



ARANGKADA PHILIPPINES

STATUS OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC REFORM LEGISLATION (15th CONGRESS)*

A. REPUBLIC ACTS/ BILLS

I. Enacted into Law

1. ***Financial Rehabilitation and Insolvency Act*** (RA 10142) – lapsed into law July 18, 2010
2. ***GOCC Governance Act*** (RA 10149) – signed June 6, 2011
3. Extending the Implementation of the Lifeline Rate (RA 10150) – signed June 20, 2011
4. **Repeal of Nightwork Prohibition for Women** (RA 10151) – signed June 21, 2011
5. Institutionalizing Kindergarten Education (RA 10157) – signed January 20, 2012

Legend:

Bold - Arangkada recommendation (JFC/PBGs)

Bold and italics – other Arangkada recommendation

Gray Highlight - LEDAC priority measures

** – changes from previous list

*Updated as of December 19, 2012. This list of legislation is a consolidation of important bills of interest to the business community, most of which are currently being considered in the 15th Congress. The compilation of this list in no way implies that all foreign chambers and business groups have approved every measure or even studied all of them. However, *Arangkada* contains a list of 41 measures that the Joint Foreign Chambers and seven Philippine business groups sent to Pres. Aquino, House Speaker Belmonte, and Senate President Enrile in Oct. 2011. In the case of this letter, there was agreement among the 14 groups to support the 41 measures except for the Agri-Agra amendments

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6. Anti-Money Laundering Act Amendments (RA 10167) – signed on June 18, 2012
7. Terrorism Financing Prevention and Suppression Act (RA 10168) – signed on June 18, 2012
8. **Data Privacy Act** (RA 10173) – signed August 15, 2012
9. People Survival Fund (RA 10174) – signed August 16, 2012
10. Cybercrime Prevention Act (RA 10175) – signed September 12, 2012
11. Revised AFP Modernization Act amendments (RA 10349) – signed December 11, 2012
12. Excise Tax on Alcohol, Cigarettes and Tobacco (RA 10351) – signed December 19, 2012

II. Close to Enactment (Approved in Both Houses/For Bicam/Sent to OP)

1. **Creation of the Department of Information and Communications Technology**

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Approved on Third Reading

2. Anti-trafficking Act amendments

House: Bicameral Conference Committee Report ratified**

Senate: Bicameral Conference Committee Report ratified**

3. **Common Carriers Tax/ Gross Philippine Billings Tax Abolition**

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Approved on Third Reading**

4. Conciliation-Mediation as Voluntary Mode of Dispute Settlement (Labor Code amendments)**

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Approved on Third Reading

5. Early Education bill

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Approved on Third Reading

6. Enforced or Involuntary Disappearance

House: Sent to the Office of the President**

Senate: Sent to the Office of the President**

7. **Reproductive Health Bill**

House: Bicam conference committee report ratified**

Senate: Bicam conference committee report ratified**

8. Strengthening Tripartism (Labor Code amendments)**
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Approved on Third Reading
9. **WIPO Copyright Treaty (Intellectual Property Act Amendments)**
House: Bicameral Conference Committee Report ratified**
Senate: Bicameral Conference Committee Report ratified**

III. Approved on Third Reading

1. **AMLA Amendment**
House: 1st part – Enacted into Law
 2nd part – Approved on Third Reading**
Senate: 1st part – Enacted into Law
 2nd part – Pending Second Reading
2. Career Executive System - re-filed
House: Pending Civil Service Committee
Senate: Approved on Third Reading
3. **Customs Modernization and Tariffs Act**
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending in Ways and Means Committee
4. Creation of the Department of Housing
House: Pending Second Reading
Senate: Approved on Third Reading
5. **Design Competitiveness****
House: Transmitted to Appropriations Committee
Senate: Approved on Third Reading
6. **Direct Remittance to LGUs of their 40% share from National Wealth Taxes**
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Under Local Government Committee Deliberation
7. **Enhancing the Curriculum of Basic Education (12 year)**
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Approved on Second Reading**
8. **Freedom of Access to Information**
House: Pending Second Reading**
Senate: Approved on Third Reading**

9. Insurance Code Amendments
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading

10. ***Institutionalizing the National Land Use Policy***
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading (Period of Amendments)**

11. ***Lemon Law***
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Under Trade and Commerce Committee deliberation

12. ***Plastic Bag Regulation Act***
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending in Trade and Commerce Committee

13. **Rationalization of Fiscal Incentives**
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation

14. Real Property Valuation
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending in Ways and Means Committee

15. **Regulating Profession - Environmental Planning**
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading

16. **Regulating Profession - Forestry**
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending in Civil Service Committee

17. ***Rural Bank Act Amendments***
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading (Interpellation)

18. ***Sustainable Forest Management***
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Under Environment TWG deliberation

19. ***Universal Healthcare Coverage***
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading (For interpellation)

20. **Whistle Blowers Protection Act**
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading (Interpellation)

21. **Witness Protection, Security and Benefit Act**
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading (Interpellation)

IV. Approved on Second Reading

1. **Regulating Profession - Criminology**
House: Approved on Second Reading**
Senate: Draft CR for filing

V. Pending Second Reading

1. **BSP Charter Amendments**
House: Pending Second Reading
Senate: Under Banks Committee Deliberation

2. **Fair Competition Law/ Anti-trust**
House: Pending Second Reading (Approval re-considered)
Senate: Pending Second Reading (For interpellation)

