

RECORD OF THE SENATE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1992

OPENING OF THE SESSION

At 10:23 a.m., the Honorable Neptali A. Gonzales, President of the Senate, called the session to order.

The President: Binubuksan ang ika-44 na sesyon ng Senado.

Inaanyayahan ang lahat na tumindig. Aawitin ng Philippine Normal University Choir ang pambansang awit at pagkatapos ay susundan nila ito ng isang pamaskong awitin na may pamagat na "Diwa ng Pasko."

Pagkatapos nito ay pangungunahan tayo sa panalangin ni Senador Freddie N. Webb.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Everybody rose for the singing of the national anthem.

After the singing, everybody remained standing for the opening prayer.

PRAYER

Senator Webb:

Lord of our lives and history, You know us before we were formed in our mothers' wombs; You know when we sit and when we stand; even before a thought enters into our mind You would know.

You are the spirit of our understanding. Make us, therefore, instruments of Your wisdom and Your justice; that the laws we painstakingly put together for Your subjects be fair and just, as universal and timeless as the laws You handed down to Moses, and as humane and compassionate as those Your Son, Jesus Christ, taught us on the mount.

God all-knowing, give us a sense of history, the minds and hearts to understand, that what we do within the four walls of this Chamber, will affect the lives of each and every Filipino in the years to come. Above all, give us long memories to remember history so that what we will do will not condemn us as history would repeat it.

Amen.

* Arrived after the roll call

SUSPENSION OF THE SESSION

The President: The session is suspended, if there is no objection. [*There was none.*]

It was 10:29 a.m.

RESUMPTION OF THE SESSION

At 10:30 a.m., the session was resumed.

The President: The session is resumed.

Babasahin ng ating Kalihim ang talaan ng mga Senador.

ROLL CALL

The Secretary:

Senator Heherson T. Alvarez	Present *
Senator Edgardo J. Angara	Present
Senator Agapito A. Aquino	Present
Senator Rodolfo G. Biazon	Present
Senator Anna Dominique M.L. Coseteng	Absent
Senator Teofisto T. Guingona, Jr.	Present
Senator Ernesto F. Herrera	Present
Senator Jose D. Lina, Jr.	Present *
Senator Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo	Present
Senator Ernesto M. Maceda	Present
Senator Orlando S. Mercado	Present
Senator Blas F. Ople	Present
Senator John H. Osmeña	Present *
Senator Santanina T. Rasul	Present *
Senator Ramon B. Revilla	Present
Senator Raul S. Roco	Present *
Senator Alberto G. Romulo	Present
Senator Leticia Ramos Shahani	Present
Senator Vicente C. Sotto III	Present
Senator Wigberto E. Tañada	Present
Senator Francisco S. Tatad	Present *
Senator Arturo M. Tolentino	Present
Senator Freddie N. Webb	Present
The President	Present

The President: Seventeen Senators answered the roll call; the Chair declares the existence of a quorum.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

THE JOURNAL

Senator Romulo: Mr. President, I move that we dispense

recommending that the Bill be referred to the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws.

Sponsor: Senator Roco

The President: To the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Codes and Laws.

The President: The Majority Leader is recognized.

Senator Webb: Mr. President.

The President: Yes, Senator Webb is recognized.

Senator Webb: I take pleasure in informing the Body that Senator Maceda and Senator Coseteng would like to be coauthors on Senate Bill No. 349, entitled

AN ACT PROMOTING VOLUNTARY BLOOD DONATION, PROVIDING FOR AN ADEQUATE SUPPLY OF SAID BLOOD, REGULATING BLOOD BANKS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF.

The President: All right, let that be entered in the record.

Senator Webb: And also Senator Romulo, Mr. President.

The President: Likewise.

Senator Romulo: Mr. President, we wish to inform the Chamber that the President has certified House Bill No. 3192, entitled

AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FROM JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1993, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Therefore, Mr. President, at the proper time today we shall move for the voting on the Second and Third Reading of the General Appropriations Bill.

In the meantime, Mr. President, there is a need to put together the amendments that have been proposed at the last session, so that there will be a meeting of the Committee on Finance to take care of these amendments.

