



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 Dec 16, 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
11. ***Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education (UNIFAST) Act*** (RA 10687) – Oct. 15, 2015
12. **Forestry Profession Act amendments (RA 10690)** – Oct 23, 2015
13. Public Employment Service Office Act amendments (RA 10691) – Oct 26, 2015
14. Prohibiting the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (RA 10697) – Nov 13, 2015
15. Tax Incentives Management and Transparency Act (RA 10708) – Dec 8, 2015

II. For Signature of the President

1. **DICT Creation**

III. For Bicameral Conference

1. ***Right-of-Way Act amendments***

IV. 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. Amendment of the Revised Penal Code (Indexation of Criminal Penalties)
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending in Justice Committee
3. Apprenticeship Program Reform
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading
4. BSP Charter amendments
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending in Banks Committee

5. **CARP Extension (RSR)**
House: Pending Second Reading (Certified Urgent)
Senate: Approved on Third Reading
6. **Criminology Profession Act amendments**
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading
7. **Customs Modernization and Tariffs Act**
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Approved on Second Reading
8. Free Wi-fi in Public Places
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading
9. ***Freedom of Information***
House: Pending Second Reading
Senate: Approved on Third Reading
10. **FINL Liberalization Act**
House: Under Economic Affairs TWG deliberation
Senate: Approved on Second Reading
11. Labor Code amendment on Employment of Foreign Nationals
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending in Labor Committee
12. ***LPG Industry Regulation and Safety Act***
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading
13. ***Mining-free Zone bills - Catanduanes, Cagayan de Oro, Eastern Samar, Nueva Vizcaya, Sorsogon, Biliran, Davao, Nueva Ecija (RSR)***
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading
14. ***National Land Use Policy***
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Under Environment Committee deliberation
15. New Salary Standardization Law
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Approved on Second Reading

16. Non-working Holiday after Election (RSR)
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Under Electoral Reforms Committee Deliberation
 17. **Pharmacy Profession Act amendments**
House: Pending Second Reading
Senate: Approved on Third Reading
 18. **Real Property Valuation**
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation
 19. **Trade Representative Office**
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading
 20. National Feeding Program
House: Approved on Third Reading
Senate: Pending in Education Committee
- V. Pending Second Reading in at least one Chamber
1. Anti-Money Laundering Act amendments
House: Pending Second Reading
Senate: Pending in Banks Committee
 2. **Bangsamoro Basic Law**
House: Pending Second Reading (Interpellations)
Senate: Pending Second Reading (Interpellations)
 3. Corporation Code amendments
House: Under Trade Committee deliberation
Senate: Pending Second Reading
 4. **Public-Private Partnership bill**
House: Pending Second Reading
Senate: Pending Second Reading
- VI. Under Committee/TWG Deliberation
1. **Clean Air Act Amendments**
House: Under Ecology Committee deliberation
Senate: Under Environment Committee deliberation

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

House: Approved by Ways and Means Committee

Senate: No bill filed

3. **Fiscal Incentives Rationalization**

House: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation

Senate: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation

4. **Foreign Investment Act amendments**

House: Pending in Trade Committee

Senate: Under Economic Affairs TWG deliberation

5. **Immigration Act**

House: Pending in Appropriations Committee

Senate: Under Justice Committee TWG deliberation

6. **Land Administration and Reform Act**

House: Pending in Appropriations Committee

Senate: Pending in Environment and Natural Resources Committee

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

House: Under Ways and Means TWG deliberation

Senate: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation

8. **Mining Fiscal Regime and Revenue Sharing Arrangement (RSR)**

House: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation

Senate: Pending in Ways and Means Committee

9. **National Transportation Safety Board**

House: Pending in Appropriations Committee

Senate: Under Public Services Transportation Sub-committee deliberation

10. **Ombudsman Charter Amendments**

House: Pending in Appropriations Committee

Senate: Under Justice Committee TWG deliberation

11. **Plastic Bag Regulation Act**

House: Approved by Ecology Committee

Senate: Under Environment Committee deliberation

12. **Sustainable Forest Management**

House: Under Natural Resources TWG deliberation

Senate: Pending in Environment Committee

13. ***Whistle Blowers Protection Act***

House: Pending in Appropriations Committee

Senate: Under Justice Committee TWG deliberation

14. ***Witness Protection and Benefits Act***

House: Pending in Appropriations 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

6. Declaring the Regular Holidays and Special (Non-Working) Days for the year 2016
(Proclamation 1105) – signed August 20, 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. Data Privacy Act (RA 10173) – signed Aug 15, 2012