

El PRESIDENTE. Al calendario de asuntos ordinarios.

El SECRETARIO:

(Informe Número 971)

Mr. PRESIDENT:

The Committee on Health to which was referred H. No. 2882, introduced by Congressmen Enverga, Ladrado, Gustilo, Tan, Mitra, Laurel IV, Trono, Reyes, Legaspi, Encinas, Cuenco, Yancha, Agudo, Congresswoman Ziga, Congressmen Eugenio, and Ubay, entitled:

"The Medical Act of 1959",

has considered the same and has the honor to report it back to the Senate with the following recommendation:

That the same be approved with the following amendments:

1. On page 2, line 17, after the words "any compensation" delete the word "nor" and insert in lieu thereof the words EXCEPT FOR.
2. On same page, line 18, after the word "expense" add the following: IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR OFFICIAL DUTIES AS HEREIN PROVIDED.
3. On page 9, line 11, after the word "thereof, change the comma (,) to a semicolon (;) and delete the rest of the sentence up to the word "country" on line 13.
4. On page 9, line 16, after the words "mental or", change the word "physical" to PSYCHICAL.
5. On page 21, lines 7 to 18—After the period (.) on line 7, eliminate the rest of the paragraph from the word "Advertising" up to the words "unethical advertisements".
6. On page 22, line 23, after the word "After" delete the word "five" and insert in lieu thereof the word "two".

Respectfully submitted,

(Sgd.) PEDRO R. SABIDO
Chairman
Committee on Health

The Honorable
THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE
Manila

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Senator PRIMICIAS. Mr. President, the gentleman from Cebú, Senator Cuenco, would like to make use of the privilege hour. I ask that he be recognized.

The PRESIDENT. The Chair wishes to make a statement in the sense that after the gentleman from Cebú shall have spoken it cannot grant any more use of the privilege hour. In fact, our Rules do not allow it ten days before the adjournment of the session; but, since Senator Cuenco has been sick for a few days, we do not want to deprive him of the opportunity to deliver his privilege speech.

The gentleman from Cebú is recognized.

MANIFESTACIONES DEL SEN. CUENCO

Senator CUENCO. Mr. President, during the consideration by this Chamber of the Tolentino Anti-Graft Bill, the illustrious gentleman from Manila requested that the contents of the White Paper be revealed as these will provide the best argument for the enactment into law of the measure submitted by him. The illustrious President of the Senate, author of the famous document, acceded to the request. Later on, however, he disclosed that he could not comply with his promise due to the fact that the only copy that he had was delivered to the President of the Philippines.

The approval by this House of the Tolentino measure was unanimous. Due to the pressure of time, the gentleman from Manila believed that unless his bill be certified as urgent, both Chambers of Congress would not be able to act on the measure for the reason that the printing and the period of time required by the Constitution to vote on the bill on third reading would require days, and there are only a few remaining session days. In view of these circumstances, the gentleman from Manila requested a presidential certification of urgency. Upon being informed of the desire of the gentleman from Manila the President of the Philippines released in Baguio a statement that he could not certify the urgency of the bill because it contains provisions which, according to him, are oppressive. The President made special reference to the portion of the bill which, under certain conditions, would allow a private citizen to file criminal complaint against any corrupt official. The reason given by the President is not well-taken. The Tolentino bill provides that, before the filing of a criminal complaint by a private citizen, a preliminary investigation shall be undertaken by the presiding judge, aside from prescribing a stiff penalty of imprisonment and payment of damages for any malicious complaint.

The attitude taken by the President of the Philippines provoked condemnation from the metropolitan press and radio commentators. Yielding later on half-way to the demand of public opinion, the President of the Philippines certified to the urgency of the Tolentino bill and of another measure of the same nature approved by the Lower House. However, in so doing, he insisted in his objections to the bill as aired in his statement made in Baguio.