

RECORD OF THE SENATE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2003

ROLL CALL

OPENING OF THE SESSION

At 3:56 p.m., the Senate President, Hon. Franklin M. Drilon, called the session to order.

The President. The 22nd session of the Senate in the Third Regular Session of the Twelfth Congress is hereby called to order.

Let us all stand for the opening prayer to be led by Sen. Joker P. Arroyo.

After the prayer, the Senate Choir will lead us in the singing of the national anthem. The Choir will also render a song, entitled *Tagumpay Nating Lahat*.

Everybody rose for the prayer.

PRAYER

Senator Arroyo.

The election season has prematurely started.

The Senate inevitably will be drawn into the political fever.

Despite internal conflicts so natural in a deliberative body, we need Your help and guidance, O Lord, that in the midst of all these, we can be united for the common good.

When things seem to pull us in a dozen different directions all at once, pushing us to the brink of despair and hopelessness, we believe in Your power, Lord, and Your desire to give us aid;

So come to us, Lord, and join Your helping hands with ours.

Amen.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Everybody remained standing for the singing of the national anthem.

The President. The Chamber expresses its gratitude to the Senate Choir for that beautiful rendition of the Philippine National Anthem and the song, entitled *Tagumpay Nating Lahat*.

Thank you very much.

The Secretary will now please call the roll.

The Secretary, reading:

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| Senator Edgardo J. Angara | Present |
| Senator Teresa Aquino-Oreta | Present |
| Senator Joker P. Arroyo | Present |
| Senator Robert Z. Barbers | Present |
| Senator Rodolfo G. Biazon | Present |
| Senator Noli "Kabayan" de Castro | Present |
| Senator Luisa "Loi" P. Ejercito Estrada | Present |
| Senator Juan M. Flavier | Present |
| Senator Gregorio B. Honasan | Present |
| Senator Robert S. "JAWO" Jaworski | Present |
| Senator Panfilo M. Lacson | Absent |
| Senator Loren B. Legarda | Present |
| Senator Ramon B. Magsaysay Jr. | Present |
| Senator John Henry R. Osmeña | Present |
| Senator Sergio R. Osmeña III | Absent |
| 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 19 senators present, the Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

The Majority Leader is recognized.

THE JOURNAL

Senator Legarda. Mr. President, I move that we dispense with the reading of the *Journal* of the 21st session, September 10, 2003, and consider it approved.

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

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE OFFICIAL VISIT OF THREE JUDGES ASSOCIATIONS

Senator Legarda. We would like to acknowledge the presence of the Philippine Judges Association, the Philippine Trial Judges League, Incorporated, the Metropolitan and City Judges Association of the Philippines, present here in the gallery today.

* Arrived after the roll call

SUSPENSION OF CONSIDERATION OF S. NO. 2660

Senator Legarda. Mr. President, I move that we suspend consideration of Senate Bill No. 2660 under Committee Report No. 311.

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

**MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR LEGARDA
(Sen. Magsaysay as Chairman of Bicameral
Conference Committee on S. No. 2155)**

Senator Legarda. Mr. President, I just want to manifest that Senator Magsaysay will take over the chairmanship of the Bicameral Conference Committee on Senate Bill No. 2155 on the Magna Carta for the Working Child.

I also would like to manifest that he is made an additional conferee since he is the chairman of the committee.

The President. It is so manifested.

**MOTION OF SENATOR LEGARDA
(Senator Magsaysay as Conferee on
S. No. 2553 in Lieu of Senator Pangilinan)**

Senator Legarda. And also, Senator Magsaysay be nominated as a conferee on Senate Bill No. 2553 to take the place of Senator Pangilinan.

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

ADJOURNMENT OF SESSION

Senator Legarda. Mr. President, I move that we adjourn the session until three o'clock tomorrow afternoon, Tuesday, October 7, 2003.

The President. Is there any objection? [*Silence*] There being none, the session is adjourned until three o'clock tomorrow afternoon, Tuesday, October 7, 2003.

It was 6:35 p.m.