



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
 7. Strengthening the Sandiganbayan (RA 10660) – Apr 16, 2015

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

Bold and italics – other Arangkada recommendation

Gray Highlight - LEDAC priority measures

*Updated as of July 28, 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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8. Open High School System (RA 10665) – July 9, 2015
9. Philippine Competition Act (RA 10667) – July 21, 2015
10. Liberalizing Cabotage (RA 10668) – July 21, 2015

II. For Bicam/Signature of the President

1. **Forestry Profession Act amendments**

2. ***Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education (UNIFAST) Act***
3. Tax Incentives Management and Transparency Act (RSR)

III. Approved on Second/Third Reading in at least one Chamber

1. Amendment to the Economic Provisions of the Constitution
House: Approved on Second Reading
Senate: Pending in Constitutional Amendments Committee
2. Apprenticeship Program Reform
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading
3. **CARP Extension (RSR)**
House: Pending Second Reading (Certified Urgent)
Senate: Approved on Third Reading

4. **DICT Creation**

House: Approved by Government Reorg and ICT Committees
Senate: Approved on Third Reading

5. Free Wifi in Public Places
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading
6. ***Freedom of Information***
House: Pending Second Reading
Senate: Approved on Third Reading
7. Granting 30-day Judicial Leave for Judges (RSR)
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading

8. Labor Code amendment on Employment of Foreign Nationals

House: Approved on Second Reading

Senate: Pending in Labor Committee

9. ***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

10. ***National Land Use Policy***

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Under Environment Committee deliberation

11. Non-working Holiday after Election (RSR)

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Under Electoral Reforms Committee Deliberation

12. **Criminology Profession Act amendments**

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Committee Report for filing

13. **Pharmacy Profession Act amendments**

House: Pending Second Reading

Senate: Approved on Third Reading

14. ***Real Property Valuation***

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation

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

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Under Public Works TWG deliberation

16. ***Trade Representative Office***

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Under Trade Committee deliberation

17. National Feeding Program

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Pending in Education Committee

18. **Prohibiting the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction**

House: Approved on Third Reading

Senate: Pending Second Reading

IV. Pending Second Reading in at least one Chamber

1. **Bangsamoro Basic Law**

House: Pending Second Reading (Interpellations)

Senate: Under Local Government Committee deliberation

2. BSP Charter amendments

House: Pending Second Reading

Senate: Pending in Banks Committee

3. **Customs Modernization and Tariffs Act**

House: Pending Second Reading (Interpellations)

Senate: Under Ways and Means TWG deliberation

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

House: Pending Second Reading

Senate: Under Trade Committee TWG

V. Under Committee/TWG Deliberation

1. **BOT Law Amendments**

House: Approved by Public Works Committee

Senate: Under Public Works Committee deliberation

2. **Clean Air Act Amendments**

House: Under Ecology Committee TWG deliberation

Senate: No bill filed

3. **Excise Tax on Sugar Sweetened Beverages (RSR)**

House: Under Ways and Means Committee TWG deliberation

Senate: No bill filed

4. **Fiscal Incentives Rationalization**

House: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation

Senate: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation

5. **Foreign Investment Act amendments**

House: Pending in Trade Committee

Senate: Under Economic Affairs TWG deliberation

6. **FINL Liberalization Act**

House: Pending in Trade Committee

Senate: Under Economic Affairs TWG deliberation

7. **Immigration Act**

House: Approved by Justice Committee

Senate: Under Justice Committee TWG deliberation

8. Land Administration and Reform Act

House: Under Government Reorganization TWG deliberation
Senate: Pending in Environment and Natural Resources Committee

9. Lowering of Corporate/Individual Income Tax

House: Under Ways and Means TWG deliberation
Senate: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation

10. Mining Fiscal Regime and Revenue Sharing Arrangement (RSR)

House: Pending in Ways and Means Committee
Senate: Pending in Ways and Means Committee

11. National Transportation Safety Board

House: Approved by Government Reorganization and Transportation Committee
Senate: Under Public Services Transportation Sub-committee deliberation

12. Ombudsman Charter Amendments

House: Approved by Justice Committee
Senate: Under Justice Committee TWG deliberation

13. Plastic Bag Regulation Act

House: Under Ecology Committee TWG deliberation
Senate: Under Environment Committee deliberation

14. Sustainable Forest Management

House: Under Natural Resources TWG deliberation
Senate: Pending in Environment Committee

15. Whistle Blowers Protection Act

House: Approved by Justice Committee
Senate: Under Justice Committee TWG deliberation

16. Witness Protection and Benefits Act

House: Approved by Justice Committee
Senate: Under Justice Committee TWG 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
6. DOJ Department Circular 5 – Guidelines in the Enforcement of Competition Laws – published April 30, 2015
7. 10th Regular Foreign Investment Negative List (EO 184) – signed May 29, 2015

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
4. Declaring February 25 as special non-working holiday in celebration of 30th EDSA Anniversary (Proclamation 1071) – signed July 8, 2015
5. Declaring November 18, 19 of 2015 as special non-working days due to APEC meetings (Proclamation 1072) – signed July 8, 2015

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
5. Cybercrime Prevention Act (RA 10175) – signed Sep 12, 2012
6. Data Privacy Act (RA 10173) – signed Aug 15, 2012