

RECORD OF THE SENATE

TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2001

OPENING OF THE SESSION

*At 4:05 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Aquilino Q. Pimentel Jr., called the session to order.*

**The President.** The 55th session of the Senate in the Third Regular Session of the Eleventh Congress is hereby called to order.

We shall be led in prayer by Sen. Renato L. *Compañero* Cayetano.

*Everybody rose for the prayer.*

PRAYER

**Senator Cayetano.** Let us rise and bow our heads to the Lord.

Dear God, our people are now divided between the poor and the not so poor due to events and circumstances triggered by many reasons and causes, without mentioning the divisive and bitter electoral exercise last May 14.

We seek, Lord, not to exacerbate the division in our already fragmented nation.

On the last two remaining days of the Eleventh Congress, may Your Senate be a steady bridge to forge a united and reconciled nation.

Grant us, therefore, Lord, Your servants in the Senate, the wisdom and perseverance to achieve this daunting task, trusting always that nothing is impossible if You are with us.

All these we ask in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

**The President.** The Majority Leader is recognized.

ROLL CALL DISPENSED WITH

**Senator Tatad.** Mr. President, I move that we dispense with the roll call.

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

BILL ON SECOND READING  
S. No. 2282 — Plebiscite and Elections  
for the ARMM

**Senator Tatad.** Mr. President, I move that we consider Senate Bill No. 2282.

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

Consideration of Senate Bill No. 2282 is now in order. With the permission of the Body, the Secretary will read only the title of the bill, without prejudice to inserting in the *Record* the whole text thereof.

**The Secretary.** Senate Bill No. 2282, entitled

AN ACT FIXING THE DATE OF THE PLEBISCITE FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENTS TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6734 AND SETTING THE DATE OF THE REGULAR ELECTIONS FOR ELECTIVE OFFICIALS OF THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO ON THE LAST MONDAY OF NOVEMBER 2001, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9054, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND THE ORGANIC ACT FOR THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6734, ENTITLED 'AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO,' AS AMENDED," AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

*The following is the whole text of the bill:*

Senate Bill No. 2282

AN ACT FIXING THE DATE OF THE PLEBISCITE FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENTS TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6734 AND SETTING THE DATE OF THE REGULAR ELECTIONS FOR ELECTIVE OFFICIALS OF THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO ON THE LAST MONDAY OF NOVEMBER 2001, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9054, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND THE ORGANIC ACT FOR THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6734, ENTITLED

**The President.** Referred to the Committee on Rules

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

**The Secretary.**

June 5, 2001

HON. AQUILINO Q. PIMENTEL JR.  
Senate President  
Philippine Senate  
Pasay City

Dear Senate President Pimentel:

Pursuant to the provisions of Article VI, Section 26(2) of the Constitution, I hereby certify to the necessity of the immediate enactment of Senate Bill No. 2282, entitled

AN ACT FIXING THE DATE OF THE PLEBISCITE FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENTS TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6734 AND SETTING THE DATE OF THE REGULAR ELECTIONS FOR ELECTIVE OFFICIALS OF THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO ON THE LAST MONDAY OF NOVEMBER 2001, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9054, ENTITLED "AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND THE ORGANIC ACT FOR THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6734, ENTITLED 'AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,'"

to enable the Commission on Elections to adequately prepare for the holding of the plebiscite for the amendments of R.A. No. 6734 and the holding of the first regular ARMM elections provided for under its Organic Act, as amended.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO

cc. Hon. Feliciano R. Belmonte Jr.  
Speaker  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City

**The President.** Referred to the Committee on Rules

The Majority Leader is recognized.

BILL ON SECOND READING

H. No. 12228—The Administrative Naturalization  
Law of 2000  
(Continuation)

**Senator Tatad.** Mr. President, I move that we resume consideration of House Bill No. 12228 as reported out under Committee Report No. 656.

**The President.** Is there any objection? [Silence] There being none, resumption of consideration of House Bill No. 12228 is now in order.

**Senator Tatad.** Mr. President, we are now in the period of interpellations. I move that Sen. Franklin M. Drilon be recognized as cosponsor of this measure.

Yesterday, we had the impression that Sen. John H. Osmeña wanted to interpellate but I am given to understand that he has withdrawn his reservation to interpellate.

**Senator Drilon.** Mr. President.

**The President.** Sen. Franklin M. Drilon is recognized.

**Senator Drilon.** Thank you, Mr. President. We indeed have discussed the points of concern of Senator Osmeña. We have explained the provisions to him and he informed this representation that he would no longer avail of the period of interpellations.

**Senator Tatad.** And there are no...

**The President.** If the gentleman will allow me a question or two.

What will be the effect of this bill on a decree issued by Mr. Marcos in the past for administrative naturalization? Has that decree lapsed already?

**Senator Drilon.** There are no longer qualified applicants under that, if I recall correctly although I can reconfirm that, Mr. President.