SUSPENSION OF THE SESSION

Therefore, may I move for a one-minute suspension of the session.

The President: The session is suspended, if there is no objection. [*There was none.*]

It was 11:41 a.m.

RESUMPTION OF THE SESSION

At 12:00 p.m., the session was resumed.

The President: The session is resumed.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

BILL ON SECOND READING Senate Bill No. 176--Hazing as a Crime (Continuation)

Senator Romulo: Mr. President, I move that we resume consideration of Senate Bill No. 176, as reported out under Committee Report No. 18.

The President: Resumption of the consideration of Senate Bill No. 176 is now in order.

Senator Romulo: We are still in the period of amendments. I ask that the Sponsor and Author, the distinguished Senator from Manila, Nueva Ecija, and Laguna, Senator Jose D. Lina, Jr., be recognized.

The President: Senator Jose D. Lina, the Sponsor of this bill, is hereby recognized.

Senator Lina: Thank you, Mr. President.

During the last time that we took up this measure, Senator Ernesto Herrera raised some questions in conjunction with the penalties that the bill imposes on the perpetrators of the act of hazing. In view of his manifestation, the Committee now proposes the amendments. The amendments are quite long, but are simple and self-explanatory. The thrust of the amendments is to make the penalties jibe with the gradation of the penalties now appearing in the Revised Penal Code.

These are the amendments, Mr. President. On page 1...

The President: Before Senator Lina proceeds, it is understood that what we are using as basis of our proceedings now and hereafter is the latest copy of Senate Bill No. 176, with the following notation appearing at the left upper corner of the same, which reads: "With approved Committee amendments as of November 18, 1992." Is the understanding of the Chair correct?

Senator Lina: Yes, Mr. President.

The President: The Gentleman may proceed with the Committee amendments now.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

Senator Lina: On page 1, lines 16 to 17, delete the sentence "THE CRIME OF HAZING AS HEREIN DEFINED SHALL BE PUNISHED AS FOLLOWS:", in lieu thereof, insert this sentence: THE PERSON OR PERSONS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE HAZING AS HEREIN DEFINED SHALL SUFFER.

The President: Is it SHALL SUFFER?

Senator Lina: Yes, Mr. President. Then, there is an enumeration of the penalties.

The President: Is there any objection to the proposed Committee amendment? [Silence] The Chair hears none; the amendment is hereby approved.

Senator Lina: Before I read the reformulated paragraph, I would like to explain further that the amendments, as I said earlier, will conform to the language of the Revised Penal Code to obviate any misunderstanding, Mr. President.

On page 2, lines 1 to 18, to reformulate subparagraphs Nos. 1 to 3, as follows:

"1. THE PENALTY OF *RECLUSIO PERPETUA*, IF DEATH, RAPE, SODOMY OR MUTILATION RESULTS THEREFROM."

"2. THE PENALTY OF *RECLUSIO TEMPORAL* IN ITS MAXIMUM PERIOD, IF IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE HAZING THE VICTIM SHALL BECOME INSANE, IMBECILE, IMPOTENT OR BLIND.

"3. THE PENALTY OF *RECLUSIO TEMPORAL* IN ITS MEDIUM PERIOD IF IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE HAZING THE VICTIM SHALL HAVE LOST THE USE OF SPEECH OR THE POWER TO HEAR OR TO SMELL, OR SHALL HAVE LOST AN EYE, A HAND, A FOOT, AN ARM, OR A LEG OR SHALL HAVE LOST THE USE OF ANY SUCH MEMBER, OR SHALL HAVE BECOME INCAPACITATED FOR THE ACTIVITY OR WORK IN WHICH HE WAS HABITUALLY ENGAGED.

"4. THE PENALTY OF *RECLUSIO TEMPORAL* IN ITS MINIMUM PERIOD IF IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE

HAZING THE VICTIM SHALL BECOME DEFORMED, OR SHALL HAVE LOST ANY OTHER PART OF HIS BODY, OR SHALL HAVE LOST THE USE THEREOF, OR SHALL HAVE BEEN ILL OR INCAPACITATED FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF THE ACTIVITY OR WORK IN WHICH HE WAS HABITUALLY ENGAGED FOR A PERIOD OF MORE THAN NINETY (90) DAYS."

