

Session No. 24 Tuesday, 19 September 2023

1. Senate Bill No. 2001 under Committee Report No. 43

An Act Providing for a New Passport Law, Repealing for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8239, Otherwise Known as the Philippine Passport Act of 1996

Sponsor: Sen. Imee R. Marcos

Reconsideration of the Approval on Second Reading

Amendments of Senator Cayetano (P)

Senator Cayetano (P) stated that there is an existing provision in the bill that is inconsistent with the Civil Code provision and the policy that a woman may use her maiden name. Hence, she proposed the following amendments, which the Body approved:

- On page 10, line 10, insert a new subparagraph (f), which shall read as follows:
 - (F) FOR A WOMAN WHO WISHES TO REVERT TO THE USE OF HER MAIDEN NAME, A DULY AUTHENTICATED BIRTH CERTIFICATE BY THE PSA, PROVIDED THAT SHE CAN ONLY REVERT TO HER MAIDEN NAME ONCE AND ALL HER OTHER EXISTING IDENTIFICATION CARDS AND PERTINENT DOCUMENTS SHALL LIKEWISE REFLECT HER MAIDEN NAME.

Senator Hontiveros manifested her support for the aforementioned amendment and stated that the Supreme Court already ruled that a married woman may opt to use her maiden name.

Senator Marcos proposed that the general provision provided by Senator Cayetano (P) be considered as paragraph one. The amendment was approved by the Body, subject to style.

Approved on Second Reading

2. Senate Bill No. 2028 under Committee Report No. 61

An Act Expanding the Coverage of the Centenarians Act of 2016, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 10868, and Providing Funds Therefor Sponsor: Sen. Imee R. Marcos

Amendments of Senator Marcos

Senator Marcos introduced, and the Body approved, the following individual amendments, among others:

• On page 1, lines 3 to 6, delete the entire paragraph starting with the words "All Filipinos" up to the words "honored with:" and replace it with the following:

ALL FILIPINOS, WHETHER RESIDING IN THE PHILIPPINES OR ABROAD, UPON REACHING THE AGES OF EIGHTY (80) AND NINETY (90) SHALL RECEIVE A CASH GIFT OF TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P10,000.00) AND TWENTY THOUSAND PESOS (P20,000.00), RESPECTIVELY. UPON REACHING THE AGE OF ONE HUNDRED (100) YEARS OLD, A CASH GIFT OF ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00) AND A LETTER OF FELICITATION FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES CONGRATULATING THE CELEBRANT FOR HIS OR HER LONGEVITY SHALL ALSO BE GIVEN.

PROVIDED FURTHER THAT, THEY SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE THE CASH GIFT WITHIN ONE (1) YEAR FROM REACHING THE AGES OF 80, 90, AND 100.

- On page 1, lines 9 to 12, up to page 2, lines 1 to 2, remove the whole subsection (a).
- On page 2, lines 9 to 14, remove the whole subsection 2-A.

Amendment of Senator Villanueva

• On page 2, lines 19 to 24, delete the phrase starting with the word "ESTABLISHED" on line 19 until the acronym "NCSC" and the period (.) on line 24, and replace it with the following:

MAINTAINED BY THE NATIONAL COMMISSION OF SENIOR CITIZENS (NCSC) IN ACCORDANCE WITH REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11350 AND ITS IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. THE NCSC SHALL COORDINATE WITH THE PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY (PSA), THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT (DSWD), THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG), THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (DICT), AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS IN THE ONLINE REGISTRATION OF THE BENEFICIARIES OF THIS ACT.

Amendments of Senator Marcos

Senator Marcos introduced, and the Body approved, the following individual amendments, among others:

• On page 3, lines 2 to 4, to delete the entire paragraph entitled "APPROPRIATIONS", and replace it with the following:

THE AMOUNT NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE BUDGET OF THE NCSC UNDER THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT.

• Delete the title as existing, and replace it with AN ACT RECOGNIZING THE OCTOGENARIANS, NONAGENARIANS, AND CENTENARIANS.

Manifestation of Senator Escudero

Senator Escudero inquired whether the heirs of the octogenarians, nonagenarians, and centenarians be entitled to the cash gift in the event that the grantee passed away one day or a week after his or her milestone birthday. Senator Marcos responded in the affirmative and explained that the government is duty-bound to give it within one year.

Manifestation of Senator Pimentel

On Senator Pimentel's inquiry, whether the amendment covers those who had already celebrated their birthday before the effectivity of the law, the Sponsor replied in the affirmative, saying that they would be eligible for the cash benefits before reaching the 81st or 91st birthdays.

Approved on Second Reading

3. House Bill No. 6553 under Committee Report No. 94

An Act Converting the Bataan Peninsula State University - Bagac Extension Campus in the Municipality of Bagac, Province of Bataan, into a Regular Campus of the Bataan Peninsula State University, to be Known as the "Bataan Peninsula State University - Bagac Campus", and Appropriating Funds Therefor

Sponsor: Sen. Francis G. Escudero

Committee Amendments

- On page 1, line 4, after the figure "2" and the period (.), insert the phrase, to serve as title of Section 2, CONVERSION OF BPSU-BAGAC CAMPUS INTO A REGULAR CAMPUS, followed by a period (.) and a hyphen (-);
- On page 2, lines 1 to 4, rephrase the entire Section 4 to read as follows:
 - SEC. 4. SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT OF BPSU-BAGAC CAMPUS. THE BPSU-BAGAC CAMPUS SHALL BE HEADED BY A CAMPUS ADMINISTRATOR, TO BE APPOINTED BY THE BOARD SUBJECT TO THE GUIDELINES, QUALIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS SET BY THE BOARD, AND UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF A SEARCH COMMITTEE DULY CONSTITUTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF SELECTING THE CAMPUS ADMINISTRATOR.;

