



ARANGKADA PHILIPPINES

STATUS OF INVESTMENT CLIMATE 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. ***Lifting Nightwork Prohibition for Women*** (RA 10151) – signed June 21, 2011
5. Kindergarten Education Act (RA 10157) – signed January 20, 2012
6. ***Anti-Money Laundering Act Amendments*** (RA 10167) – signed June 18, 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 May 31, 2013. 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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7. Terrorism Financing Prevention and Suppression Act (RA 10168) – signed 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 20, 2012
13. Anti-Enforced or Involuntary Disappearance Act (RA 10353) – signed December 21, 2012
14. **Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act** (RA 10354) – signed December 21, 2012**
15. **Domestic Workers Act or Batas Kasambahay** (RA 10361) – signed January 18, 2013
16. Expanded Anti-trafficking in Persons Act (RA 10364) – signed February 6, 2013
17. **Anti-Money Laundering Act Amendments** (RA 10365) – signed February 15, 2013
18. **WIPO Copyright Treaty/Intellectual Property Code Amendments** (RA 10372) – signed February 28, 2013**
19. **Common Carriers Tax/ Gross Philippine Billings Tax Abolition** (RA 10378) – signed March 7, 2013**
20. Strengthening Tripartism (Labor Code amendments) (RA 10395) – signed March 14, 2013
21. Conciliation-Mediation as Voluntary Mode of Dispute Settlement (Labor Code amendments) (RA 10396) – signed March 16, 2013
22. Early Years Act of 2013 (RA 10410) – signed March 26, 2013
23. **Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013 (K+12) (RA 10533)** – signed May 15, 2013
24. **Philippine Design Competitiveness Act** (RA 10557) – signed May 15, 2013

25. **Regulating Profession - Environmental Planning** (RA 10587) – signed May 27, 2013

26. **Rural Bank Act Amendments** (RA 10574) – signed May 24, 2013

27. Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulation Act (RA 10591) – signed May 29, 2013

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

1. Agricultural and Fisheries Mechanization

House: Adopted Senate version

Senate: Approved on Third Reading

2. Career Executive System - re-filed

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Adopted House version

3. **Insurance Code Amendments**

House: Bicameral Conference Committee Report ratified**

Senate: Bicameral Conference Committee Report ratified**

4. **Regulating Profession - Environmental Planning**

House: Adopted Senate version**

Senate: Approved on Third Reading**

5. **Universal Healthcare Coverage**

House: Adopted the Senate version**

Senate: Approved on Third Reading**

III. Next in Line (may be approved by Congress on June 5)

1. Additional Relief to Families with Dependents

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Approved on Third Reading

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

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Approved on Third Reading

3. Declaring Chinese New Year as a Holiday

House: Approved on Third Reading (non-working holiday)

Senate: Approved on Third Reading (special working holiday)

4. Electric, Hybrid and Alternative Fuel Vehicles Incentives Act (RSR)
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Approved on Third Reading
5. Food Safety
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Approved on Second Reading
6. ***Institutionalizing the National Land Use Policy***
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading

IV. Approved on Third Reading

1. **Customs Modernization and Tariffs Act**
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending in Ways and Means Committee
2. Creation of the Department of Housing
House: Pending Second Reading
Senate: Approved on Third Reading
3. **Direct Remittance to LGUs of their 40% share from National Wealth Taxes**
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Under Local Government Committee Deliberation
4. ***Freedom of Access to Information***
House: Pending Second Reading (Period of Interpellation)
Senate: Approved on Third Reading
5. ***Lemon Law***
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Under Trade and Commerce Committee deliberation
6. ***Plastic Bag Regulation Act***
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending in Trade and Commerce Committee
7. **Rationalization of Fiscal Incentives**
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation
8. Real Property Valuation
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending in Ways and Means Committee

9. **Regulating Profession - Criminology**

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Draft CR for filing

10. **Regulating Profession - Forestry**

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Pending in Civil Service Committee

11. **Regulating Profession - Pharmacy**

House: Approved on Third Reading**

Senate: Pending Second Reading

12. **Sustainable Forest Management**

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Under Environment TWG deliberation

13. **Whistle Blowers Protection Act**

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Pending Second Reading (Interpellation)

14. **Witness Protection, Security, and Benefit Act**

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Pending Second Reading (Interpellation)

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

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. Iglesia ni Kristo Day

House: Pending in Revision of Laws Committee

Senate: Pending in Education, Arts and Culture Committee

b. Declaring National Victory and Liberation Day

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: No bill filed

c. Declaring National Women's day as a non-working holiday

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: No bill filed

d. Declaring National Farmers and Fisherfolk Day as a special non-working holiday**

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Pending in Agriculture and Food Committee

5. Workers' Rights to Self-Organization (Labor Code amendments)

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Pending Second Reading

6. Institutionalizing Profit Sharing in Private firms

House: Approved by Labor Committee

Senate: Pending in Labor Committee

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
9. Implementing Rules and Regulations of Reproductive Health Act – Published March 18, 2013
10. Creating an Inter-Agency Task Force to Initiate, Implement and Monitor Ease of Doing Business Reforms (Administrative Order 38) – signed May 17, 2013

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