

Senate of the Philippines

# *Linkages Report*

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The *Linkages Report* is a digest that is aimed to report the accomplishments of the Senate for a particular period. This publication is also designed to inform the public on the activities of the Senators and other news report about Senate.

Included in this issue are the laws of national importance approved by the President of the Philippines covering the period December 17, 2014 to June 6, 2016 and the accomplishments of the Senate for the the Sixteenth (16<sup>th</sup>) Congress covering the period July 22, 2013 – June 6, 2016.

This publication is a project of the **INSTITUTIONAL LINKAGES SERVICE (ILS)** under the External Affairs and Relations Office.

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*Source* : *Performance of the Senate  
For the Sixteenth Congress  
Covering the Period July 22, 2013  
to June 6, 2016*

*The Institutional Linkages Service is under the External Affairs and Relations headed by Deputy Secretary Peter Paul L. Pineda and Executive Director Diana Lynn Le-Cruz..*

## LAWS OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE

Below are the laws of national importance approved by the President of the Philippines covering the period December 17, 2014 to June 6, 2016:

<b>Republic Act Number</b>	<b>Senate Bill Number</b>	<b>Short Title &amp; Intent of the Law</b>
RA 10650	SBN 2274	<p>“Open Learning and Distance Education Act of 2014”</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u> To expand and further democratize access to quality tertiary education through the promotion and application of open learning as a philosophy of access to educational services, and the use of distance education as an appropriate, efficient and effective system of delivering quality higher and technical educational services in the country.</p>
RA 10653	SBN 2437	<p>“Tax Exemption of 13<sup>th</sup> Month Pay”</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u> To amend Section 32 (B), Chapter VI of the National Internal Revenue Code of the Philippines (Republic Act No. 8424) entitled “An Act Adjusting the 13<sup>th</sup> Month Pay and Other Benefits Ceiling Excluded From The Computation Of Gross Income For Purposes Of Income Taxation, Amending For The Purpose Section 32 (B), Chapter VI Of The National Internal Revenue Code of 1997.”</p>

RA 10655	SBN 1647	<p>“Crime of Premature Marriage”</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u> To repeal Article 351 of Act No. 3815, otherwise known as the Revised Penal Code that provides the crime of premature marriage committed by a woman. This is without prejudice to the provisions of the family code on paternity and filiation.</p>
RA 10660	SBN 2138	<p>“Sandiganbayan”</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u> To further amend Sections 3 &amp; 4 of Presidential Decree No. 1606, as amended, entitled “An Act Strengthening Further The Functional And Structural Organization of The Sandiganbayan,</p>
RA 10665	SBN 2277	<p>“Open High School System Act”</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u> To broaden access to relevant quality education through the employment of an alternative secondary education program that will enable the youth to overcome personal, geographical, socioeconomic and physical constraints as an encouragement to the latter to complete secondary education.</p>

<p>RA 10666</p>	<p>SBN 2488</p>	<p>“Children’s Safety on Motorcycles Act of 2015”</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u>  To defend the right of children to assistance, including proper care and nutrition, and special protection from all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty, exploitation, and other conditions prejudicial to their development.</p>
<p>RA 10667</p>	<p>SBN 2486</p>	<p>“Fair Competition Act of 2014”</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u>  To attain a more equitable distribution of opportunities, income and wealth; to sustain the increase in the amount of goods and services produced by the nation for the benefit of the people; to expand productivity as the key to raising the quality of life for all; and to regulate or prohibit monopolies when public interest so requires.</p>
<p>RA 10679</p>	<p>SBN 2212</p>	<p>“Youth Entrepreneurship Act of 2014”</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u>  To promote the sustained development of young Filipinos whose aptitude and skill in the field of finance and to encourage and hone entrepreneurial</p>

		spirit through education and specialized training programs.
RA 10691	SBN 1386	<p>“Public Employment Service Office (PESO)”</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u> To amend Sections 3, 5, 6, 7 and 9 of Republic Act No. 8759 otherwise known As The “Public Employment Service Office Act of 1999”, in order to include the role of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), the Local Government Units (LGU’s), and accredited Non-Government Organizations (NGO’s) in the establishment and operation of PESO and the operation of Job Placement Office in Educational Institutions.</p>
RA 10693	SBN 2792	<p>“Micro Finance NGO ACT”</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u> To pursue a program of poverty eradication wherein poor Filipino families shall be encouraged to undertake entrepreneurial activities to meet their minimum basic needs including income security.</p>
RA 10697	SBN 2762	<p>“Strategic Trade Management Act”</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u> To be free from Weapons of Mass</p>