- On the same page, lines 6 to 8, rephrase the entire Section 5 to read as follows: SEC. 5. COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION. THE BPSU SHALL ENSURE THE COMPLIANCE OF THE BPSU-BAGAC CAMPUS WITH THE POLICIES, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES OF THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) FOR THE OPERATION OF REGULAR CAMPUSES, INCLUDING THOSE RELATED TO THE OFFERING OF COURSES AND THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW OR REVISED PROGRAMS PRIOR TO ITS CONVERSION AS A REGULAR CAMPUS.;
- On the same page line 24, after the word "Act", insert a comma (,) and the phrase INCLUDING THOSE REQUIRED TO FUND THE PLANTILLA POSITIONS OF TEACHING AND NON-TEACHING PERSONNEL OF THE BPSU- BAGAC CAMPUS, and another comma (,);

Approved on Second Reading

4. House Bill No. 6552 under Committee Report No. 95

An Act Converting the San Isidro Satellite Campus of the Leyte Normal University Located in the Municipality of San Isidro, Province of Leyte, into a Regular Campus of the Leyte Normal University to be Known as the Leyte Normal University - San Isidro Campus, and Appropriating Funds Therefor

Sponsor: Sen. Francis G. Escudero

Committee Amendments

- On page 1, line 4, after the figure "2" and period (.), insert the phrase, to serve as title of Section 2, CONVERSION OF LNU-SAN ISIDRO CAMPUS INTO A REGULAR CAMPUS, followed by a period "(.)" and a hyphen (-);
- On the same page, line 9, after the word "specialization" and comma (,), insert the phrase PURSUANT TO THE MANDATE OF THE LNU, AND ACCORDING TO ITS CAPABILITY;
- On page 2, lines 5 to 9, rephrase the entire Section 4 to read as follows:
 - SEC. 4. SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT OF LNU-SAN ISIDRO CAMPUS. THE LNU-SAN ISIDRO CAMPUS SHALL BE HEADED BY A CAMPUS ADMINISTRATOR, TO BE APPOINTED BY THE BOARD SUBJECT TO THE GUIDELINES, QUALIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS SET BY THE BOARD, AND UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF A SEARCH COMMITTEE DULY CONSTITUTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF SELECTING THE CAMPUS ADMINISTRATOR.
- On the same page, lines 11 to 13, rephrase the entire Section 5 to read as follows:

- SEC. 5. COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION THE LNU SHALL ENSURE THE COMPLIANCE OF THE LNU-SAN ISIDRO CAMPUS WITH THE POLICIES, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES OF THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) FOR THE OPERATION OF REGULAR CAMPUSES, INCLUDING THOSE RELATED TO THE OFFERING OF COURSES AND THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW OR REVISED PROGRAMS PRIOR TO ITS CONVERSION AS A REGULAR CAMPUS.
- On the same page, line 30, after the word "Act", insert a comma (,) the following phrase INCLUDING THOSE REQUIRED TO FUND THE PLANTILLA POSITIONS OF TEACHING AND NON-TEACHING PERSONNEL OF THE LNU-SAN ISIDRO CAMPUS, and another comma (,).

Approved on Second Reading

5. House Bill No. 6128 under Committee Report No. 96

An Act Establishing in the Municipality of Floridablanca, Province of Pampanga, a Campus of the Pampanga State Agricultural University, to be Known as the "Pampanga State Agricultural University-Floridablanca Campus", and Appropriating Funds Therefor"

Sponsor: Sen. Francis G. Escudero

Committee Amendments

Senator Escudero made an omnibus motion for the approval of the following amendments, among others, which the Body approved:

- On page 1, line 1, insert a new Section 1 to read as follows: SECTION 1.
 SHORT TITLE. THIS ACT SHALL BE KNOWN AS THE "PAMPANGA STATE AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY FLORIDABLANCA CAMPUS ACT".;
- On the same page, same line, to serve as title of the renumbered Section 2, Insert the phrase ESTABLISHMENT OF PSAU-FLORIDABLANCA CAMPUS followed by a period (.) and a hyphen.
- On the same page, line 7, after the word "specialization" and a comma insert the phrase PURSUANT TO THE MANDATE OF THE PSAU, AND ACCORDING TO ITS CAPABILITY followed by a comma.
- On the same page, lines 15 to 19, delete the entire Section 3, and insert a new section to read as follows:

SEC. 4. SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT OF PSAU-FLORIDABLANCA CAMPUS, — THE PSAU FLORIDABLANCA CAMPUS SHALL BE HEADED BY A CAMPUS ADMINISTRATOR, TO BE APPOINTED BY THE BOARD SUBJECT TO THE GUIDELINES, QUALIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS SET BY THE BOARD, AND UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF A SEARCH COMMITTEE DULY CONSTITUTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF SELECTING THE CAMPUS ADMINISTRATOR.;

- On the same page, lines 21 to 24, delete the entire Section 4 and insert a new section to read as follows:
 - SEC. 5. COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION THE PSAU SHALL ENSURE THE COMPLIANCE OF THE PSAU-FLORIDABLANCA CAMPUS WITH THE POLICIES, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES OF THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) FOR THE OPERATION OF CAMPUSES, INCLUDING THOSE RELATED TO THE OFFERING OF COURSES AND THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW OR REVISED PROGRAMS PRIOR TO ITS ESTABLISHMENT.;
- On page 2, lines 6 to 10, delete the entire Section 6 and renumber the succeeding sections accordingly;
- On the same page, line 15, after the word "Act", insert a comma (,), the phrase INCLUDING THOSE REQUIRED TO FUND THE PLANTILLA POSITIONS OF TEACHING AND NON-TEACHING PERSONNEL OF THE PSAU-FLORIDABLANCA CAMPUS and another comma (,);
- On the same page, line 17, insert a new Section 9 to read as follows:

SEC. 9. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. — WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS FROM THE APPROVAL OF THIS ACT, THE BOARD SHALL, IN CONSULTATION WITH CHED AND THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT (DBM), ISSUE THE RULES AND REGULATIONS TO FULLY IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT. 16. Renumber the succeeding sections accordingly.

