

The Common Legislative Agenda

Eleventh Congress of the Philippines Status Report, 08 February 2001

Title	Objectives	Features	House of Representatives		Senate Status	
			Bill No.	Status		
1. Plant Variety Protection Act	To protect the interest of plant breeders and effect uniform and clearly defined principles on the use of seeds and other planting materials.	Expands the legal rights of developers of new plant varieties and thereby promotes the technological inventions in the agricultural sector. Also institutionalizes the sui generis system of intellectual property rights of plants as mandated by the WTO-Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights Agreement.	HB 10654 (CD726)	Approved on Third Reading	SB 1912	On Second Reading
2. Sustainable Management of Forest Resources	To protect and preserve forest resources.	Delineates the final forest line and stops illegal titling/encroachment of timberland.	HB 12710 (CR 1334)	Approved on Third Reading	SB 1695 (CR 67)	On Second reading (Interpellation)
3. National Land Use Act	To provide the overall framework for the rational allocation, disposition, sustainable utilization and management of land resources for a variety of ecological and economic uses, and to prevent premature conversion of agricultural lands into other uses.	Formulates Physical Framework Plans from the national level down to the cities and municipalities that shall guide the planning processes and defines the indicative uses of land and other physical resources.	HB 170 HB 668 HB 833 HB 1116 HB 1601 HB 1346 HB 1347 HB 4094	Pending in committee	SB 6 SB 170 SB 192 SB 354 SB 408 SB 962 SB 1111 SB 1219 SB 1268 SB 1270	Pending in committee
4. Amendments to the Omnibus Investment code (providing fiscal and non-fiscal incentives to foreign investors)	To rationalize other incentive laws to make them consistent with the government's sectoral approach to industrial development, competitive with the incentive regimes of our neighboring countries and in consideration of government revenue implications.	Grants income tax holidays of up to 12 years for projects with new investment of at least \$500 million or exporting at 70% of production; restores tax and duty-free importation of capital equipment; and grants non-fiscal incentives such as NOLCO, tax credit and the like to those not availing ITH.	HB 10596 (CR 692)	Approved on Third Reading	SB 1844 SB 1713	Pending in committee
5. protection for Layout Design of Integrated Circuits	To promote the transfer of technology into the country which is indispensable in the production of electronic equipment, appliances, gadgets and similar devices for global market and encourage Filipino inventors and manufacturers to venture into information technology and associated	Provides for the protection of layout designs of integrated circuits for eventual registration in the Intellectual Property Office in compliance with the country's commitment under the TRIPS Agreement.	HB 6103 (CR 618)	Approved on Third Reading	SB 1989 (CR 218)	Approved on Second Reading

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	products and technologies.					
6. FY 2001 General Appropriation Bill	To finance the operation of the government.	Realizes the Administration's programs and projects for the poor while ensuring prudence in government spending to restore fiscal health and sustain socio-economic growth and stability.	HB 11995	Approved on Third Reading		Committee Report is ready for Second Reading.
7. Lateral Attrition for Optimum Revenue Collection	To enhance the efficiency of revenue collection by the major revenue collecting agencies of government. Lateral attrition shall be implemented through transfer of past or separation from government service of officers who fail to meet their respective revenue or collection goals for the year.	Implements lateral attrition through transfer or separation from government service of officers who fail to meet their respective revenue or collection goals for the year.	HB 8136 (CR 426)	For enactment	SB 2208	For enactment
8. New Central Bank Act	To enable the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas to further effectively discharge its supervisory powers over banks, quasi-banks and attain optimum operational efficiency with BSP's organization and to complement the provisions of the General Banking Act.	Restores the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas tax exemption and prevents banks from incurring uncollateralized overdraft and strengthens the supervision capacity of BSP.	BH 9427 (CR 595)	On Second Reading (Individual Amendments)	SB 586 (CR 81)	Approved on Third Reading
9. Shift in customs Valuation system	To conform with Philippine International obligations by enacting a WTO-consistent law which will lead to a fair, neutral and uniform system of import procedures thereby facilitating trade and reducing cost of doing business.	Shifts custom system of valuation from home consumption value to transaction value in compliance with WTO-GATT commitment by year 2000.	HB 8623 (475)	For enactment	SB 2196	For Enactment
10. Anti-Trafficking of Filipino Women and Minors	To institute policies toward the prevention of trafficking of Filipino women and minors, establish the necessary institutional mechanism for the protection and support of victims	Defines all forms of trafficking in women and minors and establishes a higher standard of protection and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking, sexual servitude and exploitation,	HB 7199 (CR 252)	Approved on Third reading	SB 25 SB 881 SB 1340 SB 1629	Pending in committee

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	of trafficking and impose penalties for violations.	including commercialized transnational marriages, migration for entertainment; and provides for safety nets.					
11. Anti-child employment in Hazardous Occupation (in light of ILO Convention 182)	To protect children against abuses and exploitation in work-related environment.	Operationalizes the Philippine compliance to ILO Convention 182 requiring decisive action against the worst forms of child labor.	HB 6785 (CR 189)	Approved on Third Reading	SB 1530	Pending in committee	
12. New ARMM Organic Act	To amend certain provisions of RA 6734 in accordance with the Peace Agreement between the Government Of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) towards the attainment of lasting peace in southern Mindanao.	Expands the autonomy and incorporate certain provisions of the Peace Agreement to strengthen the regional autonomous government; among others, it provides for the creation of the Special Regional Security Forces (SRSF) under the PNP, the Regional Economic and Development Planning Board, and an Executive Council.	HB 7883 (CR 387)	For enactment	SB 2129 (CR 393)	For enactment	
13. Deferment of Imposition of VAT on Certain Services	To extend the imposition of VAT from January 2001 to January 2003 on certain services.		HB 12237	RA 1910		RA 1910	
14. Power Sector Reform Bill	To ensure and accelerate the total electrification of the country.		HB 8457 (CR 471)	Pending in Bicam	SB 1620, 1621, 162, 1942	Pending in Bicam	
15. Upgrading the Court of Tax Appeals	To amend and revise RA 1125 giving the Court of Tax Appeals criminal injunction over tax and custom cases, increasing its membership, expanding its organizational set up and raising its level to that of the Court of Appeals.		HB 10621	For enactment	SB 2232 (CR 522)	For enactment	
16. Tariff Rates Adjustment for Certain Tariff Headings	To adjust tariff rates on certain raw materials in order to generate substantial revenue for development programs of government (in compliance with WTO policies).		HB 12662	Approved on Third Reading	HB 12662	Pending in committee	