		<p>Destruction (WMD) in its territory, consistent with the national interest, to fulfill its international commitments and obligations, including United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1540, to take and enforce effective measures to establish domestic controls to prevent the proliferation of WMD's and their means of delivery; and to maintain international peace and security, and promote economic growth by facilitating trade and investment through the responsible management of strategic goods and the provision of related services.</p>
RA 10707	SBN 2280	<p>"Probation Law Amendments."</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u> To further amend Sections 4, 9, 16, 24, 27 and 28 of Presidential Decree No. 968, Otherwise Known As The "Probation Law of 1976".</p>
RA 10708	SBN 2269	<p>"Tax Incentives Management and Transparency Act"</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u> To promote fiscal accountability and transparency in the grant and management of tax incentives by developing means to promptly measure the government's fiscal exposure on these</p>

		grants and to enable the government to monitor, review, and analyze the economic impact thereof and thereby optimize the social benefit of such incentives.
RA 10752	SBN 3004	<p>“Right of Way for National Government Infrastructure”</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u> To ensure that owners of real property acquired for national government infrastructure projects are promptly paid just compensation for the expeditious acquisition of the required right-of-way for the projects.</p>
RA 10754	SBN 2890	<p>“Expanded Benefits and Privileges of PWD’s</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u> To further amend Sections 32 and 33 of Republic Act No. 7277, as amended, otherwise known as the “Magna Carta for Persons with Disability”.</p>
RA 10755	SBN 2693	<p>“Authorizing the Punong Barangay To Administer The Oath of Office of Any Government Official, including the President Of The Republic of The Philippines”</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u> To further amend Section 41 of Executive Order No. 292</p>



		otherwise known as the Administrative Code of 1987, as amended by Republic Act No. 6733.
RA 10756	SBN 2178	<p>“Election Service Reform Act”.</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u> To render election service as non-compulsory for public School Teachers and to authorize the COMELEC to appoint other qualified persons to provide election service.</p>
RA 10801	SBN 2955	<p>“Welfare Administration Act”</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u> To afford full protection to labor, local and overseas, organized and unorganized, and promote full employment opportunities for all and to protect the Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW’s)</p>
RA 10816	SBN 3002	<p>“Farm Tourism Development Act of 2016”</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u> To provide livelihood to a major portion of the population through tourism coupled with agricultural extension services and highlight the value of agriculture in the economic and cultural development of the country.</p>

<p>RA 10845</p>	<p>SBN 2923</p>	<p>“Anti-Agricultural Smuggling Act of 2015”</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u>  To promote the productivity of the agriculture sector and to protect farmers from unscrupulous traders and importers, who by their illegal importation of agricultural products, especially rice, significantly affect the production, availability of supply and stability of prices, and the food security of the State.</p>
<p>RA 10848</p>	<p>SBN 2951</p>	<p>“Agricultural Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (ACEF)”</p> <p><u>Objective of the Law:</u>  To further amend Section 8 of Republic Act No. 8178, otherwise known as “An Act Replacing Quantitative Import Restrictions on Agricultural Products, Except Rice, With Tariffs, creating The Agricultural Competitiveness Enhancement Fund.</p>

**ACCOMPLISHMENT OF  
THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES IN TERMS OF  
NUMERICAL DATA ON  
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS FILED**

Presented below are the accomplishments of the Senate of the Philippines in terms of the numerical data on bills and resolutions filed for the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress covering the period July 22, 2013 – June 6, 2016:

**STATISTICS OF SENATE BILLS, SENATE RESOLUTIONS,  
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS,  
SENATE JOINT RESOLUTIONS FILED AND  
HOUSE BILLS RECEIVED BY THE SENATE:**

Senate Bills Filed	<b>3,227</b>
Senate Resolutions Filed	<b>1,757</b>
Senate Concurrent Resolutions Filed	<b>11</b>
Senate Joint Resolutions Filed	<b>18</b>
House Bills Received by the Senate for Concurrence	<b>793</b>
House Concurrent Resolutions Received for Concurrence	<b>10</b>
House Joint Resolutions Received for Concurrence	<b>9</b>

**A. NUMERICAL STATUS OF SENATE BILLS FILED**

First Regular Session	2,281
Second Regular Session	563
Third Regular Session	383
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,227</b>

I. Senate Bills Acted Upon/Passed by the Senate : 634

A. Enacted into Law	68
B. Passed by both Houses	22
C. Acted Upon by the Senate	
Pending Conference Committee	2
Pending in the House of Representatives	17
Conference Committee Report Approved by Senate	1
Approved on 3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading	1
Pending Third Reading	-
Pending Second Reading	60
Consolidated/Substituted in the Committee Reports	426
Send to Archives	81

II. Withdrawn : 18

III. Recommitted : 1

IV. Senate Bills Pending In the Committees for Public Hearing/Committee Report Preparation : 2,530

**B. NUMERICAL STATUS OF SENATE RESOLUTIONS**

I. Senate Resolutions Filed

First Regular Session	717
Second Regular Session	687
Third Regular Session	353
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,757</b>

II. Senate Resolutions Adopted : Total - 131

Simple Resolutions	117
Treaties	14

III. Senate Resolutions Acted Upon : Total - 147

Committee Report Approved	1
Consolidated/Considered in Adopted Resolutions	59
Pending Second Reading	21
Pending Third Reading	0
Consolidated in Committee Report	42
Sent to Archives	24