Approved on Second Reading

6. Senate Bill No. 1846 under Committee Report No. 22

An Act Protecting Consumers and Merchants Engaged in Internet Transactions, Creating for this Purpose the Electronic Commerce Bureau, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes

Sponsor: Sen. Mark A. Villar

Amendments of Senator Villar (M)

Senator Villar (M) proposed, and the Body approved, the following individual amendments, among others:

- On page 10, line 26, after the section reference "Section 21(b)(i)", insert the phrase AND THE CONTACT DETAILS OF THE ONLINE MERCHANT AS REQUIRED UNDER SECTION 21 (B)(III).
- On the same page, replace the word "e-commerce" replace it with the word DIGITAL.

- On page 11, line 31, under subsection (g) of Section 21, delete item (v) in its entirety.
- On page 12, between lines 20 and 21, Section 22, on Obligations of other Digital Platforms that Do Not Retain Oversight over the Consummation of the Transaction, insert a new item (V) under subsection (c), with the following text:

V. CONTACT INFORMATION OF THE ONLINE MERCHANT

• On page 18, line 26, under subsection (e) of Section 29, delete the phrase starting from the word "violation" until "22(j)", and replace them with the phrase VIOLATION OF SECTIONS 21, 22 (B), (C) OR (D), AND 23 (A), (F) OR (I).

Amendment of Senator Pimentel

• On Section 24, page 15, line 27, delete and replace "fifteen (15)" with SEVEN (7) CALENDAR DAYS FROM THE FILING THEREOF.

Approved on Second Reading

7. House Bill No. 7091 under Committee Report No. 113

An Act Converting the Campus of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines Located in the City of Parañaque, into a Regular Campus of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines, to be Known as the Polytechnic University of the Philippines–Parañaque City Campus, and Appropriating Funds Therefor

Sponsor: Sen. Francis G. Escudero

Committee Amendments

- On page 1, line 4, after the figure "2" and the period "(.)", insert the phrase to serve as the title of Section 2, CONVERSION OF PUP-PARAÑAQUE CITY CAMPUS, followed by a period (.) and a hyphen (-);
- On the same page, lines 18 to 22, delete the entire "Section 4" and replace it with the following:
 - SEC. 4. SUPERVISION AND MANAGEMENT OF PUP-PARAÑAQUE CITY CAMPUS. THE PUP-PARAÑAQUE CITY CAMPUS SHALL BE HEADED BY A FULL-TIME CAMPUS ADMINISTRATOR, WHO SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE BOARD SUBJECT TO THE GUIDELINES, QUALIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS SET BY THE BOARD, AND UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF A SEARCH COMMITTEE DULY CONSTITUTED BY THE BOARD FOR THE PURPOSE OF SELECTING THE CAMPUS ADMINISTRATOR.
- On page 2, lines 1 to 3, delete the entire "Section 5" and replace with the following:

SEC. 5. COMPLIANCE WITH CHED REQUIREMENTS. — THE PUP, PRIOR TO THE CONVERSION OF THE PUP- PARAÑAQUE CITY CAMPUS INTO A REGULAR CAMPUS AND THE OFFERING OF NEW AND REVISED COURSES AND PROGRAMS RELATED THERETO, SHALL ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPLICABLE POLICIES, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES OF THE CHED.

Approved on Second Reading

8. House Bill No. 6704 under Committee Report No. 109

An Act Establishing a College of Medicine in the Benguet State University Located in the Municipality of La Trinidad, Province of Benguet, to be Known as the Benguet State University-College of Medicine, Appropriating Funds Therefor

Sponsor: Sen. Francis G. Escudero

Committee Amendments

Senator Escudero made an omnibus motion for the approval of the following amendments, among others, which the Body approved:

- On page 2, line 21, delete the phrase "its guidelines on qualification standards, and based on" and insert the phrase THE GUIDELINES, QUALIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS SET BY THE BOARD, AND UPON;
- On page 3, lines 23 to 31, delete the entire Section 9 and replace it with the following:
 - SEC. 9. LOAN OR TRANSFER OF SUPPLIES, APPARATUSES, OR EQUIPMENT, AND DETAIL OF PERSONNEL TO THE COLLEGE. HEADS OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND INSTRUMENTALITIES MAY, UPON THE REQUEST OF THE BOARD THROUGH THE PRESIDENT OF THE BSU, LOAN OR TRANSFER SUPPLIES, APPARATUSES, OR EQUIPMENT, AND DETAIL PERSONNEL TO THE COLLEGE: PROVIDED, THAT SUCH LOAN, TRANSFER OR DETAIL SHALL NOT BE DETRIMENTAL TO PUBLIC SERVICE.

THE PERSONNEL TO BE DETAILED TO THE COLLEGE SHALL PERFORM SUCH DUTIES AS MAY BE DEEMED REQUIRED BY THE DEAN OF THE COLLEGE AND THE TIME SPENT FOR SUCH DUTIES SHALL BE COUNTED AS PART OF THE DETAILED PERSONNEL'S REGULAR SERVICE;

• On page 4, line 4, insert a new Section 12 to read as follows:

SEC. 12. COMPLIANCE WITH CHED REQUIREMENTS. - THE BSU, PRIOR TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COLLEGE AND THE OFFERING OF NEW AND REVISED COURSES AND PROGRAMS RELATED THERETO, SHALL ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPLICABLE POLICIES, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES OF THE CHED.

