

## RECORD OF THE SENATE

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2007

### OPENING OF THE SESSION

*At 4:09 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Manny Villar, called the session to order.*

**The President.** The 61st session of the Third Regular Session of the Thirteenth Congress is hereby called to order.

Let us all stand for the opening prayer to be led by Sen. Richard J. Gordon.

*Everybody rose for the prayer.*

### PRAYER

**Senator Gordon.**

Lord, we bow before You today, sincerely hoping that You will lend an ear to our prayer. There have been many prayers in this Chamber. Everyday we pray and we sincerely hope that You lend an ear to our prayers today. We pray for Your guidance and Your spirit that we may be led by Your will in the final days of the Thirteenth Congress and use this remaining time to pass legislations that would promote the welfare and prosperity of our people.

We pray likewise for our colleagues who are ending their terms as senators of the land. We thank You, Lord, for the wisdom that they have shared with this august House and we pray that You will lead them to paths that would enable them to continue to serve the interests of the nation outside of the Senate.

We pray for humility, Lord, that we may, as a nation, submit ourselves to Your will in order to achieve the greatness that You intended for our beloved country; that You imbue this nation with worthy causes, Lord, and the courage and fortitude to pursue and realize these causes, for a nation without a worthy cause is a nation without a soul.

Strengthen our minds that we may understand that each of us must do our part in the work of nation-building, and bless us with a generous heart to give the best of ourselves that we may be worthy of our position, our families, and our paramount role as a citizen of this nation.

And, Lord, I would like to end with the prayer of Saint Ignatius:

Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous; teach me to serve Thee as Thou deservest; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to labor and not to seek for rest; to toil and not to ask for reward; save that of knowing I am doing Thy most holy and sacred will.

Amen.

### 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 Franklin M. Drilon .....	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 Kiko Pangilinan .....	Present
Senator Aquilino Q. Pimentel Jr. ....	Present
Senator Ralph G. Recto .....	Absent
Senator Ramon Bong Revilla Jr. ....	Present
Senator Mar A. Roxas .....	Present*
The President .....	Present

**The President.** With 19 senators present, the Chair declares the presence of 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 59th session, January 29, 2007 and consider it approved.

\* Arrived after the roll call



Given the present slate of the dental profession and the problems that plague our country's oral health, your Committee has decided to present this proposed measure as a feasible solution to the inadequacy of the current laws on the subject.

Senate Bill No. 2581, as embodied in Committee Report No. 232, therefore seeks to:

1. Enumerate and clearly define the scope and practice of dentistry, dental hygienists and dental technologists;

2. Mandate the integration of all registered dentists, dental hygienists and dental technologist into one accredited professional organization which shall be recognized by the board and accredited by the commission;

3. Promote the continuing professional education (CPE) for dentists, dental hygienists and dental technologists in order to upgrade their knowledge and enhance the profession;

4. Mandate the registration of foreign dentists under the principle of foreign reciprocity; and

5. Provide for a higher penalty that includes the imposition of fine and imprisonment for illegal practice of dentistry, dental hygienists and dental technologists.

By enacting the amendments embodied in this committee report, it is my fervent hope that this will pave the way for a more proficient practice by our dentists, dental hygienists and dental technologists thereby guaranteeing and improving the oral health profile of the Filipino people.

It is for these reasons that approval of this proposed measure is earnestly requested.

#### SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF S. NO. 2581

**Senator Cayetano.** I move that we suspend consideration of Senate Bill No. 2581.

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

#### SUSPENSION OF SESSION

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

**The President Pro Tempore.** Is there any objection? [Silence] There being none, the session is suspended for one minute.

*It was 11:03 p.m.*

#### RESUMPTION OF SESSION

*At 11:10 p.m., the session was resumed.*

**The President Pro Tempore.** The session is resumed.

The Secretary will read the Fourth Additional Reference of Business.

#### FOURTH ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

##### COMMITTEE REPORT

**The Acting Secretary** [Dir. Bantug]. Committee Report No. 239 prepared and submitted jointly by the Committees on Civil Service and Government Reorganization; and Public Information and Mass Media on Senate Bill No. 2589 with Senators Flavies, Angara, Pimentel Jr., and Lacson as authors thereof, entitled

AN ACT TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY IN THE DELIVERY OF GOVERNMENT SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC BY REDUCING BUREAUCRATIC RED TAPE, PREVENTING GRAFT AND CORRUPTION, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR,

recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 46, 1934, 2546 and 2561, taking into consideration House Bill Nos. 3309 and 3776.

Sponsor: Senator Lacson

**The President Pro Tempore.** To the Calendar for Ordinary Business

#### FIFTH ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

##### COMMITTEE REPORT

**The Acting Secretary** [Dir. Bantug]. Committee Report No. 240 prepared and submitted jointly by the Committees on Civil Service and Government Reorganization; Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance on Senate Bill No. 2590 with Senators Osmeña, Pimentel Jr. and Enrile as authors thereof, entitled

AN ACT REGULATING THE EDUCATION AND LICENSURE OF PHYSICIANS AND THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE IN THE PHILIPPINES, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT