

RECORD OF THE SENATE

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1996

April 19, 1996

RESUMPTION OF THE SESSION

At 4:32 p.m., the session was resumed, with the President of the Senate, Hon. Neptali A. Gonzales, presiding.

The President. The session is resumed.

Senator Romulo. Mr. President, may I ask the Secretary to read the Additional Reference of Business.

The President. The Secretary will read the Second Additional Reference of Business.

SECOND ADDITIONAL REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Secretary.

March 26, 1996

Mr. President:

I have been directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives on March 26, 1996 passed House Bill No. 5479, entitled

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7716, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE EXPANDED VALUE-ADDED TAX LAW AND OTHER PERTINENT PROVISIONS OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,

in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) CAMILO L. SABIO
Secretary General

The Honorable
NEPTALI A. GONZALES
President of the Senate
Manila

The President. Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

The Secretary.

Mr. President:

I have been directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives on March 21, 1996 passed House Bill No. 5538, entitled

AN ACT GRANTING THE TANDAG ELECTRIC AND TELEPHONE COMPANY, INC. A FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, MAINTAIN, ESTABLISH AND OPERATE LOCAL EXCHANGE NETWORK IN THE PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE,

to which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) ROBERTO P. NAZARENO
Acting Secretary General

The Honorable
NEPTALI A. GONZALES
President of the Senate
Manila

The President. Referred to the Committee on Public Services.

BILLS ON FIRST READING

The Secretary. Senate Bill No. 1500, entitled

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF FOOD WHEAT TO FEED WHEAT, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR ITS VIOLATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Introduced by Senator Shahani.

The President. Referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Food.

The Secretary. Senate Bill No. 1501, entitled

AN ACT RATIONALIZING THE AVAILMENT OF HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS BY EQUALIZING THE ENJOYMENT OF SAID BENEFITS IN FAVOR OF THE WORKERS FROM THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS AND ESTABLISHING A GOVERNMENT GUARANTEE FUND THEREFOR

Status of the Philippine Financial System for the semester ended December 1995, pursuant to Section 39 (c), Article V of the New Central Bank Act.

The President. Referred to the Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Acting Secretary [Atty. Raval]. Committee Report No. 78, submitted by the Committee on Women and Family Relations on Senate Bill No. 950, introduced by Senators Roco and Shahani, entitled

AN ACT PRESCRIBING A SPECIAL LAW ON RAPE, AMENDING ARTICLE 335 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 3815, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE, RECLASSIFYING THE SAME AS A CRIME AGAINST PERSONS, INSTITUTIONALIZING MEASURES FOR THE RECOVERY OF RAPE VICTIMS AND THE EFFECTIVE PROSECUTION OF OFFENDERS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,

recommending its approval with amendments.

Sponsors: Senators Shahani and Roco.

The President. To the Calendar for Ordinary Business.

The Acting Secretary [Atty. Raval]. Committee Report No. 79, prepared and submitted by the Committee on Public Works on Senate Bill No. 1511, with Senators Shahani, Revilla, and the members of the Committee as authors thereof, entitled

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR COMPULSORY ALLOTMENT FOR ARTWORKS AND LANDSCAPING IN ALL GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, WHETHER NATIONAL OR LOCAL, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES,

recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill No. 545.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla, Shahani, and the members of the Committee on Public Works.

The President. To the Calendar for Ordinary Business.

Senator Romulo. Mr. President.

The President. The Majority Leader is recognized.

BILL ON SECOND READING

S. No. 1283—Strengthening the Promotion, Development and Assistance to Small and Medium Scale Enterprises

Senator Romulo. Mr. President, I move that we consider Senate Bill No. 1283, as reported out under Committee Report No. 50.

The President. Consideration of Senate Bill No. 1283 is now in order.

With the permission of the Body, the Secretary will read only the title of the bill, without prejudice to inserting in the *Record* the whole text thereof.

The Secretary. Senate Bill No. 1283, entitled

AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE PROMOTION, DEVELOPMENT AND ASSISTANCE TO SMALL AND MEDIUM SCALE ENTERPRISES, AMENDING FOR THAT PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6977 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MAGNA CARTA FOR SMALL ENTERPRISES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

The following is the full text of Senate Bill No. 1283:

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 6977 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 3. *Small and Medium Enterprises as Beneficiaries.* - Small and medium enterprise shall be defined as any business activity or enterprise engaged in industry, agribusiness and/or services, whether single proprietorship, cooperative, partnership or corporation whose total assets, inclusive of those arising from loans but exclusive of the land on which the particular business entity's office, plant and equipment are situated, must have value falling under the following categories:

micro	: less than	- P150,000 [P50,000]
cottage	P150,001	- P1,500,000
	[P50,001	- P500,000]
small	P1,500,001	- P15,000,000
	[P500,001	- P5,000,000]
medium	P15,000,001	- P60,000,000
	[P5,000,001	- P20,000,000]