Approved on Second Reading

9. House Bill No. 7087 under Committee Report No. 110

An Act Establishing a College of Medicine in the Southern Luzon State University-Main Campus Located in the Municipality of Lucban, Province of Quezon, to be Known as the Southern Luzon State University – College of Medicine, and Appropriating Funds Therefor

Sponsor: Sen. Francis G. Escudero

Committee Amendments

Senator Escudero made an omnibus motion for the approval of the following amendments, among others, which the Body approved:

- On page 2, line 24, Section 5, delete the phrase "its guidelines on qualification standards, and based on" and insert the phrase THE GUIDELINES, QUALIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS SET BY THE BOARD, AND UPON;
- On page 3, line 19, delete the word "or" before the word "ethnic", then after the word "origin" insert a comma (,) and the phrase OR ANY OTHER FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION;
- On the same page, lines 25 to 33, delete the entire Section 9 and replace with the following:
 - SEC. 9. LOAN OR TRANSFER OF SUPPLIES, APPARATUSES, OR EQUIPMENT, AND DETAIL OF PERSONNEL TO THE COLLEGE. HEADS OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND INSTRUMENTALITIES MAY, UPON THE REQUEST OF THE BOARD THROUGH THE PRESIDENT OF SLSU, LOAN OR TRANSFER SUPPLIES, APPARATUSES, OR EQUIPMENT, AND DETAIL OF PERSONNEL TO THE COLLEGE: PROVIDED, THAT SUCH LOAN, TRANSFER OR DETAIL SHALL NOT BE DETAILED TO THE COLLEGE SHALL PERFORM SUCH DUTIES AS MAY BE DEEMED REQUIRED BY THE DEAN OF THE COLLEGE AND TIME SPENT FOR SUCH DUTIES SHALL BE COUNTED AS PART OF THE DETAILED PERSONNEL'S REGULAR SERVICE.;
- On page 4, line 7, insert a new Section 12 to read as follows:

SEC. 12. COMPLIANCE WITH CHED REQUIREMENTS. — THE SLSU, PRIOR TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COLLEGE AND THE OFFERING OF NEW AND REVISED COURSES AND PROGRAMS RELATED THERETO, SHALL ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPLICABLE POLICIES, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES OF THE CHED.; and

Approved on Second Reading

10. House Bill No. 7088 under Committee Report No. 111

An Act Establishing a College of Medicine in the University of Eastern Philippines Located in the Municipality of Catarman, Province of Northern Samar, to be Known as the University of Eastern Philippines – College of Medicine, and Appropriating Funds Therefor

Sponsor: Sen. Francis G. Escudero

Committee Amendments

Senator Escudero made an omnibus motion for the approval of the following amendments, among others, which the Body approved:

- On page 2, line 19, Section 5, delete the phrase "its guidelines on qualifications standards, and based on" and insert the phrase THE GUIDELINES, QUALIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS SET BY THE BOARD, AND UPON;
- On page 3, line 2, Section 6, delete the phrase "church or religious sect" and insert the phrase RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION;
- On the same page, line 14, delete the word "or" before the word "ethnic", then after the word "origin" insert a comma (,) and the phrase OR ANY OTHER FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION;
- On the same page, lines 20 to 28, rephrase the entire Section 9 to read as follows:
 - SEC. 9. LOAN OR TRANSFER OF SUPPLIES, APPARATUSES, OR EQUIPMENT, AND DETAIL OF PERSONNEL TO THE COLLEGE. HEADS OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND INSTRUMENTALITIES MAY, UPON THE REQUEST OF THE BOARD THROUGH THE PRESIDENT OF THE UEP, LOAN OR TRANSFER SUPPLIES, APPARATUSES, OR EQUIPMENT, AND DETAIL OF PERSONNEL TO THE COLLEGE: PROVIDED, THAT SUCH LOAN, TRANSFER OR DETAIL SHALL NOT BE DETRIMENTAL TO PUBLIC SERVICE. THE PERSONNEL TO BE DETAILED TO THE COLLEGE SHALL PERFORM SUCH DUTIES AS MAY BE DEEMED REQUIRED BY THE DEAN OF THE COLLEGE AND TIME SPENT FOR SUCH DUTIES SHALL BE COUNTED AS PART OF THE DETAILED PERSONNEL'S REGULAR SERVICE.;
- On page 4, line 3, insert a new Section 12 to read as follows:
 - SEC. 12. COMPLIANCE WITH CHED REQUIREMENTS. THE UEP, PRIOR TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COLLEGE AND THE OFFERING OF NEW AND REVISED COURSES AND PROGRAMS RELATED THERETO, SHALL ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPLICABLE POLICIES, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES OF THE CHED.;

Approved on Second Reading

11. House Bill No. 7090 under Committee Report No. 112

An Act Establishing a College of Medicine in the Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University – South La Union Campus Located in the Municipality of Agoo, Province of La Union, to be Known as the Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University–South La Union Campus–College of Medicine, and Appropriating Funds Therefor

