

## RECORD OF THE SENATE

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1994**

### RESUMPTION OF THE SESSION

*At 4:57 p.m., the session was resumed with the Honorable Edgardo J. Angara, President of the Senate, presiding.*

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

**Senator Romulo:** Mr. President.

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

**Senator Romulo:** There is an Additional Reference of Business, Mr. President. May I ask the Secretary to read them.

**The President:** The Secretary will please read the Third Additional Reference of Business.

### THIRD ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**The Secretary:**

October 26, 1994

**Mr. President:**

I have been directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives on October 25, 1994, passed House Bill No. 6478, entitled

**AN ACT CONVERTING THE BALAGUNAN BARANGAY HIGH SCHOOL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF STO. TOMAS, PROVINCE OF DAVAO, INTO A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS THE BALAGUNAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,**

to which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) CAMILO L. SABIO  
Secretary General

The Honorable  
EDGARDO J. ANGARA  
President of the Senate  
Manila

**The President:** Referred to the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance.

**The Secretary:**

October 26, 1994

**Mr. President:**

I have been directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives on October 25, 1994, passed House Bill No. 11892, entitled

**AN ACT CHANGING THE NAME OF THE PUG-OS (SINAIT) ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LOCATED AT BARANGAY PUG-OS, MUNICIPALITY OF SINAIT, PROVINCE OF ILOCOS SUR, TO DEAN LEOPOLDO YABES MEMORIAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL,**

to which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) CAMILO L. SABIO  
Secretary General

The Honorable  
EDGARDO J. ANGARA  
President of the Senate  
Manila

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

**The Secretary:**

October 26, 1994

**Mr. President:**

I have been directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives on October 25, 1994, passed House Bill No. 12466, entitled

**AN ACT CHANGING THE NAME OF THE TALISAY SCHOOL OF FISHERIES IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TALISAY, PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, TO INOCENCIO V. FERRER MEMORIAL SCHOOL OF FISHERIES,**

to which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Senator Aquino	Senator Revilla
Senator Biazon	Senator Roco
Senator Coseteng	Senator Romulo
Senator Gonzales	Senator Shahani
Senator Herrera	Senator Sotto
Senator Lina, Jr.	Senator Tañada
Senator Maceda	Senator Tatad
Senator Ople	Senator Webb
Senator Osmeña	The President

NO - 0

ABSTENTION - 0

## RESULT OF VOTING

**The President:** With 20 affirmative votes, no negative vote, and no abstention, House Bill No. 10910 is approved on Third Reading.

## BILL ON THIRD READING

## House Bill No. 164 - Granting Cagayan Satellite Program Network, Inc., a Franchise

**Senator Romulo:** Mr. President, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 164. Copies of the bill were distributed to all the Members of the Senate last October 25, 1994.

**The President:** Voting on Third Reading on House Bill No. 164 is now in order.

The Secretary will please read only the title of the bill, if there is no objection. *[There was none.]*

**The Secretary:** House Bill No. 164, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING CAGAYAN SATELLITE PROGRAM NETWORK, INC., A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, MAINTAIN AND OPERATE FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES, RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS IN LUZON AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

**The President:** The Senate will now proceed to vote on the bill. The Secretary will please call the roll.

*The Secretary called the roll and the result of the voting was as follows:*

YES - 20

Senator Alvarez	Senator Rasul
Senator Aquino	Senator Revilla
Senator Biazon	Senator Roco
Senator Coseteng	Senator Romulo
Senator Gonzales	Senator Shahani
Senator Herrera	Senator Sotto
Senator Lina, Jr.	Senator Tañada
Senator Maceda	Senator Tatad
Senator Ople	Senator Webb
Senator Osmeña	The President

NO - 0

ABSTENTION - 0

## RESULT OF VOTING

**The President:** With 20 affirmative votes, no negative vote, and no abstention, House Bill No. 164 is approved on Third Reading.

## BILL ON THIRD READING

## House Bill No. 1248 - Repatriation of Filipino Women

**Senator Romulo:** Mr. President, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 1248. Copies of the bill were distributed to all the Members of the Senate last October 27, 1994.

**The President:** Voting on Third Reading on House Bill No. 1248 is now in order.

The Secretary will please read only the title of the bill, if there is no objection. *[There was none.]*

**The Secretary:** House Bill No. 1248, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE REPATRIATION OF FILIPINOS.

**The President:** The Senate will now proceed to vote on the bill. The Secretary will please call the roll.

*The Secretary called the roll and the result of the voting was as follows:*

YES - 20

Senator Alvarez	Senator Rasul
Senator Aquino	Senator Revilla

Senator Biazon	Senator Roco*
Senator Coseteng	Senator Romulo
Senator Gonzales	Senator Shahani*
Senator Herrera	Senator Sotto
Senator Lina, Jr.	Senator Tañada
Senator Maceda*	Senator Tatad*
Senator Ople	Senator Webb
Senator Osmeña	The President

NO - 0

ABSTENTION - 0

#### RESULT OF VOTING

**The President:** With 20 affirmative votes, no negative vote, and no abstention, House Bill No. 1248 is approved on Third Reading.

**Senator Shahani:** Mr. President, I would like to explain my vote, please.

**The President:** Senator Shahani is recognized.

#### EXPLANATION OF VOTE OF SENATOR SHAHANI

**Senator Shahani:** Mr. President, concerning the bill providing repatriation of Filipinos, this Representation would like to say that the longing for one's roots is always a predominant sentiment of anyone living beyond the protective walls of one's country. Many of our countrymen, especially our women living abroad, always crave for home where they feel they truly belong. Thus, it is not a surprise to see Filipinos banding together in associations in the parched Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; in professional associations in cities of the United States; or assembling together in the plazas of Hong Kong or Singapore on a Sunday, or having regular meetings in the capital cities of Europe. These are vital indications of their longing to be in their homeland.