Let me pause for a while, Mr. President. I am going to read all the amendments because they come in a package, and there is a logical sequence that we follow. So, it is better if I read the entire amendment.

"5. THE PENALTY OF *PRISION MAYOR* IN ITS MAXIMUM PERIOD IF IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE HAZING THE VICTIM SHALL HAVE BEEN ILL OR INCAPACITATED FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF THE ACTIVITY OR WORK IN WHICH HE WAS HABITUALLY ENGAGED FOR MORE THAN THIRTY (30) DAYS.

"6. THE PENALTY OF *PRISION MAYOR* IN ITS MEDIUM PERIOD IF IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE HAZING THE VICTIM SHALL HAVE BEEN ILL OR INCAPACITATED FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF THE ACTIVITY OR WORK IN WHICH HE WAS HABITUALLY ENGAGED FOR TEN (10) DAYS OR MORE, OR THAT THE INJURY SUSTAINED SHALL REQUIRE MEDICAL ATTENDANCE FOR THE SAME PERIOD.

"7. THE PENALTY OF *PRISION MAYOR* IN ITS MINIMUM PERIOD IF IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE HAZING THE VICTIM SHALL HAVE BEEN ILL OR INCAPACITATED FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF THE ACTIVITY OR WORK IN WHICH HE WAS HABITUALLY ENGAGED FROM ONE (1) TO NINE (9) DAYS, OR THAT THE INJURY SUSTAINED SHALL REQUIRE MEDICAL ATTENDANCE FOR THE SAME PERIOD.

"8. THE PENALTY OF *PRISION CORRECCIONAL* IN ITS MAXIMUM PERIOD IF IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE HAZING THE VICTIM SUSTAINED PHYSICAL INJURIES WHICH DO NOT PREVENT HIM FROM ENGAGING IN HIS HABITUAL ACTIVITY OR WORK NOR REQUIRE MEDICAL ATTENDANCE."

That would be one single amendment, Mr. President.

The President: All right. That would mean the deletion of lines 1 to...

Senator Lina: Lines 1 to 18, Mr. President.

The President: Is there any question? Any objection? or without consent.
Yes, Senator Biazon.

Senator Biazon: Mr. President, on page 2, line 7, do I understand that sodomy is going to be included as a punishable act in this law?

Senator Lina: Yes, Mr. President. And we do recognize that it does not appear as a crime punishable under the Revised Penal Code. That is one loophole in the Revised Penal Code. So, we are introducing the concept for the first time in the Revised Penal Code.

The President: Is it the understanding of the Chair that sodomy as such, without more, is not punishable? But it becomes punishable only in the computation of the penalty when it results from or was committed on the occasion of hazing.

Senator Lina: Yes, Mr. President.

Senator Biazon: Mr. President, the act of sodomy, not being an offense under our existing laws, can only be considered as a perversion and, therefore, is bordering on a question of morality. Will the Gentleman have any objection, if sodomy is modified by a phrase "without consent"?

Senator Lina: Mr. President, this bill does not make sodomy a crime. Sodomy is referred to in this bill as a result from the act of hazing. So, per se, sodomy is not being punished as a crime, but it is being referred to merely as a result of the act of hazing. As we know, sodomy is an oral or anal copulation between persons who are husband and wife, or consenting adult members of the opposite sex, or between a person and an animal, or coitus with an animal. That is the definition of sodomy. So, I do not think we will be having any problem if we identify this act as a result from hazing.

There are testimonies to the effect, Mr. President, as reported in some newspapers, that indeed sodomy was resorted to by some initiators during the act of hazing. Whether with or without consent, it results in some instances. So if we do not include sodomy, then that kind of result will not be covered when we pass this law. The perpetrator of the act of hazing can say that it is not covered by the act of hazing, and therefore, even if sodomy is done, then the penalty will not be any higher.