Sponsor: Sen. Francis G. Escudero

Committee Amendments

- On page 2, line 10, Section 3, delete the phrase "Being an institution within the DMMMSU System, the governance of the College shall be vested in" and insert the phrase THE COLLEGE, AS AN INSTITUTION WITHIN THE DMMMSU SYSTEM, SHALL BE GOVERNED BY;
- On the same page, line 21, Section 4, replace the phrase "Chancellor of the DMMMSU-South La Union Campus" with the phrase DEAN OF THE COLLEGE;
- On the same page, lines 25 to 26, Section 5, delete the phrase "its guidelines on qualifications standards, and based on the recommendation of the Chancellor" and insert the phrase THE GUIDELINES, QUALIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS SET BY THE BOARD, AND UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE CHANCELLOR OF THE DMMMSUSOUTH LA UNION CAMPUS;
- On page 3, line 5, insert the word "SEX" and a comma (,) before the word "gender" and delete the word "preference";
- On page 3, line 21, delete the word "or" before the word "ethnic", then after the word "origin" insert a comma (,) and the phrase OR ANY OTHER FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION;
- On the same page, lines 27 to 36, delete the entire Section 9 and replace with the following:
 - SEC. 9. LOAN OR TRANSFER OF SUPPLIES, APPARATUSES, OR EQUIPMENT, AND DETAIL OF PERSONNEL TO THE COLLEGE. HEADS OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND INSTRUMENTALITIES MAY, UPON THE REQUEST OF THE BOARD THROUGH THE PRESIDENT OF THE DMMMSU, LOAN OR TRANSFER SUPPLIES, APPARATUSES, OR EQUIPMENT, AND DETAIL OF PERSONNEL TO THE COLLEGE: PROVIDED, THAT SUCH LOAN, TRANSFER OR DETAIL SHALL NOT BE DETRIMENTAL TO PUBLIC SERVICE. THE PERSONNEL TO BE DETAILED TO THE COLLEGE SHALL PERFORM SUCH DUTIES AS MAY BE DEEMED REQUIRED BY THE DEAN OF THE COLLEGE AND THE TIME SPENT FOR SUCH DUTIES SHALL BE COUNTED AS PART OF THE DETAILED PERSONNEL'S REGULAR SERVICE.;

• On page 4, line 11, insert a new Section 12 to read as follows: SEC. 12. *COMPLIANCE WITH CHED REQUIREMENTS.* — THE DMMMSU, PRIOR TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COLLEGE AND THE OFFERING OF NEW AND REVISED COURSES AND PROGRAMS RELATED THERETO, SHALL ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPLICABLE POLICIES, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES OF THE CHED.;

Approved on Second Reading

12. House Bill No. 7412 under Committee Report No. 116

An Act Establishing a College of Medicine in the Visayas State University Located in the City of Baybay, Province of Leyte, to be Known as the Visayas State University–College of Medicine, and Appropriating Funds Therefor

Sponsor: Sen. Francis G. Escudero

Committee Amendments

Senator Escudero made an omnibus motion for the approval of the following amendments, among others, which the Body approved:

- On page 2, line 5, Section 5, delete the phrase "its guidelines on qualification standards" and insert the phrase THE GUIDELINES, QUALIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS SET BY THE BOARD, AND UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PRESIDENT;
- On page 3, lines 5 to 13, delete the entire Section 9 and replace with the following:
 - SEC. 9. LOAN OR TRANSFER OF SUPPLIES, APPARATUSES, OR EQUIPMENT, AND DETAIL OF PERSONNEL TO THE COLLEGE. HEADS OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND INSTRUMENTALITIES MAY, UPON THE REQUEST OF THE BOARD THROUGH THE PRESIDENT OF THE VSU, LOAN OR TRANSFER SUPPLIES, APPARATUSES, OR EQUIPMENT, AND DETAIL PERSONNEL TO THE COLLEGE; PROVIDED, THAT SUCH LOAN, TRANSFER OR DETAIL SHALL NOT BE DETRIMENTAL TO PUBLIC SERVICE.

THE PERSONNEL TO BE DETAILED TO THE COLLEGE SHALL PERFORM SUCH DUTIES AS MAY BE DEEMED REQUIRED BY THE DEAN OF THE COLLEGE AND THE TIME SPENT FOR SUCH DUTIES SHALL BE COUNTED AS PART OF THE DETAILED PERSONNEL'S REGULAR SERVICE;

• On the same page, line 36, insert a new Section 12 to read as follows:

SEC. 12. COMPLIANCE WITH CHED REQUIREMENTS. – THE VSU, PRIOR TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COLLEGE AND THE OFFERING OF NEW AND REVISED COURSES AND PROGRAMS RELATED THERETO, SHALL ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPLICABLE POLICIES, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES OF THE CHED.

Approved on Second Reading

13. House Bill No. 7961 under Committee Report No. 108

An Act Strengthening the Bulacan State University as a System Expanding its Curricular Offerings and the Composition of the Governing Board and Appropriating Funds Therefor

Sponsor: Sen. Francis G. Escudero

Committee Amendments

Senator Escudero made an omnibus motion for the approval of the following amendments, among others, which the Body granted:

• On page 1, lines 9 to 15, delete the entire second paragraph of Section 2 and replace it with the following paragraph:

TO THIS END, THE BULACAN STATE UNIVERSITY (BULSU) AND ITS CONSTITUTENT UNITS SHALL BE STRENGTHENED AS A STATE UNIVERSITY TO ENHANCE ITS CAPABILITY TO PROVIDE ACCESSIBLE QUALITY EDUCATION. IT SHALL ALSO BE FURTHER STRENGTHENED BY EXPANDING ITS CURRICULAR OFFERINGS AND THE COMPOSITION AND POWERS OF ITS GOVERNING BOARD, DEVELOPING THE COMPETENCIES AND ENCOURAGING THE SPECIALIZATION OF ITS CONSTITUENT UNITS, ENGAGING IN CONVENTIONAL ALTERNATIVE INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNIQUES, METHODOLOGIES AND STRATEGIES, AND FOSTERING A UNIQUE ANDDISTINCTIVE ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP TOWARDS THE IMPROVEMENT OF BULSU AS AN ACADEMIC INSTITUTION AND THE DELIVERY OF HIGHER EDUCATION SERVICES IN THE PROVINCE OF BULACAN AND CENTRAL LUZON REGION.