The version of the House of Representatives focused solely on Filipino women, and being a defender of women's rights, I welcome this focus. Indeed, I believe many of the beneficiaries of this bill, if enacted into law, will be our migrant women. However, the present version of the Senate enlarges the scope of the bill to include all Filipinos. I believe this expansion of coverage increases the benefits emanating from this bill when enacted into law.

Mr. President, this sentiment is felt by many of our country-

men who are abroad. The reasons may be varied, but whatever reason they have for coming back, let us not make the process of returning difficult for coupled with their yearning for home is a certainty that they can bring back with them the material, technical, intellectual, and manpower resources which they need to help propel our economy to sustainable levels.

Also, I believe that this bill will help to stabilize our extended family system, and certainly give back to the men and women their right to resettle again in our country.

I vote *Yes* to this bill, providing for the repatriation of Filipinos as stated in House Bill No. 1248.

Thank you, Mr. President.

**Senator Tatad:** Mr. President.

**The President:** Senator Tatad is recognized.

#### EXPLANATION OF VOTE OF SENATOR TATAD

**Senator Tatad:** Mr. President, may I explain my vote. I cast an affirmative vote on House Bill No. 1248, providing for the repatriation of Filipino women who have lost their Philippine citizenship by marriage to aliens and of natural born Filipinos.

I am more than in favor of this bill for the reason that I happen to be the author of Senate Bill No. 885, providing for the same measure, which was filed in the Senate on the 28th of October 1992, a couple of years before the House bill came to the Senate.

I am happy to see that we are finally approving the bill. I would have wanted that my bill which was filed in 1992 would have been acknowledged as the main document of this measure. But for some reason or another, we failed to do that, and the authorship of Senate Bill No. 885 by this humble Representation is not even reflected in the bill that we are voting on.

This is not of capital importance to me, Mr. President, but I believe it is only fair that the records should bear that I am the original author of Senate Bill No. 885 filed in October 1992, well before this measure from the House of Representatives came to the Senate.

Thank you very much.

**Senator Maceda:** Mr. President.

**The President:** Senator Maceda is recognized.

\* With explanation of vote

## EXPLANATION OF VOTE OF SENATOR MACEDA

**Senator Maceda:** Mr. President, may I explain my vote.

Let me add my humble voice to those who find this bill one of extreme urgency. Urgency because of the fact that we are too well aware that many of the marriages now being entered into by Filipinos to aliens are not marriages of the heart but marriages of convenience.

How often have we seen poor farming women from Isabela, for example, being shuttled off to rural communities in Japan to get married by prearrangement. We have seen in many magazines how many of these marriages have broken up and the poor transplanted rural resident of places like Isabela sometimes are at a loss as to how they can repatriate themselves or come back to this country. Many times have we heard of many of our entertainers being forced to marry their recruiters, if not their managers and bosses, whether it is in Japan, in Malaysia or in Singapore.

For that matter, Mr. President, how many times have I seen as a practicing lawyer in New York, of so many of our doctors and nurses who have been forced to marry either Mexicans, Puerto Ricans or even African-American just to be able to stay in the United States or to get a green card to extend their working eligibility in these countries. How often have we seen the so-called mail-order-brides in the boondocks of Australia meeting the same fate. They went there to have a better life, not for love or for purposes of real marriage but for a marriage of economic necessity. Especially at this time when we have a Government that has admitted helplessness, and as demonstrated, a defeatist attitude in protecting our Filipino contract workers abroad who are being harassed or oppressed. The sooner we allow them, if they are in this particular situation, to repatriate themselves, the better it is for these oppressed and harassed countrymen of ours.

It is in that light that we wholeheartedly vote in favor of this bill, as well as any other bills that will really expedite the return of our people to our native land.

Thank you, Mr. President.

**The President:** Senator Roco is recognized.

## EXPLANATION OF VOTE OF SENATOR ROCO

**Senator Roco:** Mr. President, by way of explaining my vote, we wanted to put on record that the Committee Report was amended immediately at the first instance that it was called to the attention of the Committee that Senator Tatad, in fact, had

a bill. Had I seen this earlier, the Secretariat should have been better advised to put "as amended by the Senate," and "in consolidation with Senate Bill No. \_\_," whatever it is, the annotation on top of the printed copy.

So on that first matter, Mr. President, we hope our distinguished Colleague from Bicol had known or had noted — we did put it already on record.

On the second matter, Mr. President, just to reaffirm the intent, the one-year residence was meant to apply even before the passage of the law. If the former Filipino had been here with actual residence even before this law, then the oath could be taken at the soonest possible time. I thought this should be put on record also to strengthen the interpretation of the bill should it become a law or should it be questioned later on.

On those bases, we wish to affirm and reaffirm that we are voting *Yes* to the bill.

Thank you, Mr. President.

**Senator Romulo:** Mr. President.

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

**BILL ON THIRD READING**  
**House Bill No. 13573 - The City of Pasig**

**Senator Romulo:** Mr. President, I move that we vote on Third Reading on House Bill No. 13573, as amended. Printed copies of the bill were distributed to all the Members of the Senate on October 27, 1994.

**The President:** Voting on Third Reading on House Bill No. 13573, as amended, is now in order.

The Secretary will please read only the title of the bill, if there is no objection. [*There was none.*]

**The Secretary:** House Bill No. 13573, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE MUNICIPALITY OF  
PASIG INTO A HIGHLY URBANIZED CITY  
TO BE KNOWN AS THE CITY OF PASIG.

**The President:** The Senate will now proceed to vote on the bill. The Secretary will please call the roll.

*The Secretary called the roll and the result of the voting was as follows:*