Senator Biazon: Mr. President, this Representation has no objection to the inclusion of sodomy as one of the conditions resulting from hazing as necessary to be punished. However, the act of sodomy can be committed by two persons with

To make it clearer, what is being punished here is the commission of sodomy forced into another individual by another individual. I move, Mr. President, that sodomy be modified by the phrase "without consent" for purposes of this section.

Senator Lina: I am afraid, Mr. President, that if we qualify sodomy with the concept that it is only going to aggravate the crime of hazing if it is done without consent will change a lot of concepts here. Because the results from hazing aggravate the offense with or without consent. In fact, when a person joins a fraternity, sorority, or any association for that matter, it can be with or without the consent of the intended victim. The fact that a person joins a sorority or fraternity with his consent does not negate the crime of hazing.

This is a proposed law intended to protect the citizens from the malpractices that attend initiation which may have been announced with or without physical infliction of pain or injury, Mr. President. Regardless of whether there is this announcement that there will be physical hazing or whether there is none, and therefore, the neophyte is duped into joining a fraternity is of no moment. What is important is that there is an infliction of physical pain.

The bottom line of this law is that a citizen even has to be protected from himself if he joins a fraternity, so that at a certain point in time, the State, the individual, or the parents of the victim can run after the perpetrators of the crime, regardless of whether or not there was consent on the part of the victim.

Senator Biazon: Mr. President, by virtue of the changing morality in the world where there are certain acts which previously were unacceptable to society and now are changing to be acceptable; since sodomy is an act between two individuals, and if the plain commission of sodomy with or without consent will be made punishable, then, in some future time, we might be really encroaching into the rights of certain individuals or the rights of some people to assume certain acts as acceptable to their society or to their group.

Therefore, Mr. President, if sodomy is acceptable to what we may call the "perceived victim," and yet the perceived victim wants it to be done to himself, then I think this act must not be made punishable.

So, Mr. President, to make it clearer, sodomy should be clarified or modified by a phrase "without consent." So that if sodomy is committed without consent of the perceived

victim, then it must be an offense. But if it is committed with the consent of the perceived victim, then it cannot be made punishable, Mr. President.

Senator Lina: Mr. President, I understand the position taken by the distinguished Gentleman from Cavite and Metro Manila. It is correct that a society sometimes adopts new mores, traditions, and practices.

In this bill, we are not going to encroach into the private proclivities of some individuals when they do their acts in private as we do not take a peek into the private rooms of couples. They can do their thing if they want to make love in ways that are not considered acceptable by the mainstream of society. That is not something that the State should prohibit.

But the sodomy in this case is connected with hazing, Mr. President. Such that the act may even be entered into with consent. It is not only sodomy. The infliction of pain may be done with the consent of the neophyte. If the laws is passed, that does not make the act of hazing not punishable because the neophyte accepted the infliction of pain upon himself.

If the victim suffers from serious physical injuries, but the initiator said, "Well, he allowed it upon himself. He consented to it." So, if we allow that reasoning that sodomy was done with the consent of the victim, then we would not have passed any law at all. There will be no significance if we pass this bill, because it will always be a defense that the victim allowed the infliction of pain or suffering. He accepted it as part of the initiation rites.

But, precisely, Mr. President, that is one thing that we want to prohibit. That the defense of consent will not apply because the very act of inflicting physical pain or psychological suffering is, by itself, a punishable act. The result of the act of hazing, like death or physical injuries merely aggravates the act with higher penalties. But the defense of consent is not going to nullify the criminal nature of the act.

So if we accept the amendment that sodomy can only aggravate the offense if it is committed without the consent of the victim, then the whole foundation of this proposed law will collapse.

Senator Biazon: Thank you, Mr. President.

Senator Lina: Thank you very much.

The President: Is there any objection to the committee amendment? [Silence] The Chair hears none; the amendment is approved.

Senator Lina: On page 2, lines 19 to 21, delete subparagraph No. 4, which reads: "THE PENALTY OF RECLUSION PERPETUA SHALL BE IMPOSED WHEN THE VICTIM IS BELOW TWELVE (12) YEARS OF AGE AT THE TIME OF HAZING."