• On page 2, lines 27 to 28, Section 5, after the amended phrase "CENTRAL LUZON REGION", insert a colon (:) and a proviso which shall read as follows:

PROVIDED, THAT BULSU SHALL COMPLY WITH THE POLICIES, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES OF THE CHED FOR THE OFFERING OF COURSES AND THE INTRODUCTION OF NEW OR REVISED PROGRAMS;

- On page 2, line 33, after the word "institutions", delete the period (.) and insert a colon (:) and a proviso which shall read as follows: PROVIDED, THAT BULSU SHALL COMPLY WITH THE POLICIES, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES OF THE CHED FOR THE OPERATION OF REGULAR OR EXTENSION CAMPUSES;
- On page 3, line 45 to page 4, line 2, delete the entire subsection d of Section 8 and replace it with a new subsection d to read as follows:
 - (D) PRESCRIBE THE SALARIES OF FACULTY MEMBERS AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES, SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11466, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS

THE "SALARY STANDARDIZATION LAW OF 2019", CIVIL SERVICE RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING HOURS OF SERVICE AND SUCH OTHER REQUIREMENTS AND CONDITIONS, AND OTHER PERTINENT LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS;

• On page 4, lines 12 to 22, delete the entire 2nd paragraph of Section 8 (e), and replace it with the following:

THE FEES AND CHARGES COLLECTED BY THE BULSU, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT SUBSIDIES AND PROCEEDS FROM OTHER INCOME SOURCES, AS WELL AS INTERESTS THAT WOULD ACCRUE THEREFROM, SHALL BE RETAINED BY THE UNIVERSITY; PROVIDED, THAT IN NO CASE SHALL THE SAID INCOME BE USED FOR THE PAYMENT OF ALLOWANCES AND OTHER BENEFITS NOT AUTHORIZED BY LAW: PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT ALL FIDUCIARY FEES SHALL BE DISBURSED FOR THE SPECIFIC PURPOSE FOR WHICH THEY WERE COLLECTED.

IF THE BULSU, FOR REASONS BEYOND ITS CONTROL, WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO PURSUE ANY PROJECT FOR WHICH FUNDS HAVE BEEN APPROPRIATED AND ALLOCATED UNDER ITS APPROVED PROGRAM OF EXPENDITURES, THE BOARD MAY AUTHORIZE THE USE OF SAID FUND FOR ANY REASONABLE PURPOSE FOR WHICH IT DEEMS NECESSARY AND URGENT FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF OBJECTIVES OF THE UNIVERSITY: PROVIDED, THAT **FUNDS** COLLECTED FROM STUDENTS FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES SHALL NOT BE REALIGNED OR REPROGRAMMED TO OTHER EXPENDITURES:

- On page 5, line 24, delete the entire subsection (r) of Section 8 and replace it with a new subsection (r) to read as follows:
 - (R) IMPORT BOOKS OR PUBLICATIONS, INSTRUMENTS, EQUIPMENT AND APPARATUSES FOR ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, MEDICAL, PHILOSOPHICAL, HISTORICAL, LEGAL OR CULTURAL PURPOSES;
- On the same page, line 37, after the word "Board", insert a colon (:) and a
 proviso which shall read as follows: PROVIDED, THAT SUCH EXTENSION
 SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE TERM LIMITS PROVIDED IN SECTION 10
 OF THIS ACT;
- On page 6, line 48, after the word "Presidency", insert a comma (,) and the phrase AND SHALL ENSURE THE APPOINTMENT OR REAPPOINTMENT OF A PRESIDENT ON OR BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF THE TERM;
- On page 8, line 50, to page 9, line 9, delete the entire Section 20 and replace it with the following:
 - SEC. 20. LOAN OR TRANSFER OF SUPPLIES, APPARATUSES, OR EQUIPMENT, OR DETAIL OF PERSONNEL TO THE BULSU. HEADS OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND INSTRUMENTALITIES MAY, UPON THE REQUEST OF THE BOARD THROUGH THE PRESIDENT OF THE BULSU, LOAN OR TRANSFER SUPPLIES, APPARATUSES, OR EQUIPMENT, OR DETAIL PERSONNEL TO THE UNIVERSITY: PROVIDED,

THAT SUCH LOAN, TRANSFER OR DETAIL SHALL NOT BE DETRIMENTAL TO PUBLIC SERVICE.

THE PERSONNEL TO BE DETAILED TO THE UNIVERSITY SHALL PERFORM SUCH DUTIES AS MAY BE DEEMED REQUIRED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE BULSU AND THE TIME SPENT FOR SUCH DUTIES SHALL BE COUNTED AS PART OF THE DETAILED PERSONNEL'S REGULAR SERVICE.

• To amend the title of the bill, which shall now read as follows:

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE BULACAN STATE UNIVERSITY, EXPANDING ITS CURRICULAR OFFERINGS AND THE COMPOSITION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Approved on Second Reading

14. House Bill No. 7397 under Committee Report No. 114

An Act Establishing in the City of Ligao, Province of Albay, a College of Veterinary Medicine of the Bicol University, to be Known as the Bicol University–College of Veterinary Medicine, and Appropriating Funds Therefor

Sponsor: Sen. Francis G. Escudero

Committee Amendments

- On page 1, lines 15 to 16, delete the phrase "The implementation of the DVM program shall be in accordance with" and replace it with the phrase THE GOVERNANCE OF THE COLLEGE SHALL BE VESTED IN THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE BU (THE BOARD), WHOSE POWERS ARE DEFINED UNDER;
- On the same page, lines 17 to 20, replace the comma (,) after the word "Purposes" with a period (.), delete the phrase "and existing provisions of the Bicol University Code of 2016, particularly Chapter II, Section 4, which allows the Bicol University, through its Board of Regents, to promulgate and implement programs, projects and activities", and replace it with the phrase THE DVM PROGRAM, AND ALL PROGRAMS, PROJECTS, AND ACTIVITIES TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE COLLEGE SHALL BE;
- On page 2, lines 1 to 7, delete the entire Section 4 and replace it with the following:

 SEC. 4. COMPLIANCE WITH CHED REQUIREMENTS. THE BU, PRIOR TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COLLEGE AND THE OFFERING OF NEW AND REVISED COURSES AND PROGRAMS RELATED THERETO, SHALL ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPLICABLE POLICIES, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES OF THE CHED.