3. **LPG Industry Regulation and Safety Act**
House: Pending Second Reading (Approval re-considered)
Senate: Under Trade and Commerce Committee Deliberation

4. **Regulating Profession - Pharmacy**
House: Draft Committee Report for Filing
Senate: Pending Second Reading

V. Approved at Committee Level

1. **Land Administration and Reform Act**
House: Transmitted to the Appropriations Committee
Senate: Pending in Environment and Natural Resources Committee

VI. Under TWG Deliberation

1. **Anti-smuggling**
House: Under Ways and Means TWG deliberation
Senate: Pending in Ways and Means Committee

2. **Build-Operate-Transfer Law Amendments**
House: Under Public Works TWG deliberation
Senate: Pending in Public Works Committee

3. **CIQ Amendment**
House: Under Justice TWG deliberation
Senate: Under Justice TWG deliberation

4. **Farm Land as Collateral**
House: Under Agrarian Reform TWG deliberation
Senate: Pending in Agrarian Reform Committee

5. **NFA Reorganization**
House: Under Government Enterprises TWG deliberation
Senate: Pending in Government Corporations Committee

6. **Government Procurement Act Amendments**
House: Under Appropriations TWG deliberation
Senate: Pending in Constitutional Amendments, Revision of Code and Laws Committee

7. **Milk Code**
House: Under Health and Trade Committee TWG deliberation
Senate: Pending in Health Committee

8. **Water Sector Reform**
House: Under Government Reorganization TWG deliberation
Senate: Under Public Services Sub-committee on Water deliberation

VII. Under Committee Deliberation

1. ***Constitutional Amendments on Economic Provisions***
House: Under Constitutional Amendments Committee deliberation
Senate: No bill/resolution filed

2. **Fiscal Responsibility**
House: Pending in Appropriations Committee
Senate: Under Finance Committee deliberation

BILLS REQUIRING SUBSTANTIAL RECONSIDERATION

1. **Corporate Social Responsibility**
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading

2. Security of Tenure
House: Pending Second Reading
Senate: Draft Committee Report pending Labor Committee approval
3. Value Added Simplified Tax
House: Pending Second Reading
Senate: No bill filed
4. Bills Declaring Non-working Holidays
 - a. Chinese New Year
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Approved on Second Reading (Senate version amended as Special Working Holiday)**
 - b. Iglesia ni Kristo Day
House: Pending in Revision of Laws Committee
Senate: Pending in Education, Arts and Culture Committee
 - c. Declaring National Victory and Liberation Day
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: No bill filed
 - d. Declaring National Women's day as a non-working holiday
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: No bill filed
5. Workers' Rights to Self-Organization (Labor Code amendments)
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading

OTHER PRIORITY LEGISLATION

1. **Foreign Investments Act Amendments**
House: No bill filed
Senate: Pending in Trade and Commerce Committee
2. **Retail Trade Act Amendments**
House: No bill filed
Senate: Resolution Under Trade Committee Deliberation
3. **Clean Air Act Amendment**
House: Under Ecology TWG deliberation
Senate: No bill filed

4. **Senior Citizens Act Amendment**
House: Pending in Population Committee
Senate: Pending in Social Justice Committee
5. **Rice and Corn Trade Amendment**
House: No bill filed
Senate: No bill filed
6. **Financial Sector Tax Neutrality Act**
House: No bill filed
Senate: No bill filed
7. **Holiday Rationalization**
House: Pending in Revision of Laws Committee
Senate: No bill filed

B. EXECUTIVE ORDERS/ PROCLAMATIONS/ ISSUANCES

I. Positive

1. Reorganizing the Philippine Air Negotiating Panel and the Philippine Air Consultation Panel (EO 28) – signed March 14, 2011
2. Authorizing the Civil Aeronautics Board and the Philippine Air Panels to pursue more aggressively the International Civil Aviation Liberalization Policy (EO 29) – signed March 14, 2011
3. Designating the DOJ as the competition authority (EO 45) – signed June 9, 2011
4. Monetization Program of Outstanding Value-Added Tax (VAT) Tax Credit Certificates (EO 68) – signed March 27, 2012
5. PRC Resolution 2012-668 - Guidelines on the Practice of Foreign Professionals in the Philippines – signed on June 21, 2012
6. Institutionalizing and Implementing Reforms in the Philippine Mining Sector (EO 79) – signed July 6, 2012
7. Implementing Rules and Regulations of DENR Administrative Order No. 2012-07 – September 11, 2012.
8. Rules and Regulation on Exchange Traded Funds (SEC Memorandum Circular 10 - 2012) – signed October 19, 2012

II. Requiring Substantial Reconsideration

1. Reorganizing, renaming and transferring the Commission on Information and Communications Technology to the DOST (EO 47) – signed June 23, 2011
2. Declaring the Regular Holidays, Special (Non-working) days, and special holidays (for all schools) for the year 2012 (Proclamation 295) – signed November 24, 2011; declares Chinese New Year as a non-working holiday
3. 9th Regular Foreign Investment Negative List (EO 98) – signed October 29, 2012

C. LAWS WHICH REMAIN UNIMPLEMENTED

1. Personal Equity Retirement Account (RA 9505) – signed June 23, 2011
2. Credit Information System (RA 9510) – signed July 23, 2007
3. Real Estate Investment Trust Act (RA 9856) – signed December 17, 2009
4. ***Financial Rehabilitation and Insolvency Act*** (RA 10142) – lapsed into law July 18, 2010