IV. Withdrawn : 7

V. Senate Resolutions pending in the Committees : Total - 1,467

VI. Senate Resolutions pending on First Reading : Total - 7

**C. NUMERICAL STATUS OF SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS**

I. Senate Concurrent Resolutions Filed

First Regular Session	4
Second Regular Session	3
Third Regular Session	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>

II. Senate Concurrent Resolution Pending in the Committee : Total - 2

III. Adopted/Acted upon by the Senate : Total - 9

## D. NUMERICAL STATUS OF SENATE JOINT RESOLUTIONS

### I. Senate Joint Resolutions Filed

First Regular Session	8
Second Regular Session	6
Third Regular Session	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>18</b>

### II. Senate Joint Resolutions Acted Upon/Passed by Senate

Acted Upon by the President of the Phils.	2
Pending Conference Committee	1
Pending Second Reading	2
Consolidated/Substituted in the Committee Report	4
Total	9

### III. Senate Joint Resolutions Pending in the Committee : Total - 9

## E. NUMERICAL STATUS OF HOUSE BILLS SENT TO THE SENATE FOR CONCURRENCE

### I. House Bills Sent to Senate for Concurrence

First Regular Session	165
Second Regular Session	397
Third Regular Session	232
TOTAL	793

II. House Bills enacted into Law: : Total 289

Enacted into Law	<b>179</b>
Consolidated with Approved Bill	53
Vetoed by the President of the Philippines	1
Passed by both Houses	39

III. Acted Upon by the Senate : Total 117

Conference Committee Report Approved by the Senate	1
Sent back to House of Representative	<b>20</b>
Pending Conference Committee	<b>2</b>
Approved on Third Reading	<b>2</b>
Approved on Second Reading	2
Pending Second Reading	53
Consolidated Committee Report	23
Sent to Archives	14

IV. House Bills Pending In the Committees for Public Hearing/Committee Report Preparation : Total - 384

**F. NUMERICAL STATUS OF HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION SENT TO THE SENATE FOR CONCURRENCE**

I. House Concurrent Resolutions Sent to the Senate :      - 10

First Regular Session	3
Second Regular Session	4
Third Regular Session	<b>3</b>

II. House Concurrent Resolutions Adopted :      - 9

III. House Concurrent Resolution Pending in the Committee :      - 1

**G. NUMERICAL STATUS OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTIONS  
SENT TO THE SENATE FOR CONCURRENCE**

I. House Joint Resolution Sent to Senate

Second Regular Session	9
Third Regular Session	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>

II. House Joint Resolution Acted Upon : \_\_\_\_\_ - 6

Approved by the President of the Philippines	<b>4</b>
Consolidated with Approved Senate Joint Resolution	<b>1</b>
Pending Conference Committee	1

III. Resolution Pending in the Committee : \_\_\_\_\_ - 9

*Source: Legislative Bills and Index Service (covers July 22, 2013 – June 6, 2016)*



# Other Publications of the Institutional Linkages Service

- The Senate As an Institution  
(A briefing manual on the workings of the Senate)
- ILS Resource Directory (Volumes 1 – IV)  
(Compilation of contact person(s) and addresses of NGOs, Pos, Academes, Associations, etc.)  
Note: Copies distributed only to Senators and Senate Officials
- ILS Linkages Report  
(Digest of press releases of Senators and other issues regarding legislation)
- ILS Linkages Update  
(Provides information on legislations approved and enacted into law, bills passed on third reading by the Senate, outputs of forums conducted by ILS and concerns of national importance)
- Directory of Senators and Committee Memberships

## Brief Comment:

*It is worth to mention that the accomplishments of the Senate reflect its leadership and the long tedious process of lawmaking. On the other hand, crafting sound, timely and relevant legislations to address national issues particularly on education, health, employment, and security are responsibilities of our Senators. However, in the end, it is the people who will measure the accomplishment of Senate and who shall judge its performance.*

*J. Cervo*

# The Senate As an Institution

The Senate of the Philippines is one of the pillars of the country's lawmaking body, the other one is the House of Representatives. It is composed of 24 elected Senators whose terms of office shall be six (6) years. This dynamic institution is established to balance our economic, social and political environment and whose concerns are national in scope.

As the bastion of democracy, its action is centered on consensus and consultation with the end purpose of serving the best interest of the Filipino people.

The **Senate** also values the importance of having productive and harmonious relationship with other institutions, from the government and the private sector, to create an environment where rapport and goodwill among institutions prevail. Its main objective is the passage of good, implementable and doable laws in pursuit of democratic ideals that would truly serve the national interest and the welfare of the people.

*We will be happy to receive inquiry, comments, suggestions and recommendations on a particular law or Senate bill. You may send your letter to the address stated below:*

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Rm. 411, 4th Floor, GSIS Building  
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552-66-01 to 80 locals 4104 to 4106  
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