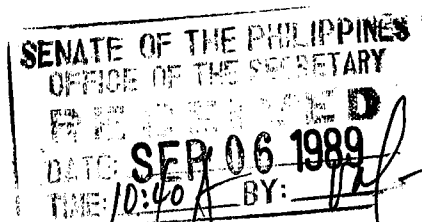


Congress of the Philippines)
Third Regular Session)



S E N A T E

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 744

Submitted by the Committee on Rules on SEP 06 1989,
1989.

Re: Committee Reports 196, 575 and 718

Sponsor: Senator Teofisto T. Guingona, Jr.

Mr. President:

The Committee on Rules is called upon to resolve the issue of identical/similar bills filed covering the same subject matter.

Where the appropriate committee to which such bills have been referred has consolidated the diverse measures in a report - and a subsequent bill is filed by a senator, or a similar measure is received from the House of Representatives, already passed by said Chamber - how will the Senate consider them?

Our present rules simply state:

"Section 28. Whenever two or more matters shall have been designated for consideration, as a special order, they shall be considered successively, unless a majority of the Senators present decides otherwise."

In the case at hand, Committee Report No. 196 and 718 were in the Calendar for Special Orders. But a third bill, House No. 23614 was received from the House while the Senate Bill was already in the Calendar for Special Orders.

Legislative precedents both here and abroad provide further answers:

1. In 1962, while the Senate was considering Senate Bill No. 266, (entitled, "An Act to Provide for Cost of Living and Christmas Allowances for Government Employees."), the House Bill, House Bill No. 146, was received. Thereafter, the House bill was consolidated

in Senate Bill No. 266 on the floor.

2. The practice in the US Senate is as follows:

"A House-passed bill maybe considered without reference to a committee when a companion Senate bill has been reported and is on the Calendar."
(December 10, 1941, 77-1, Journal, p. 476, Record, p.9607)

THE COMMITTEE THEREFORE, RECOMMENDS THAT:

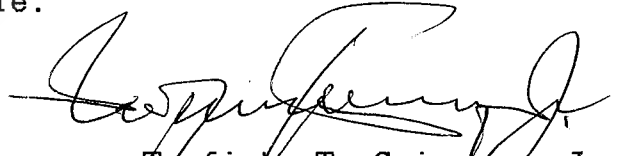
1. Any certified bill be first referred to the Committee on Rules for appropriate action.

2. All identical/similar bills covering the same subject matter be resolved by the corresponding committee to whom the bills have been referred to. In case the committee cannot resolve, the same goes to the Committee on Rules for final Resolution;


3. Authorship of bills is determined in accordance with the rules - but pursuant to Sec. 24, Article VI of the Constitution, "All appropriation, revenue or tariff bills, bills authorizing increase of the public debt, bills of local application, and private bills shall originate exclusively in the House of Representatives."

4. Any Senator has the right to file any bill but if it covers the same subject matter of a bill already reported out or under consideration, he can either introduce the same as amendment or go to the Committee on Rules for final disposition.

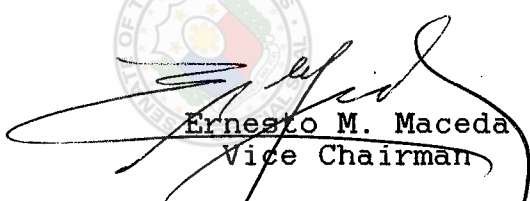

5. Only one basic bill shall be considered in the plenary session and the bills covered by later reports may be laid on the table.



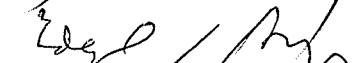
Teofiszo T. Guingona, Jr.
Chairman



Mamintal A. J. Tamano
Vice-Chairman



Ernesto M. Maceda
Vice Chairman



Edgardo J. Angara

Neptali A. Gonzales

Orlando S. Mercado

Orlando S. Mercado

Alberto G. Romulo

Alberto G. Romulo

Juan Ponce Enrile (with reservations)

Juan Ponce Enrile
Minority Floor Leader

Sotero H. Laurel

Sotero H. Laurel
President Pro-Tempore

Hon. Jovito R. Salonga
Senate President

