

RECORD OF THE SENATE

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2000

OPENING OF THE SESSION

At 3:32 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Franklin M. Drilon, called the session to order.

The President. The 11th session of the Third Regular Session of the Eleventh Congress is hereby called to order.

Let us all stand for the opening prayer to be led by the Majority Leader, Sen. Francisco S. Tatad.

Everybody rose for the prayer.

PRAYER

Senator Tatad. Let us pray.

Almighty Father, so much hate, anger and foolishness have covered our land with blood. Listen to us not for our inequities but for the love You bear Your children.

On the solemnity of the Assumption, may the prayers of the Virgin whom You have clothed with the sun and filled with grace be also ours so that we may have the humility to seek true peace and by Your goodness find it; not our peace but Your peace.

All these we ask in the name of Jesus, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen.

ROLL CALL

The President. The Secretary will please call the roll.

The Secretary, reading:

Senator Teresa Aquino-Oreta Present
Senator Robert Z. Barbers Present
Senator Rodolfo G. Biazon Present
Senator Renato L. Compañero Cayetano Present
Senator Anna Dominique M.L. Coseteng Present
Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago Present
Senator Juan Ponce Enrile Present
Senator Juan M. Flavies Present
Senator Teofisto T. Guingona Jr. Present
Senator Gregorio B. Honasan Present

Senator Robert S. Jaworski Present
Senator Loren B. Legarda-Leviste Present
Senator Ramon B. Magsaysay Jr. Present
Senator Blas F. Ople Present
Senator John Henry R. Osmeña Present
Senator Sergio R. Osmeña III Present*
Senator Aquilino Q. Pimentel Jr. Present
Senator Ramon B. Revilla Present
Senator Raul S. Roco Present
Senator Vicente C. Sotto III Present
Senator Francisco S. Tatad Present
The President Present

The President. With 21 senators present, there is a quorum.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

THE JOURNAL

Senator Tatad. Mr. President, I move that we dispense with the reading of the *Journal* of the previous session, Session No. 10, and consider it approved.

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

Senator Tatad. I move that we proceed to the Reference of Business.

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

The Secretary will read the Reference of Business.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Secretary.

August 9, 2000

The Honorable
FRANKLIN M. DRILON
President of the Senate
Financial Center
Pasay City 1308

Mr. President:

I have been directed to inform the Senate that the

*Arrived after the roll call

House of Representatives on August 8, 2000, concurred to the Senate amendment on House Concurrent Resolution No. 3, entitled

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION CONCURRING WITH PRESIDENTIAL PROCLAMATION NO. 773 DATED 17 NOVEMBER, 1970, ENTITLED "EXCLUDING FROM THE BAGUIO TOWN-SITE RESERVATION AND FROM THE OPERATION OF PROCLAMATION NO. 10 DATED FEBRUARY 9, 1924 AND PROCLAMATION NO. 63 DATED AUGUST 6, 1925 WHICH ESTABLISHED THE FORBES PARK RESERVATION AND THE GOVERNMENT CENTER RESERVATION, RESPECTIVELY, ALL SITUATED IN THE CITY OF BAGUIO, ISLAND OF LUZON, CERTAIN PORTIONS OF THE LAND EMBRACED THEREIN AND DECLARING THE SAME OPEN TO DISPOSITION UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE PUBLIC LAND ACT" AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF THE AREA UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 730.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) ROBERTO P. NAZARENO
Secretary General

The President. To the Archives

The Secretary.

