- *Referred to the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; Public Services; and Ways and Means*

SBN 1598 "AN ACT GRANTING THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM THE AUTHORITY TO CONDONE PENALTIES FOR UNREMITTED OR DELINQUENT CONTRIBUTIONS BY EMPLOYERS OF DOMESTIC WORKERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENCOURAGING COMPLIANCE WITH SOCIAL SECURITY LAWS"

- *Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay*
- *Referred to the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development*

SBN 1599 "AN ACT RAISING THE EXCISE TAX ON TOBACCO PRODUCTS AND AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PERTINENT SECTIONS OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, AS AMENDED"

- *Introduced by Senator Emmanuel "Manny" D. Pacquiao*
- *Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means*

SBN 1600 "AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN BY ESTABLISHING A RETIREMENT BENEFIT SYSTEM FOR THE OMBUDSMAN, HIS/HER DEPUTIES, THE SPECIAL PROSECUTOR, AND OTHER OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES PERFORMING LEGAL, PROSECUTION, INVESTIGATION AND CORRUPTION PREVENTION FUNCTIONS, AUGMENTING EMPLOYEES' BENEFITS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

- *Introduced by Senator Juan Edgardo "Sonny" M. Angara*
- *Referred to the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; and Finance*

SBN 1601 "AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STRATEGIC STUDIES IN THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES SYSTEM, DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING ITS FINANCING AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

- *Introduced by Senator Francis "Chiz" G. Escudero*
- *Referred to the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance*

SBN 1602 "AN ACT GRANTING PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP TO KWOK HING CARLOS YEUNG"

- *Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel "Migz" F. Zubiri*
- *Referred to the Committee on Rules*

SBN 1603 "AN ACT LOWERING THE AGE OF CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9344, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'JUVENILE JUSTICE AND WELFARE ACT OF 2006', AS AMENDED"

- *Introduced by Senator Franklin M. Drilon*
- *Referred to the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality*

SBN 1604 "AN ACT TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN THE OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR GENERAL BY PROVIDING FOR ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND REDEFINING, EXPANDING, AND RATIONALIZING ITS ORGANIZATION, THEREBY AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9417 AND REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 2327, EXECUTIVE ORDER NOS. 1 AND 2,

S. 1986, AND ALL RELATED LAWS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER RELATED PURPOSES”

- *Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel "Migz" F. Zubiri*
- *Referred to the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; Ways and Means; and Finance*

SBN 1605 “AN ACT INCREASING THE EXCISE TAX ON TOBACCO PRODUCTS AND AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 145 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8424, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9334 AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10351, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

- *Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor G. Ejercito*
- *Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means*

SBN 1606 “AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF PARCELS OF LAND IN BARANGAY KRUS NA LIGAS, QUEZON CITY TO ITS LEGITIMATE AND QUALIFIED RESIDENTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9500, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES CHARTER OF 2008”

- *Introduced by Senator Vicente C. Sotto III*
- *Referred to the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement*

SBN 1607 “AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS FOR MEMBERS OF THE CITIZEN ARMED FORCES OR THE RESERVE FORCE OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

- *Introduced by Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV*
- *Referred to the Committees on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development; National Defense and Security; and Finance*

PROPOSED SENATE RESOLUTIONS

PSRN 520 "RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE RISE OF PREMATURE OR PRETERM BIRTHS IN THE COUNTRY"

- *Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay*
- *Referred to the Committee on Health and Demography*

PSRN 521 "RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE FIFTY (50) PESOS ADDITIONAL CHARGE FOR PAPER BILLING OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES"

- *Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay*
- *Referred to the Committees on Referred to the Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship; and Public Services*

PSRN 522 "RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGATIONS OF CORRUPTION AND POLITICAL INTERFERENCE LEADING TO THE RESIGNATION OF DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY SECRETARY RODOLFO SALALIMA AND ITS IMPLICATIONS ON NATIONAL SECURITY"

- *Introduced by Senator Leila M. De Lima*
- *Referred to the Committees on Accountability of Public Officers and Investigations; and National Defense and Security*

PSRN 523 "RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING THE PENTECOSTAL MISSIONARY CHURCH OF CHRIST (4TH WATCH) ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 28TH INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION"

- *Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor G. Ejercito*
- *Referred to the Committee on Rules*

PSRN 524 "RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE SUPPORTING THE CONSTITUTIONAL INDEPENDENCE OF THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN"

- *Introduced by Senators Francis N. Pangilinan, Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV, Franklin M. Drilon, Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV, Risa Hontiveros and Leila M. De Lima*
- *Referred to the Committee on Rules*