• On the same page, lines 9 to 18, delete the entire Section 5 and replace it with the following:

SEC. 5. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS AND ADMISSION. - THE COLLEGE SHALL PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS AND OTHER AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PROGRAMS TO ASSIST POOR BUT DESERVING STUDENTS WHO QUALIFY FOR ADMISSION TO THE COLLEGE. STUDENTS AVAILING THEMSELVES OF NATIONALLY-FUNDED SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS TO COMPLETE THE DVM PROGRAM UNDER THE COLLEGE SHALL BE REQUIRED TO RENDER A RETURN SERVICE AS PROVIDED FOR BY APPLICABLE LAWS AND REGULATIONS, OR THE CONTRACT TO BE SIGNED BETWEEN THE STUDENT AND THE COLLEGE.

NO STUDENT SHALL BE DENIED ADMISSION TO THE COLLEGE BY REASON OF SEX, GENDER, RELIGION, CULTURAL OR COMMUNITY AFFILIATION, PHYSICAL DISABILITY, ETHNIC ORIGIN, OR ANY OTHER FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION.

Approved on Second Reading

15. House Bill No. 7398 under Committee Report No. 115

An Act Establishing the Southern Luzon State University–Catanauan Campus–College of Veterinary Medicine, and Appropriating Funds Therefor

Sponsor: Sen. Francis G. Escudero

Committee Amendments

- On page 1, lines 17 to 18, delete the phrase "The DVM program shall be implemented by the Board of Trustees in accordance with" and insert the phrase THE GOVERNANCE OF THE COLLEGE SHALL BE VESTED IN THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SLSU (THE BOARD), WHOSE POWERS ARE DEFINED UNDER;
- On page 2, lines 1 to 8, delete the entire Section 4 and replace with the following:
 - SEC. 4. COMPLIANCE WITH CHED REQUIREMENTS. THE SLSU, PRIOR TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COLLEGE AND THE OFFERING OF NEW AND REVISED COURSES AND PROGRAMS RELATED THERETO, SHALL ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPLICABLE POLICIES, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES OF THE CHED.
- On the same page, line 10, insert a new Section 5 to read as follows:
 - SEC. 5. SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS AND ADMISSION. THE COLLEGE SHALL PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS AND OTHER AFFIRMATIVE ACTION PROGRAMS TO ASSIST POOR BUT DESERVING STUDENTS WHO QUALIFY FOR ADMISSION TO THE COLLEGE. STUDENTS AVAILING

THEMSELVES OF NATIONALLY-FUNDED SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS TO COMPLETE THE DVM PROGRAM UNDER THE COLLEGE SHALL BE REQUIRED TO RENDER A RETURN SERVICE AS PROVIDED FOR BY APPLICABLE LAWS AND REGULATIONS, OR THE CONTRACT TO BE SIGNED BETWEEN THE STUDENT AND THE COLLEGE.

NO STUDENT SHALL BE DENIED ADMISSION TO THE COLLEGE BY REASON OF SEX, GENDER, RELIGION, CULTURAL OR COMMUNITY AFFILIATION, PHYSICAL DISABILITY, ETHNIC ORIGIN, OR ANY OTHER FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION.

Approved on Second Reading

16. Senate Bill No. 2224 under Committee Report No. 70

An Act Introducing Administrative Tax Reforms, Amending Sections 21, 22, 34, 51, 56, 57, 58, 76, 77, 81, 90, 91, 103, 106, 108, 109, 110, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 128, 200, 204, 236, 237, 241, 242, 243, 245, 248, and 269 of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as Amended, and for Other Purposes

Sponsor: Sen. Win Gatchalian

Amendments of Senator Gatchalian

Senator Gatchalian proposed, and the Body approved, the following individual amendments, among others:

- On Section 15, amending Section 108 of the NIRC, page 14, line 13, before Section 16, insert a new paragraph (c) to read as follows:
 - (C) SALES ALLOWANCES AND SALES DISCOUNTS. THE VALUE OF SERVICES RENDERED FOR WHICH ALLOWANCES WERE GRANTED BY A VAT-REGISTERED PERSON, MAY BE DEDUCTED FROM THE GROSS SALES FROM THE QUARTER IN WHICH A REFUND IS MADE OR A CREDIT MEMORANDUM OR REFUND IS ISSUED. SALES DISCOUNT GRANTED AND INDICATED IN THE INVOICE AT THE TIME OF SALE AND THE GRANT OF WHICH DOES NOT DEPEND UPON THE HAPPENING OF A FUTURE EVENT MAY BE EXCLUDED FROM THE GROSS SALES WITHIN THE SAME QUARTER IT WAS GIVEN.
- On page 16, line 4, before the word "RECEIVABLES", insert the word UNCOLLECTED.
- On page 16, lines 4 to 5, after the word "RECEIVABLES", delete the second phrase "CONSIDERED AS BAD DEBTS IN ACCORDANCE TO SECTION 34(E) OF THIS CODE" and the comma (,).
- On page 16, line 6, after the words "OUTPUT VAT", replace the phrase "DURING THE PERIOD WHEN THE SAID BAD DEBTS WERE WRITTEN OFF", with the phrase ON THE NEXT QUARTER, AFTER THE LAPSE OF THE AGREED UPON PERIOD TO PAY.