The President: Is there any objection to the amendment that calls for the deletion of lines 19 to 21 on page 2? [Silence] The Chair hears none; the amendment is approved.

Senator Lina: On page 2, line 22, delete the number 5.

The President: Is there any objection to the proposed amendment? [Silence] The Chair hears none; the amendment is approved.

Senator Lina: On page 3, line 13, delete the word "or" after the word "intimidation".

The President: Is there any objection? [Silence] The Chair hears none; the amendment is approved.

Senator Lina: On page 3, line 15, after the word "institution", replace the period with a semicolon and add the word OR.

The President: Is there any objection? [Silence] The Chair hears none; the amendment is approved.

Senator Lina: On page 3, lines 15 and 16, insert a new subparagraph (E) which reads: WHEN THE VICTIM IS BELOW TWELVE (12) YEARS OF AGE AT THE TIME OF THE HAZING.

Let me explain for the record, Mr. President, that what we removed earlier was the imposition of the penalty. Now, in this particular amendment, we are making the fact that the victim is below twelve (12) years at the time of the hazing as an aggravating circumstance.

The President: Is there any objection? [Silence] The Chair hears none; the amendment is approved.

Senator Lina: To have a better and more logical presentation, the Committee proposes the following amendments on page 4, from lines 1 to 21. This is just a rewording, Mr. President, so that the matter is presented more clearly.

The first paragraph shall now read as follows: THE SCHOOL AUTHORITIES, INCLUDING FACULTY MEMBERS, WHO CONSENT TO THE HAZING OR WHO HAVE ACTUAL KNOWLEDGE THEREOF, BUT FAILED

TO TAKE ANY ACTION TO PREVENT THE SAME FROM OCCURRING. SHALL BE PUNISHED AS ACCOMPLICES FOR THE ACTS OF HAZING COMMITTED BY THE PERPETRATORS.

The President: Is there any objection? [*Silence*] There being none, the amendment is hereby approved.

Senator Lina: The second paragraph, Mr. President, shall read as follows:

THE OFFICERS, FORMER OFFICERS, OR ALUMNI OF THE ORGANIZATION, GROUP, FRATERNITY OR SORORITY WHO ACTUALLY PLANNED THE HAZING ALTHOUGH NOT PRESENT WHEN THE ACTS CONSTITUTING THE CRIME OF HAZING WERE COMMITTED SHALL BE LIABLE AS PRINCIPALS. OFFICERS OR MEMBERS OF AN ORGANIZATION, GROUP, FRATERNITY OR SORORITY WHO KNOWINGLY COOPERATED IN CARRYING OUT THE HAZING BY INDUCING THE VICTIM TO BE PRESENT THEREAT SHALL BE LIABLE AS PRINCIPALS. A FRATERNITY OR SORORITY'S ADVISER WHO IS PRESENT WHEN THE ACTS CONSTITUTING THE CRIME OF HAZING WERE COMMITTED AND FAILED TO TAKE ANY ACTION TO PREVENT THE SAME FROM OCCURRING SHALL BE LIABLE AS PRINCIPAL.

The President: Is there any objection to this amendment? [*Silence*] There being none, the amendment is hereby approved.

Senator Lina: The third paragraph shall read as follows:

THE PRESENCE OF ANY PERSON WHEN THE ACTS CONSTITUTING THE CRIME OF HAZING WERE COMMITTED IS *PRIMA FACIE* EVIDENCE OF PARTICIPATION THEREIN AS A PRINCIPAL UNLESS HE PREVENTED THE OCCURRENCE OF THE SAME.

The President: Is there any objection? [*Silence*] Hearing none, the amendment is approved.

Senator Lina: That completes the Committee amendments, Mr. President.

The President: All right. Are there individual amendments?

Senator Romulo: Mr. President, there are individual amendments.

Mr. President, may I move that we close the period of

Committee amendments.

The President: Is there any objection? [*Silence*] There being none, the period of Committee amendments is hereby closed.

Senator Romulo: Senator Biazon, Mr. President, is requesting that that he be allowed to give his individual amendments this afternoon.

SUSPENSION OF THE SESSION

May we have a one-minute suspension of the session, Mr. President?

