

# STATUS OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC REFORM LEGISLATION (15<sup>th</sup> 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
  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

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Legend:

**Bold - Arangkada recommendation (JFC/PBGs)**

***Bold and italics – other Arangkada recommendation***

Gray Highlight - LEDAC priority measures

\*\* – changes from previous list

\*Updated as of November 29, 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

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. AFP Modernization

House: Sent to the Office of the President

Senate: Sent to the Office of the President

3. Anti-trafficking Act amendments

House: Bicameral Conference Committee Report ratified

Senate: Bicameral Conference Committee Report ratified

4. Enforced or Involuntary Disappearance

House: Bicameral Conference Committee Report ratified

Senate: Bicameral Conference Committee Report ratified

5. **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. Career Executive System - re-filed

House: Pending Civil Service Committee

Senate: Approved on Third Reading

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

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Under Ways and Means Committee Deliberation

3. **Customs Modernization and Tariffs Act**

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Pending in Ways and Means Committee

4. **Creative Industries**

House: Transmitted to Appropriations Committee\*\*

Senate: Approved on Third Reading \*\*

5. Creation of the Department of Housing

House: Pending Second Reading

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: Pending Second Reading\*\*
8. Insurance Code Amendments  
House: Approved on Third Reading  
Senate: Pending Second Reading
9. **Institutionalizing the National Land Use Policy**  
House: Approved on Third Reading  
Senate: Pending Second Reading
10. **Lemon Law**  
House: Approved on Third Reading  
Senate: Under Trade and Commerce Committee deliberation
11. **Mandatory Healthcare Coverage (Providing Definite Strategy for Targetting the Poor)**  
House: Approved on Third Reading  
Senate: Pending Second Reading (For interpellation)
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. ***Whistle Blowers Protection Act***  
House: Approved on Third Reading  
Senate: Pending Second Reading (Interpellation)
20. ***Witness Protection, Security and Benefit Act***  
House: Approved on Third Reading  
Senate: Pending Second Reading (Interpellation)

#### IV. Pending Second Reading

1. ***AMLA Amendment***  
House: 1<sup>st</sup> part – Enacted into Law  
2<sup>nd</sup> part – Pending Second Reading\*\*  
Senate: 1<sup>st</sup> part – Enacted into Law  
2<sup>nd</sup> part – Pending Second Reading
2. ***BSP Charter Amendments***  
House: Pending Second Reading  
Senate: Under Banks Committee Deliberation
3. ***Fair Competition Law/ Anti-trust***  
House: Pending Second Reading (Approval re-considered)  
Senate: Pending Second Reading (For interpellation)
4. ***Freedom of Access to Information***  
House: Under Public Information Committee Deliberation  
Senate: Pending Second Reading (Interpellation)
5. ***LPG Industry Regulation and Safety Act***  
House: Pending Second Reading (Approval re-considered)  
Senate: Under Trade and Commerce Committee Deliberation
6. ***Regulating Profession - Pharmacy***  
House: Draft Committee Report for Filing  
Senate: Pending Second Reading
7. ***Reproductive Health Bill***  
House: Pending Second Reading (Period of Amendments)  
Senate: Pending Second Reading (Period of Amendments)

## 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: Pending in Education, Arts and Culture Committee

#### 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. National Teachers' Day

House: Approved on Third Reading (working holiday)

Senate: Pending Second Reading (Period of interpellation)

#### e. 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**  
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  
  
Implementing Rules and Regulations of DENR Administrative Order No. 2012-07 – September 11, 2012.
7. Rules and Regulation on Exchange Traded Funds (SEC Memorandum Circular 10 - 2012) – signed October 19, 2012

## II. RSR

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. 9<sup>th</sup> Regular Foreign Investment Negative List (EO 98) – signed October 29, 2012