PSRN 525 "RESOLUTION HONORING THE LATE DR. WASHINGTON SYCIP, SCHOLAR AND PATRIOT, FOR HIS ETHICAL AND TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP, LIFE-LONG DEDICATION TO ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, AND COMPASSIONATE HEART FOR THE FILIPINOS"

- *Introduced by Senator Loren B. Legarda*
- *Referred to the Committee on Rules*

PSRN 526 "A RESOLUTION COMMENDING JAVELIN THROWER CENDY ASUSANO FOR WINNING THE PHILIPPINE'S FIRST GOLD IN THE 2017 ASEAN PARA GAMES IN MALAYSIA"

- *Introduced by Senator Emmanuel "Manny" D. Pacquiao*
- *Referred to the Committee on Rules*

PSRN 527 "A RESOLUTION COMMENDING VETERAN CYCLIST ARTHUS BUCAY FOR BAGGING THE PHILIPPINE'S FIRST MEDAL IN THE 2017 ASEAN PARA GAMES IN KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA"

- *Introduced by Senator Emmanuel "Manny" D. Pacquiao*
- *Referred to the Committee on Rules*

PSRN 528 "RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING JESUS IS LORD CHURCH FOR CELEBRATING ITS 39TH FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY ON OCTOBER 27, 2017"

- *Introduced by Senators Edgardo "Sonny" M. Angara, Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV, Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay, Franklin M. Drilon, Joseph Victor G. Ejercito, Richard J. Gordon, Gregorio B. Honasan II, Risa Hontiveros, Panfilo M. Lacson, Loren B. Legarda, Emmanuel "Manny" D. Pacquiao, Aquilino "Koko" L. Pimentel III, Vicente C. Sotto III, Joel Villanueva and Juan Miguel "Migz" F. Zubiri*
- *Referred to the Committee on Rules*

PSRN 529 "RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CHAIRMEN OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND DANGEROUS DRUGS AND THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS TO MAKE PUBLIC THE TESTIMONY OF MR. JOHN PAUL SOLANO GIVEN DURING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION IN CONNECTION WITH THE SENATE INVESTIGATION ON THE DEATH OF HAZING VICTIM HORACIO "ATIO " T. CASTILLO III"

- *Introduced by Senators Loren B. Legarda, Joseph Victor G. Ejercito, Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay, Emmanuel "Manny" D. Pacquiao, Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV, Francis N. Pangilinan, Francis "Chiz" G. Escudero, Juan Miguel "Migz" F. Zubiri, Panfilo M. Lacson, Richard J. Gordon, Gregorio B. Honasan II, Grace L. Poe, Risa Hontiveros, Sherwin T. Gatchalian, Joel Villanueva, Cynthia A. Villar, Edgardo "Sonny" M. Angara, Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV, Leila M. De Lima, Ralph G. Recto, Vicente C. Sotto III, Franklin M. Drilon and Aquilino "Koko" L. Pimentel III*
- *Adopted*

PSRN 530 "RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING JESUS IS LORD CHURCH UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF BRO. EDDIE VILLANUEVA ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 39TH FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY ON OCTOBER 28, 2017"

- *Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor G. Ejercito*
- *Referred to the Committee on Rules*

PSRN 531 "RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY OF THE SENATE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE ALLEGED ANOMALOUS CONTRACTS AND/OR AGREEMENTS ENTERED INTO BY FIRST CATANDUANES ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE WITH POWER ONE CORPORATION AND/OR CATANDUANES POWER GENERATION, INC., WHICH HAS RESULTED TO THE CONTINUED UNSTABLE POWER SUPPLY SITUATION IN THE ISLAND PROVINCE OF CATANDUANES AS WELL AS THE CHARGING OF BLOATED POWER RATES AND UNDUE PAYMENT OF FOREGONE ENERGY CHARGES BY CONSUMERS OF THE PROVINCE PURPORTEDLY WITH THE CONNIVANCE OF OFFICIALS OF THE NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION AND THE ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION, IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE TRUE AND REAL EXTENT OF SAID ANOMALY AND DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT THE REGULATORS ARE ACTUALLY INVOLVED AND IN ORDER TO

DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT THERE IS A NEED FOR REMEDIAL LEGISLATION IN THIS REGARD."

