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Vol. II

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

NO. 25

SATURDAY, JULY 17, 1971

OPENING OF THE SESSION

At 11:10 a.m., the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, Honorable Jose J. Roy, called the Senate to order.

The PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE. The session is called to order. The Secretary will please call the roll.

ROLL CALL DISPENSED WITH

Senator TOLENTINO. Mr. President, I move that we dispense with the roll call.

The PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE. Is there any objection? (*Silence.*) There being none, the motion is approved.

The Secretary will now please read the *Minutes* of the preceding session.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Senator TOLENTINO. Mr. President, I move that we dispense with the reading of the *Minutes* of the preceding session and consider the same as approved.

The PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE. Is there

any objection? (*Silence.*) There being none, the motion is approved. The Secretary will please proceed with the Order of Business.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The SECRETARY:

COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. President:

The Committee on Justice, to which was referred the privileged speech of Senator Sergio Osmeña, Jr., delivered on May 4, 1971, entitled:

"A CASE OF A GOLDEN BUDDHA — A VIOLATION OF CIVIL RIGHTS

has the honor to submit the attached report of its investigation.

SALVADOR H. LAUREL
Chairman
Committee on Justice

EMMANUEL PELAEZ
JOSE W. DIOKNO
LORENZO M. TAÑADA
DOMINADOR R. AYTONA
EVA ESTRADA KALAW
LEONARDO B. PEREZ
HELENA Z. BENITEZ

LORENZO SUMULONG
AMBROSIO PADILLA
RENE ESPINA
MAMINTAL TAMANO
JOVITO R. SALONGA
GENARO F. MAGSAYSAY
SERGIO OSMEÑA, JR.

the very first bill called to the floor for discussion.

Mr. President, I believe that of all bills so far in this present Congress, this bill has been given the longest period by us for its consideration and now its ultimate approval.

As the gentleman from Negros Oriental said, although he was one of the fathers of this bill, now he cannot recognize this bill. At least, if he has planted a seed, if he is the father, he has his blood there, although he can no longer recognize the features. (*Laughter.*)

Mr. President, I am well aware of the seriousness of the objection to the portion of this bill which is commonly called the Tolentino-Aytona-Pelaez-et-cetera Amendment because, although in this case I would not say I am the father of the idea, at least I planted the seed, but the tree has grown to such proportions that I did not expect it would be this way.

However, I am happy because the idea of a direct sale to the tenant or lessee is something that has been very thoroughly discussed. There was this thorough discussion, because it was something that was new and perhaps, which even I myself did not expect would come up in the course of this legislation. Perhaps, if we had not presented this amendment on direct sale, this bill would have been approved long ago. It was this portion of the bill that proved to be most controversial and therefore merited the longest period of discussion.

But, as I said, although I am aware of the serious constitutional objections that have been raised, considering the laudable objective, I have been willing to take the risk of the constitutionality being questioned to attain the objective that we have set.

Now, Mr. President, before I close, it would be most fitting to call and focus attention to the great job that has been done by the sponsors of this measure. Senators Laurel and Pelaez were

on this floor for many days and many hours exhausting their energies and their patience such that at times, we had to ask for suspension so that tempers may cool down.

I would like to thank them for having ably steered this bill through. I would like to thank the distinguished gentleman from Batangas, Senator Diokno, for his very good contribution to this bill. I would like to thank the distinguished gentleman from Quezon, Senator Tañada, for his valuable suggestions which the sponsors have incorporated into this bill. Although he may not agree with certain aspects of the bill, his contributions are in the bill and they have improved this measure a great deal.

I would like to thank also the members of the Senate for all the contributions, the discussions, the suggestions that they have made to make this bill as it is now. I only hope that when this bill goes down to the House of Representatives, it will be taken in the same spirit that the Senate has taken it. It is in this hope that we close the discussions and consideration of this bill, the first bill in the regular session, the last bill in this special session.

I vote in favor of this bill, Mr. President.

APPOINTMENT OF A CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON SENATE BILL No. 478

Senator TOLENTINO. Mr. President, when this bill goes to the House of Representatives, in the event that the House of Representatives cannot concur completely with this bill and they might have their own version on a similar matter, I move that in case of a conference our conferees shall be Senators Laurel, Pelaez, Aytona, Lagumbay and Aquino.

The PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE. Is there any objection? (*Silence.*) There being none, the Committee is constituted.

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ON HOUSE BILL No. 3044

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Senator TOLENTINO. Mr. President, we have some conference reports to submit. The Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to House Bill No. 3044 on the Population Commission has already submitted its report. The House Bill was adopted with some amendments in the Conference Report. I move that we approve the Conference Committee Report.

The PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE. Is there any objection? (*Silence.*) There being none, the conference committee report is approved.

The following is the text of the Conference Committee on House Bill No. 3044:

CONFERENCE REPORT

The Committee on Conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to House Bill No. 3044 entitled:

"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL POLICY ON POPULATION, CREATING THE COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

having met, after full and free conference have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

THAT HOUSE BILL NO. 3044 AS PASSED BY THE HOUSE BE ADOPTED WITH THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENTS:

1. On page 1, lines 5-10, after the word "development" and comma (,), in line 5, delete all the words to the word "growth" in line 10 and in lieu thereof, substitute the following words: "INCREASING THE SHARE OF EACH FILIPINOS IN THE FRUITS OF ECONOMIC PROGRESS AND MEETING THE GRAVE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHALLENGE OF A HIGH RATE OF POPULATION GROWTH, A NATIONAL PROGRAM OF FAMILY PLANNING WHICH RESPECTS THE RELIGIOUS BELIEFS OF THE INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED SHALL BE UNDERTAKEN."

2. On page 2, line 22, after the word "welfare" and "comma", insert the following words: "THE COMMISSIONER OF NATIONAL INTEGRATION, THE PRESIDENTIAL ARM ON COMMUNITY DE-

VELOPENT,".

3. On page 3, line 1, between the words "the" and "Philippines", insert the word "FOLLOWING" and "COLON" (:).

4. On page 3, line 3, after the word "Association" and between the "comma" and the word "Family", delete the word "and".

5. On page 3, line 4, after the word "Philippines", place a "COMMA" and add the words "THE RESPONSIBLE PARENTHOOD COUNCIL": and immediately following on the same line, delete the entire phrase from the word "and" up to the word "Clubs", in line 5 and in lieu thereof, insert the words "AND THE INSTITUTE OF MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH."

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT ON HOUSE BILL NO. 3127

Senator TOLENTINO. The Conference Committee on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to House Bill No. 3127, an amendment to the Charter of the City of Tagbilaran has submitted its report. It practically adopts the bill as amended by the Senate. I move for the approval of the report.

The PRESEIDENT PRO TEMPORE. Is there any objection? (*Silence.*) There being none, the Conference Committee Report on House Bill No. 3127 is approved.

The following is the text of the conference committee report on House Bill No. 3127:

CONFERENCE REPORT

The Committee of Conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to H. No. 3127, 7th - C.R.P., entitled:

AN ACT AMENDING THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF TAGBILARAN BY PROVIDING THAT THE HIGHWAY SPECIAL FUND AND OTHER NATIONAL FUNDS ACCRUING TO THE CITY OF TAGBILARAN WHICH ARE INTENDED FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS SHALL BE ADMINISTERED, PROGRAMMED AND DISBURSED BY THE BUREAU OF PUBLIC HIGHWAYS OR THE BUREAU OF PUBLIC WORKS, AS THE CASE