

RECORD OF THE SENATE

MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2005

OPENING OF THE SESSION

At 3:31 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Franklin M. Drilon, called the session to order.

The President. The 70th session of the Senate in the First Regular Session of the Thirteenth Congress is hereby called to order.

Let us all stand for the opening prayer to be led by Sen. Manuel B. Villar Jr.

Everybody rose for the prayer.

PRAYER

Senator Villar. This prayer was written by Gordon Davidson and Corinne McLaughlin of the Center for Visionary Leadership.

Let the wounds of separation and division be healed by opening our hearts to listen to the truth on all sides, allowing us to find a higher truth that includes us all;

May we learn to honor and enjoy our diversity and differences as a people, even as we more deeply touch our fundamental unity;

May we, as a people, undergo a transformation that will draw forth individuals to lead our nation who embody courage, compassion and a higher vision;

May we, as a united people, move with clear, directed purpose to take our place within the community of nations to help build a better future for all humankind;

May we, as a nation, rededicate ourselves to truly living as one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all;

And may God's will be done for our nation, as we, the people, align with that will.

Amen.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The President. The Senate Choir will lead us in the singing of the *Philippine National Anthem*.

Everybody remained standing for the singing of the national anthem.

ROLL CALL

The President. The Secretary will please call the roll.

The Secretary, reading:

Senator Edgardo J. Angara	Present*
Senator Joker P. Arroyo	Present
Senator Rodolfo G. Biazon	Present*
Senator Compañera Pia S. Cayetano	Present
Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago	Present
Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada	Present
Senator Luisa "Loi" P. Ejercito Estrada	Present
Senator Juan Ponce Enrile	Present
Senator Juan M. Flavies	Present
Senator Richard J. Gordon	Present
Senator Panfilo M. Lacson	Present
Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid	Present
Senator Alfredo S. Lim	Present
Senator M. A. Madrigal	Present
Senator Ramon B. Magsaysay Jr.	Present
Senator Sergio R. Osmeña III	Present*
Senator Francis N. Pangilinan	Present
Senator Aquilino Q. Pimentel Jr.	Present
Senator Ralph G. Recto	Present*
Senator Ramon Bong Revilla Jr.	Present
Senator Mar Roxas	Present
Senator Manuel B. Villar Jr.	Present
The President	Present

The President. With 19 senators present, there is a quorum.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

THE JOURNAL

Senator Pangilinan. Mr. President, I move that we dispense with the reading of the *Journal* of the 69th session, March 9, 2005 and consider it approved.

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

Senator Pangilinan. Mr. President, I move that we proceed to the Reference of Business.

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

* Arrived after the roll call

REORGANIZATION TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGED OPPRESSION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM (GSIS) UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF ITS PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER, WINSTON F. GARCIA

Introduced by Senator J. Ejercito Estrada

The President. Referred to the Committee on Civil Service and Government Reorganization

COMMUNICATIONS

The Secretary. Letter from Secretary Amalia A. Adayo of the Sangguniang Bayan of Sagnay, Camarines Sur, furnishing the Senate a copy of S.B. Res. No. 2005-012, favorably endorsing to the Senate and the House of Representatives H. No. 3398 which seeks to convert the Camarines Sur State Agricultural College into a State university to be known as the Central Bicol State University of Agriculture.

The President. Referred to the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

The Secretary. Letter from Ms. Nelia P. Padrigon of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Camarines Norte, furnishing the Senate a copy of S.P. Res. No. 2005-018 favorably endorsing House Bill No. 1127 which seeks to convert the Camarines Norte State College into a State university to be known as the Camarines Norte State University.

The President. Referred to the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

The Secretary. Letter from Secretary Leticia T. Agura of the Sangguniang Bayan of Canaman, Camarines Sur, endorsing to the Senate S. B. Res. No. 2005-007 supporting House Bill No. 3398 which seeks to convert the Camarines Sur State Agricultural College into a State university to be known as the Central Bicol State University of Agriculture.

The President. Referred to the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

The Secretary. Letter from Secretary Martin Zamayla of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Misamis Oriental, furnishing the Senate a copy of S.P. Res. No. 40-2005, requesting PHIVEDEC Industrial Estate Authority Central Office to direct PIE-MO, Tagoloan, Misamis Oriental to carry out measures effecting the observance and compliance to existing local tax laws, provincial

and municipal revenue ordinances; and labor laws and labor standards by all industries and corporations operating within the industrial estate of Misamis Oriental.

The President. Referred to the Committees on Local Government; and Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development

The Secretary. Letter from Secretary Manuel C. Comota of the Sangguniang Bayan of Ragay, Camarines Sur, furnishing the Senate a copy of S.B. Res. No. 091, s. 2005 endorsing H. No. 3398 which seeks to convert the Camarines Sur State Agricultural College into a State university to be known as the Central Bicol State University of Agriculture.

The President. Referred to the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

COMMITTEE REPORT

The Secretary. Committee Report No. 17, prepared and submitted by the Committee on Urban Planning, Housing and Resettlement on Senate Bill No. 1956 with Senators Recto and Biazon as authors thereof, entitled

AN ACT ESTABLISHING REFORMS IN THE REGULATION OF RENTALS OF CERTAIN RESIDENTIAL UNITS, PROVIDING THE MECHANISMS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,

recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill No. 1324, taking into consideration House Bill No. 3356.

Sponsors: Senators Biazon and Recto

The President. To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

The Secretary.

March 11, 2005

HON. FRANKLIN M. DRILON
Senate President
Pasay City

Dear Senate President Drilon:

Pursuant to the provisions of Article VI, Section 26(2) of the 1987 Constitution, I hereby certify to the