



AMCHAM PHILIPPINES
The American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines, Inc.

**THE ARANGKADA PHILIPPINES PROJECT
NOTEWORTHY DOCUMENT #**

September 1, 2015

To: John Avila, AOR, USAID-OEDG
From: John Forbes, Senior Adviser, TAPP
Subject: TAPP Legislative Tracker for August 2015

On August, the AmCham Legislative Tracker and List of Legislative Priorities for the 16th Congress were presented at the monthly Legislative Committee meeting. Both have been updated to reflect the status of priority bills of the business sector identified in the July 19, 2013 JFC-PBG letter to President Aquino on priority legislation.

The Legislative Tracker shows that either hearings or TWG meetings were conducted in August on the following bills that affect the investment climate:

- BOT Law amendments (TWG)
- Clean Air Act amendment
- CMTA
- Energy Efficiency bills (TWG)
- Immigration Act (TWG)
- Mining Fiscal Regime
- Rationalization of Fiscal Incentives
- Plastic Bag Regulation
- Right-of-Way Act amendments

The House concurred on the Senate version of the Strategic Trade Management Act (Prohibits the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction). The bill is designed to institute trade controls over the export, import, re-export, transfer, and transshipment of strategic goods, and other related services.

Senate Environment Committee reported out local bills declaring mining free zones in the following areas: Catanduanes, Cagayan de Oro, Eastern Samar, Nueva Vizcaya, Sorsogon, Biliran, Davao, Nueva Ecija. The House approved on third reading the mining-free zone bills for Marinduque province and Kibungan, Benguet. (RSR)

The Senate started plenary debates on the Bangsamoro Basic Law.

Attachments:
August 2015 Legislative Tracker, updated as of 8/30/15;
Status of Priority Bills of Business Sector, updated as of 8/30/15