August 9, 2000

The Honorable
FRANKLIN M. DRILON
President of the Senate
Financial Center
Pasay City 1308

Mr. President:

I have been directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives on August 8, 2000, concurred to the Senate amendment on House Concurrent Resolution No. 37, entitled

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING HIS EXCELLENCY, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES, TO SEGREGATE CERTAIN PORTIONS OF LAND WITHIN THE JOHN HAY AIR STATION

LOCATED IN BAGUIO CITY, ISLAND OF LUZON AND DISPOSE THE SEGREGATED LANDS TO QUALIFIED HOMELOT OCCUPANTS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 730 THROUGH THE BASES CONVERSION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY IN COORDINATION WITH THE CITY GOVERNMENT OF BAGUIO PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7227, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7917.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) ROBERTO P. NAZARENO
Secretary General

The President. To the Archives

RESOLUTION

The Secretary. Proposed Senate Resolution No. 840, entitled

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTABILITY OF PUBLIC OFFICERS, TO STUDY IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE FACTUAL BASIS OR LACK OF IT, OF THE REPORT OF THE PHILIPPINE CENTER FOR INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM (PCIJ) ON THE STATE OF THE PRESIDENT'S FINANCES

Introduced by Senator Roco

The President. Referred to the Committee on Accountability of Public Officers and Investigations

COMMUNICATION

The Secretary. Letter from General Counsel Juan de Zuñiga Jr. of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, furnishing the Senate copies of Bangko Sentral Circular Nos. 253 and 254, Series of 2000, both dated July 31, 2000, in compliance with Section 15(a) of Republic Act No. 7653.

The President. Referred to the Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

COMMITTEE REPORT

The Secretary. Committee Report No. 384, prepared and

submitted jointly by the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; Public Works; and Finance on Senate Bill No. 2117 with Senators Osmeña III, Jaworski, Cayetano, Revilla and Osmeña (J.) as authors thereof, entitled

**AN ACT PROVIDING GUIDELINES FOR
EXPROPRIATION PROCEEDINGS, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES,**

recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 1223 and 1728.

Sponsors: Senators Cayetano, Revilla, Osmeña (J.), Osmeña III and Jaworski

The President. To the Calendar for Ordinary Business
The Majority Leader is recognized.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE OFFICIAL VISIT OF THE
DELEGATION OF THE CHINESE ASSOCIATION FOR
INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING (CAFIU)**

Senator Tatad. Mr. President, we are honored to have in the Hall this afternoon a delegation from the Chinese Association for International Understanding (CAFIU) led by Madam Li Shuzheng, Vice Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC); and Vice Chairperson of the Chinese Association for International Understanding (CAFIU).

The delegation is composed of six members and is accompanied by the Charge d' Affaires of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Manila, Hon. Sun Heping.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

I move that we suspend the session for one minute to allow the members of this Chamber to greet our distinguished visitors.

The President. The Chamber officially welcomes the Chinese Association for International Understanding headed by Madam Li Shuzheng, Vice Chairperson, Foreign Affairs Committee of the National People's Congress, and Vice Chairperson of the Chinese Association for International Understanding.

Upon motion of the Majority Leader, there being no objection, the session is suspended for one minute to enable our colleagues to officially welcome Madam Li.

It was 3:39 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 3:42 p.m., the session was resumed.

The President. The session is resumed.

SPECIAL ORDERS

Senator Tatad. Mr. President, I move that we transfer from the Calendar for Ordinary Business to the Calendar for Special Orders, the following:

Committee Report No. 360 on Senate Bill No. 2048, entitled

**AN ACT EXEMPTING FROM TAX CERTAIN
ALLOWANCES AND BENEFITS GRANTED TO
THE MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF
THE PHILIPPINES;**

Committee Report No. 370 on Senate Bill No. 2028, entitled

**AN ACT EXEMPTING FROM TAX ALL
ALLOWANCES AND BENEFITS GRANTED TO
PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS, INCLUDING
THOSE IN STATE COLLEGES AND
UNIVERSITIES;**

and Committee Report No. 384 on Senate Bill No. 2117, entitled

**AN ACT PROVIDING GUIDELINES FOR
EXPROPRIATION PROCEEDINGS, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.**

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

**MOTION OF SENATOR TATAD
(Transfer of Referral of S. No. 1939
to the Local Government Committee)**

Senator Tatad. Mr. President, I move that Senate Bill No. 1939, entitled

**AN ACT CREATING THE ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY
PROVINCE FROM THE PROVINCE OF
ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES,**

which was referred initially to the Committee on Rules be transferred now to the Committee on Local Government.

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