The President: The session is suspended, if there is no objection. [*There was none.*]

It was 12:27 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF THE SESSION

At 12:28 p.m., the session was resumed.

Senator Romulo: May we resume the session, Mr. President.

The President: The session is resumed.

Senator Biazon: Mr. President.

The President: Senator Biazon is recognized.

BIAZON AMENDMENT

Senator Biazon: Mr. President, on page 1, line 15. After line 15, I propose to add the following:

PROVIDED, THAT THE PHYSICAL, MENTAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING AND TRAINING PROCEDURE AND PRACTICES TO DETERMINE AND ENHANCE THE PHYSICAL, MENTAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL FITNESS OF PROSPECTIVE REGULAR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE AS APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AND THE NATIONAL POLICE COMMISSION DULY RECOMMENDED BY THE CHIEF OF STAFF, ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED AS HAZING FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ACT.

The President: What does the Sponsor say?

Senator Lina: Subject to refinement and style, Mr. President, maybe we should not start with the word "PROVIDED." It will just be a direct statement that the psychological, et cetera, shall not be covered. With that amendment in style, Mr. President, I accept the amendment of Senator Biazon.

The President: Is the counter-proposal of the Sponsor acceptable to the main proponent?

Senator Biazon: It is accepted, Mr. President.

Senator Lina: Thank you, Mr. President.

The President: Is there any objection to this amendment subject to refinement in style? [Silence] There being none, the amendment is hereby approved.

Any further individual amendments?

The Majority Leader is recognized.

Senator Romulo: Mr. President, since there are no other individual amendments, may I move that we close the period of individual amendments.

The President: Is there any objection? [Silence] There being none, the period of individual amendments is hereby closed.

APPROVAL OF SENATE BILL NO. 176 ON
SECOND READING, AS AMENDED

Senator Romulo: Mr. President, I move that we vote on Senate Bill No. 176, as amended, on Second Reading.

The President: We shall now vote on the bill, as amended, on Second Reading. As many as are in favor of the bill will please say *Aye*. [Several Senators: *Aye*] As many as are against will please say *Nay*. [Silence] Senate Bill No. 176 is approved on Second Reading.

Senator Tañada: Mr. President.

The President: Senator Tañada is recognized.

Senator Tañada: Before we suspend our session for today, Mr. President, I am now ready with my correction on our *Journal* for December 10.

On page 66, of the *Journal* for December 10, Mr. President, if I may present my correction.

The President: Yes.

Senator Tañada: The first paragraph, should read as follows:

"With respect to the Committee amendment on the Department of Trade and Industry, specifically the Philippine Trade Training Center exempting it from complying with the requirement subjecting the PTTC's use of income from fees and charges to Section 35, Book VI of EO 292, otherwise known as the Administrative Code of 1987, Senator Tañada requested to be clarified on the matter and wondered what could be the compelling reason that the PTTC should be exempted from the said requirement."

The President: Enter the correction in the *Journal*.

Senator Tañada: On page 67, Mr. President, the second paragraph should read as follows: "Senator Macapagal-Arroyo then proposed an amendment to the amendment of Senator Tañada, restoring the budget of the Philippine Trade Training Center to the 1992 level, which is P20 million, to which Senator Tañada agreed, stating that it was the exemption of the PTTC from the requirement of Section 35, Book VI of EO 292 that he was really objecting to. He explained that this Committee amendment would make the PTTC a very special case, considering that other agencies with the same privilege are required to comply with Section 35, Book VI of the Revised Administrative Code."

The President: Enter the corrections in the *Journal*.

Senator Lina: Mr. President.

The President: Senator Lina is recognized.

Senator Lina: Mr. President, I would just like to manifest that Senators Biazon, Aquino and Webb are coauthors of the bill on hazing.

The President: Make that of record.

Senator Romulo: Mr. President, this afternoon, we shall act on House Bill No. 3192, the budget for 1993. The parliamentary situation is that, we shall consider this bill for Second and Third Readings, as this is a certified bill.

We shall also take up, Mr. President, the Sponsorship Speech for Senate Bill No. 578, as reported out under Com-