

RECORD OF THE SENATE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2001

OPENING OF THE SESSION

At 3:54 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Franklin M. Drilon, called the session to order.

The President. The 37th session of the First Regular Session of the Twelfth Congress is hereby called to order.

Let us all stand for the opening prayer to be led by Sen. Gregorio B. Honasan.

Everybody rose for the prayer.

PRAYER

Senator Honasan. Thank you, Mr. President.

This is based on the book Leadership Prayers by Richard Kriebaum.

Dear Heavenly Father,

Help us to agree on what is true about who we are and where we are so that we may agree on where to go and the best way to get there. Though we will not all look at our situations in the same way, help us to see the same reality and agree on its meaning for us, whether or not we like what we see. Otherwise, we will waste precious time and energy arguing from different assumptions.

It is a wonder why You made us so diverse but that in itself is part of what we must understand. This wonderful range of reactions and feelings about everything helps us excel—as long as You inspire us to respect each other.

Somehow, dear God, in all our differences, and despite all the informational vagaries, please give us shared vision. Lead our spirit to the truth about our nation’s condition so that we can describe it in a way that brings us to consensus and action.

Some of us cannot see the truth because we fear it. Some of us invest heavily in another view, and we may feel ashamed if it turns out wrong. Some of us actually work to build a different world and do not want it to change.

We know the truth will triumph in the long run, but we need to see it clearly enough to act wisely. Lord, help us to understand our hopes and dreams accurately so that we do not waste this opportunity for greatness. We

seek the truth so that we may be set free to pursue our mission for our people.

Please help us discover the truth in ourselves and You.

In Jesus’ Mighty Name, we pray.

Amen.

ROLL CALL

The President. The Secretary will please call the roll.

The Secretary, reading:

- Senator Edgardo J. Angara Present
Senator Teresa Aquino-Oreta Present
Senator Joker P. Arroyo Present
Senator Robert Z. Barbers *
Senator Rodolfo G. Biazon Present
Senator Renato L. Compañero Cayetano Present
Senator Noli “Kabayan” L. De Castro Present
Senator Luisa “Loi” P. Ejercito Estrada Present
Senator Juan M. Flavier **
Senator Gregorio B. Honasan Present
Senator Robert S. “JAWO” Jaworski Present
Senator Panfilo M. Lacson Present
Senator Loren B. Legarda Leviste Present
Senator Ramon B. Magsaysay Jr. Present*
Senator Blas F. Ople **
Senator John Henry R. Osmeña Present
Senator Sergio R. Osmeña III Present
Senator Francis N. Pangilinan Present
Senator Aquilino Q. Pimentel Jr. Present
Senator Ralph G. Recto Present
Senator Ramon B. Revilla Present
Senator Vicente C. Sotto III Present
Senator Manuel B. Villar Jr. Present
The President Present

The President. With 20 senators present, there is a quorum.

Senator Legarda Leviste. Mr. President.

The President. The Majority Leader is recognized.

THE JOURNAL

Senator Legarda Leviste. Mr. President, I move that we dispense with the reading of the Journal of the 36th session.

* Arrived after the roll call

** On official mission

**MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR LEGARDA LEVISTE
(Senator Sotto as Member of Congressional Oversight
Committee on Anti-Money Laundering Law
to Replace Senator Pimentel)**

Senator Legarda Leviste. Mr. President, may I manifest the membership of Sen. Vicente Sotto III in the Congressional Oversight Committee on the Anti-Money Laundering Law in place of Sen. Aquilino Q. Pimentel Jr.

There are currently seven members—three from the Minority—Sen. Aquilino Q. Pimentel Jr., Sen. Edgardo J. Angara and Sen. Sergio R. Osmeña III. There has been a request to include Senator Sotto and to replace Senator Pimentel.

The President. All right. Approved.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

Senator Legarda Leviste. Mr. President, I move that we suspend the session for one minute.

The President. The session is suspended for one minute, if there is no objection. *[There was none.]*

It was 4:07 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 4:42 p.m., the session was resumed.

The President. The session is resumed.

**BILL ON SECOND READING
S. No. 1824 — Optional ROTC Program
(Continuation)**

Senator Legarda Leviste. Mr. President, I move that we resume consideration of Senate Bill No. 1824 as reported out under Committee Report No. 3.

The President. Is there any objection? *[Silence]* There being none, resumption of consideration of Senate Bill No. 1824 is now in order.

Senator Legarda Leviste. Mr. President, I move that we recognize Sen. Renato L. Compañero Cayetano. We are now in the period of committee amendments.

The President. Sen. Renato L. Cayetano, the principal sponsor, is recognized for the period of committee amendments.

Senator Cayetano. Thank you, Mr. President.

On behalf of the Committee on National Defense and Security; and the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture, we are pleased to read into the *Record* the following committee amendments;

First, Mr. President, the title of the Act. Our committee amendments is to completely delete the original title of the Act and instead substitute the following title.

SUSPENSION OF SESSION

The President. May we have a one-minute suspension of the session, if there is no objection? *[There was none.]*

It was 4:44 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF SESSION

At 5:02 p.m., the session was resumed.

The President. The session is resumed. The Majority Leader is recognized.

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF S. NO. 1824

Senator Legarda Leviste. Mr. President, I move that we suspend consideration of Senate Bill No. 1824.

The President. Is there any objection? *[Silence]* There being none, the motion is approved.

Senator Legarda Leviste. Mr. President, for the privilege hour, I ask that we recognize Sen. Panfilo M. Lacson.

The President. For the privilege hour, Sen. Panfilo M. Lacson is recognized.

**PRIVILEGE SPEECH OF SENATOR LACSON
(Her Excellency, Her Helplessness)**

Senator Lacson. Mr. President, I rise again on a very urgent matter. This is not to wage war against fellow senators, all of whom I hold in the highest respect. It is rather to urge them to have a second look at the moral hypocrisy of this administration.

The Arroyo administration was constructed on sound moral foundation. This was loud proclamation of Her Excellency, President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo. Her speeches at EDSA and in Malacañang and other fora are there for all to see.

In fact, in many occasions, President Gloria preached her fourfold belief system, her eightfold standards of good governance and her three pillars of ruling this nation. Let me recite all of them for the nation to hear and heed.