**The President.** Yes. Because I would like to find out if that particular decree is still extant. If it is not, then probably we should just put a repealing clause here.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

**Senator Drilon.** Mr. President, I move that we suspend the session for one minute.

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

*It was 4:41 p.m.*

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 4:41 p.m., the session was resumed.*

**The President.** The session is resumed.

The Chair is satisfied with the explanation of the sponsor. So, we will not pursue the question that we have asked.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

**Senator Tatad.** I do not believe there are any further questions on this bill. I move that the period of interpellations be closed.

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

**Senator Tatad.** There are no committee amendments. I move that the period of committee amendments be closed.

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

**Senator Drilon.** There are no individual amendments, Mr. President. I move that the period of individual amendments be closed.

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

APPROVAL OF H. NO. 12228 ON SECOND READING

**Senator Tatad.** Mr. President, I move that we vote on Second Reading on House Bill No. 12228.

**The President.** Is there any objection? *[Silence]* There being none, we shall now vote on Second Reading on House Bill No. 12228.

As many as are in favor of the bill say *aye*.

Several Members. *Aye*.

**The President.** As many as are against the bill, say *nay*. *[Silence]*

House Bill No. 12228 is approved on Second Reading.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF H. NO. 12228

**Senator Tatad.** Mr. President, I move that we suspend consideration of House Bill No. 12228.

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

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

**Senator Tatad.** Mr. President, I move that we suspend the session for one minute.

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

*It was 4:43 p.m.*

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 4:52 p.m., the session was resumed.*

**The President.** The session is resumed.

BILL ON THIRD READING  
S. No. 2191 — Governance of Basic  
Education Act of 2001

**Senator Tatad.** Mr. President, I move that we vote on Third Reading on Senate Bill No. 2191. Copies of the bill were distributed to the members on June 1, 2001.

**The President.** Is there any objection? *[Silence]* There being none, voting on Third Reading on Senate Bill No. 2191 is now in order.

The Secretary will please read only the title of the bill.

**The Secretary.** Senate Bill No. 2191, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING AUTHORITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR BASIC EDUCATION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION; INSTITUTING A FRAMEWORK FOR GOVERNANCE, DEFINING THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR BUILDING AND CONSTANTLY IMPROVING AN EDUCATION SYSTEM THAT ENABLES THE FILIPINO CHILDREN, OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH AND ADULT LEARNERS TO BECOME CARING, SELF-RELIANT, PRODUCTIVE AND PATRIOTIC CITIZENS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

**Senator Tatad.** Mr. President, the Chair may wish to propose the names of the members of the Senate panel in case a bicameral conference is needed.

**The President.** The Majority Leader can kindly make the suggestion.

**Senator Tatad.** Maybe we can ask the House to simply accept our amendments.

**The President.** Yes. Probably, that would be the best way to do it. We will communicate with the House immediately.

**Senator Tatad.** Thank you very much, Mr. President.

**BILL ON THIRD READING  
H. No. 12228—The Administrative Naturalization  
Law of 2000**

Mr. President, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 12228 as reported out under Committee Report No. 656.

**The President.** Is there any objection? *[Silence]* There being none, voting on Third Reading on House Bill No. 12228 is now in order.

The Secretary will please read the title of the bill.

**The Secretary.** House Bill No. 12228, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION  
OF PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP FOR CERTAIN  
ALIENS BY ADMINISTRATIVE NATURALIZATION  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

**Senator Tatad.** Mr. President, this is a certified measure. May I ask the Secretary to read the certification.

**The President.** The Secretary will please read the certification.

**The Secretary.**

June 5, 2001

HON. AQUILINO Q. PIMENTEL JR.  
Senate President  
Philippine Senate  
Pasay City

Dear Senate President Pimentel:

Pursuant to the provisions of Article VI, Sec. 26(2) of the Constitution, I hereby certify to the necessity of the immediate enactment of House Bill No. 12228, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION  
OF PHILIPPINE CITIZENSHIP FOR CERTAIN  
ALIENS BY ADMINISTRATIVE NATURALIZATION  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,

to address the inadequacies of our Revised Naturalization Law of 1939 that has not given due consideration, regard and recognition to aliens born and residing in the Philippines.

Best wishes.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO

**Senator Tatad.** May I now ask for a roll call vote.

**The President.** We will now vote on the bill and the Secretary will call the roll.

**The Secretary.** *Senators*

Aquino-Oreta .....	Yes
Barbers .....	
Biazon .....	
Cayetano .....	Yes
Coseteng .....	Yes
Defensor Santiago .....	
Drilon .....	Yes
Enrile .....	
Flavier .....	Yes
Honasan .....	
Jaworski .....	
Leviste .....	
Magsaysay Jr. ....	Yes
Ople .....	
Osmeña (J.) .....	Yes
Osmeña III .....	Yes
Revilla .....	
Sotto III .....	Yes
Tatad .....	Yes
The President .....	Yes

APPROVAL OF H. NO. 12228 ON THIRD READING

**The President.** With 11 affirmative votes, no negative vote, and no abstention, House Bill No. 12228 is approved on Third Reading.

**Senator Tatad.** Mr. President, I move that we proceed to the Additional Reference of Business.