



ARANGKADA PHILIPPINES

PRIORITY BILLS OF THE BUSINESS SECTOR (16th CONGRESS)*

A. REPUBLIC ACTS/ BILLS

- I. Enacted into Law
 1. ***Foreign Banks Liberalization Act amendments*** (RA 10641) – July 18, 2014
 2. Lemon Law (RA 10642) – July 18, 2014
 3. **MSME Development** (RA 10644) – July 18, 2014
 4. Ladderized Education Act (RA 10647) – Nov 21, 2014
 5. Scholarship for top ten public high school students of graduating class (RA 10648) – Nov 27, 2014
 6. Open Distance Learning Act (RA 10650) – Dec 9, 2014

Legend: **Bold - Arangkada recommendation (JFC/PBGs)**
Bold and italics – other Arangkada recommendation
Gray Highlight - LEDAC priority measures

*Updated as of March 25, 2015. 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 16th 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.

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II. For signature of the President

1. ***Sandiganbayan Act Amendments***

House: Bicam report ratified

Senate: Bicam report ratified

III. Approved on Third Reading

1. Apprenticeship Program Reform

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Pending Second Reading

2. **Cabotage Law amendments**

House: Approved by Trade and Ways and Means Committees

Senate: Approved on Third Reading

3. **CARP Extension (RSR)**

House: Pending Second Reading (Certified Urgent)

Senate: Approved on Third Reading

4. **Competition bill**

House: Pending Second Reading (Interpellations)

Senate: Approved on Third Reading

5. **Freedom of Information**

House: Approved by Public Information Committee

Senate: Approved on Third Reading

6. Granting 30-day Judicial Leave for Judges (RSR)

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Pending Second Reading

7. ***Mining-free Zone bills - Catanduanes, Cagayan de Oro, Eastern Samar, Nueva Vizcaya, Sorsogon, Biliran, Davao, Nueva Ecija (RSR)***

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Under Environment TWG deliberation

8. **National Land Use Policy**

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Under Environment Committee deliberation

9. Non-working Holiday after Election (RSR)

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Under Electoral Reforms Committee Deliberation

10. **Forestry Profession Act amendments**

House: Approved by Civil Service Committee

Senate: Approved on Third Reading

11. **Pharmacy Profession Act amendments**

House: Approved by Civil Service Committee

Senate: Approved on Third Reading

12. **Real Property Valuation**

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation

13. **Trade Representative Office**

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Under Trade Committee deliberation

IV. Pending Second Reading in at least one Chamber

1. Amendment to the Economic Provisions of the Constitution

House: Pending Second Reading (Interpellations)

Senate: Pending in Constitutional Amendments Committee

2. **Customs Modernization and Tariffs Act**

House: Pending Second Reading (Interpellations)

Senate: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation

3. **DICT Creation**

House: Under Government Reorg and ICT TWG deliberation

Senate: Pending Second Reading (Interpellations)

4. **National Farmers and Fisherfolk day (May 15) as a non-working holiday (RSR)**

House: Pending Second Reading

Senate: Pending in Education Committee

5. Tax Incentives Management and Transparency Act (RSR)

House: Under Ways and Means TWG deliberation

Senate: Pending Second Reading (Interpellations)

V. Under Committee/TWG Deliberation

1. **Bangsamoro Basic Law**

House: Under Ad Hoc Committee on Bangsamoro Basic Law deliberation

Senate: Under Local Government Committee deliberation

2. **BOT Law Amendments**

House: Approved by Public Works Committee

Senate: Under Public Works Committee deliberation

3. **BSP Charter Amendments**

House: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation

Senate: Pending in Banks Committee

4. **Clean Air Act Amendments**

House: Under Ecology Committee TWG deliberation

Senate: No bill filed

5. **Fiscal Incentives Rationalization**

House: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation

Senate: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation

6. **Foreign Investment Act amendments**

House: Pending in Trade Committee

Senate: Under Economic Affairs TWG deliberation

7. **FINL Liberalization Act**

House: Pending in Trade Committee

Senate: Under Economic Affairs TWG deliberation

8. **Immigration Act**

House: Approved by Justice Committee

Senate: Under Justice Committee deliberation

9. **Land Administration and Reform Act**

House: Under Government Reorganization TWG deliberation

Senate: Pending in Environment and Natural Resources Committee

10. **LPG Industry Regulation and Safety Act**

House: Approved by Energy Committee

Senate: Pending in Energy Committee

11. **Lowering of Corporate/Individual Income Tax**

House: Under Ways and Means TWG deliberation

Senate: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation

12. **National Transportation Safety Board**

House: Approved by Government Reorganization and Transportation Committee

Senate: Under Public Services Transportation Sub-committee deliberation

13. **Ombudsman Charter Amendments**

House: Approved by Justice Committee

Senate: Under Justice Committee deliberation

14. ***Plastic Bag Regulation Act***

House: Under Ecology Committee deliberation

Senate: Under Environment Committee deliberation

15. ***Radio and X-ray Technology Profession Act amendments***

House: Pending in Civil Service Committee

Senate: Under Civil Service TWG deliberation

16. ***Right-of-Way Act Amendments***

House: Approved by Public Works Committee

Senate: Under Public Works Committee deliberation

17. ***Sustainable Forest Management***

House: Under Natural Resources TWG deliberation

Senate: Pending in Environment Committee

18. ***Whistle Blowers Protection Act***

House: Approved by Justice Committee

Senate: Under Justice Committee deliberation

19. ***Witness Protection and Benefits Act***

House: Approved by Justice Committee

Senate: Under Justice Committee deliberation

B. EXECUTIVE ORDERS/ PROCLAMATIONS/ ISSUANCES

I. Positive

1. BSP Circular 809, Series of 2013 – Amendments to Relevant Provisions of the Manual of Regulations for Banks Implementing RA 10574 (Rural Bank Act amendments) – signed August 23, 2013
2. A.M. 12-12-11 SC - Financial Rehabilitation Rules of Procedure – signed August 27, 2013
3. Revenue Regulations 15-2013 – Revenue Regulations Implementing Republic Act No. 10378 entitled “An Act Recognizing the Principle of Reciprocity as Basis for the Grant of Income Tax Exemptions to International Carriers and Rationalizing other Taxes Imposed thereon by Amending Sections 28(A)(3)(A), 109, 118 And 236 of the National Internal Revenue Code (NIRC), as amended, and for other Purposes - issued September 20, 2013.
4. A.M. 12-12-11 SC - Financial Rehabilitation Rules of Procedure – signed August 27, 2013
5. Memorandum Order No. 59 – Approving the 2013 Investments Priorities Plan – signed November 13, 2013

II. Requiring Substantial Reconsideration (RSR)

1. Declaring the Regular Holidays, Special (Non-working) days, and special holidays (for all schools) for the year 2014 (Proclamation 655) – signed September 25, 2013; declares Chinese New Year as a non-working holiday
2. Declaring July 27, 2014 (Iglesia ni Cristo Centennial Anniversary) as a Non-working Holiday (Proclamation 815) – signed July 2, 2014
3. Declaring Regular Holidays, Special (Non-Working) Days and Special Holiday (for all schools) (Proclamation 831) – signed July 17, 2014

B. 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. Philippine Design Competitiveness Act (RA 10557) – signed May 15, 2013