- On page 16, lines 10 to 11, replace the phrase "BAD DEBT WRITTEN OFF" with the phrase UNCOLLECTED RECEIVABLES.
- On page 16, lines 14 to 15, replace the phrase "BAD DEBT PREVIOUSLY WRITTEN OFF" with the phrase UNCOLLECTED RECEIVABLES.

Manifestation of Senator Villanueva

Senator Villanueva expressed his gratitude to Senator Gatchalian for accepting his amendments.

Amendments of Senator Gatchalian

Senator Gatchalian proposed, and the Body approved, the following individual amendments, among others:

- On page 39, line 11, after the colon (:), insert the phrase *PROVIDED*, FURTHER, THAT THE SELLER SHALL ISSUE SALE OR COMMERCIAL INVOICES WHEN THE BUYER SO REQUIRES REGARDLESS OF THE AMOUNT OF THE TRANSACTION.
- On the same page 39, line 21, after the word "That", insert the phrase THE AGGREGATE SALES AMOUNT AT THE END OF THE DAY IS AT LEAST FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (PhP500), and followed by a colon (:) and the words PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT.

Amendments of Senator Pimentel

Senator Pimentel proposed, and the Body approved, the following individual amendments, among others:

- On page 48, line 12, delete and replace the word "Incentives" in the section title, with CONCESSIONS, to read as follows: Special CONCESSIONS for Certain Taxpayers.
- On page 48, lines 13 to 14, delete the phrase "with total assets not exceeding Twenty million pesos (P20,000,000.00) who are".
- On page 48, line 20, paragraph (c), delete and replace the word "fifteen" with TEN; and the figure "(15%)" to be changed to (10%).
- Still on page 48, line 22, paragraph (d), delete and replace the word "twenty" with FIFTY, and then the figure "(20%)" also to be replaced by 50%.

Approved on Second Reading

17. Committee Report No. 92

Privilege Speech of Senate President Juan Miguel F. Zubiri, Delivered on March 1, 2023, on the Death of Adamson Student John Matthew Salilig

Sponsor: Sen. Francis "Tol" Tolentino

Interpellation of Senator Pimentel

Senator Pimentel commended Senator Tolentino for his quick and efficient action on the issue of hazing raised by Senate President Zubiri in his privilege speech, and for filing a very comprehensive 70-page report.

Senator Pimentel inquired on the recommendations contained in the report that would prevent a similar situation from happening again, and that would give justice to the victims.

Senator Tolentino responded that his Committee came out with a committee report and two Senate bills— Senate Bill Nos. 2270 and 2271.

Senator Tolentino noted that Senate Bill No. 2270 would entail:

1) amendment of Section 3 of Republic Act No. 7722, otherwise known as an Act Creating the Commission on Higher Education, among others.

He stated on of the recommendations was to give the CHED the additional power to impose the payment of a fine in the amount of P5,000,000 on any school that fails to conduct the orientation program required by law.

2) Creation of a Hazing Victims Trust Fund under sec. 11 of the bill.

Senator Tolentino explained that the trust fund would come from the fines imposed on institutions of higher learning that failed to comply with the requirements and that it would be used to answer for several expenditures that would be entailed by the victims.

Senate Bill No. 2271, according to Senator Tolentino, seeks to amend sections 4, 5, 6, 8, and 14 of Republic Act No. 11053, otherwise known as the Anti-Hazing Act. He said that the bill would make fraternities, sororities, and other organizations jointly and solidarily liable to families of the victims by making them pay the amount of P20,000,000 for any death or physical injuries that result from any initiation activities of their organization. The fraternity/sorority shall likewise shoulder the litigation fees of the victim's family, and any death or physical injury brought about by the initiation activities of a fraternity, sorority, or other organization will cause the automatic cancellation of their SEC certificate of registration.

Under the same bill, Senator Tolentino stated that the schools are mandated to accept their *loco parentis* job in exercising supervision whether or not they recognize the sorority or fraternity as an organization.

Moreover, in recognizing academic freedom, the schools are not allowed to expel a student for being a mere member of a fraternity or sorority. There has got to be a violent act initiated by the student that would merit his dismissal. Senator Tolentino also stated that the proposed measures would allow the registration of fraternities and sororities in the school's roster of recognized organizations and make participation in the planning and actual conduct of hazing as grounds for dismissal.

Lastly, Senator Tolentino noted that another recommendation under Senate Bill No. 2271 is to require the organizations to register in the local police station having jurisdiction over the school and to provide the names of officers and members of each fraternity or sorority or other organizations. Failure or refusal of the organization to comply with this requirement shall be *prima facie* presumption of the organization's illegal activities.

Adoption of Recommendations in Committee Report No. 92

Motion of Senator Villanueva to create a subcommittee of the Committee on Games and Amusement to hear Proposed Senate Resolution No. 799, with Sen. Raffy T. Tulfo as chairperson

(Resolution Directing the Senate Committee on Games and Amusement to Undertake an Inquiry, in Aid of Legislation, to Review Existing Laws and Regulations Governing Casino Customers in the Philippines)

Motion of Senator Villanueva to create a subcommittee of the Committee on Ways and Means to hear Senate Bill No. 2374, with Sen. Raffy T. Tulfo, as chairperson

(Prohibiting the online placing of bets for all lotto games and all instant paper games)

The session was adjourned at 7:22 pm.