- *Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV*
- *Referred to the Committee on Accountability of Public Officers and Investigations*

PSRN 532 "RESOLUTION URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND DANGEROUS DRUGS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ANOMALOUS DEATH OF EDUARDO SERINA SR., A FARMER WHO REPORTEDLY DIED IN POLICE CUSTODY WHILE ALLEGEDLY HARMING HIMSELF, WITH THE END VIEW OF ENDING PRACTICES OF POLICE BRUTALITY AND ENSURING THAT POLICE PROCEDURE IN HANDLING PERSONS UNDER DETENTION IS STRICTLY FOLLOWED."

- *Introduced by Senator Emmanuel "Manny" D. Pacquiao*
- *Referred to the Committees on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs; and Justice and Human Rights*

PSRN 533 "A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS OF THE MOTOR VEHICLES USER'S CHARGE (MVUC) FUND IN VIEW OF THE PROPOSED TRANSFER OF ITS MANAGEMENT TO THE DPWH AND THE DOTR"

- *Introduced by Senators Emmanuel "Manny" D. Pacquiao, Juan Miguel "Migz" F. Zubiri, Sherwin T. Gatchalian and Joseph Victor G. Ejercito*
- *Referred to the Committee on Public Works*

PSRN 534 "RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF BATAS PAMBANSA BILANG 344, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ACCESSIBILITY LAW, AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7277, OR THE MAGNA CARTA FOR DISABLED PERSONS."

- *Introduced by Senator Leila M. De Lima*
- *Referred to the Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development*

PSRN 535 "RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON URBAN PLANNING, HOUSING AND RESETTLEMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF, AND THREAT OF EVICTION AGAINST, RESETTLED FAMILIES IN NORTHVILLE AND SOUTHVILLE RELOCATION SITES, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF CRAFTING LEGISLATIVE MEASURES AND OTHER APPROPRIATE INTERVENTIONS THAT AIM TO SECURE, FULFILL AND PROTECT THEIR RIGHTS, PARTICULARLY THEIR RIGHT TO HOUSING AND OTHER ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS."

- *Introduced by Senator Leila M. De Lima*
- *Referred to the Committee on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement*

COMMITTEE REPORTS

CRN 167, submitted by the Committee on Finance, on **House Bill No. 6215**, entitled "AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY ONE TO DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE, TWO THOUSAND AND EIGHTEEN, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES", recommending its approval with amendments.

- *Sponsored by Senators Loren B. Legarda and Cynthia A. Villar*
- *Calendared For Ordinary Business*

CRN 168, submitted by the Committee on Accountability of Public Officers and Investigations, on **Proposed Senate Resolution No. 425**, introduced by Senator Richard J. Gordon, entitled "RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTABILITY OF PUBLIC OFFICERS AND INVESTIGATIONS (BLUE RIBBON) TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE P6.4 BILLION WORTH OF SHABU SHIPMENT FROM CHINA, ON THE POSSIBLE MALFEASANCE, MISFEASANCE, AND NONFEASANCE OF BUREAU OF CUSTOMS (BOC) OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES", recommending the adoption of the recommendations as contained in this Report and for its full and immediate implementation.

- *Sponsored by Senators Richard J. Gordon and Vicente C. Sotto III*
- *Calendared For Ordinary Business*

THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES AS AN INSTITUTION

The Senate of the Philippines is one of the pillars of the country's lawmaking body, the other one is the House of Representatives. It is composed of 24 elected Senators whose terms of office shall be six (6) years. This dynamic institution is established to balance our economic, social and political environment and whose concerns are national in scope.

As the bastion of democracy, its action is centered on consensus and consultation with the end purpose of serving the best interest of the Filipino people.

The SENATE also values the importance of having productive and harmonious relationship with other institutions, from the government and the private sector, to create an environment where rapport and goodwill among institutions prevail. Its main objective is the passage of good, implementable and doable laws in pursuit of democratic ideals that would truly serve the national interest and the welfare of the people.

-Juliet J. Cervo -

OTHER PUBLICATIONS OF THE INSTITUTIONAL LINKAGES SERVICE

- The Senate As An Institution
(A briefing manual on the workings of the Senate)
- ILS Resource Directory (Volumes I-II)
(Compilation of contact persons and addresses of NGOs, POs, Academes, Associations, Etc.)
Note: Copies distributed only to Senators and Senate Officials
- ILS Linkages Report
(Digest of press releases of concerns and issues regarding legislation)
- ILS Linkages Update
(This publication aims to provide information about legislations approved and enacted into law, bills passed on third reading by the Senate, outputs of Forums conducted by ILS, and other concerns of national importance.)
- Directory Of Senators and Committee Membership

We will be happy to receive inquiries, comments, suggestions and recommendations on a particular law or Senate bill. You may send your letter to the address stated below:

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