



# ARANGKADA PHILIPPINES

A Project of the Joint Foreign Chambers of the Philippines

## PRIORITY BILLS OF THE BUSINESS SECTOR (17<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS)\*

### A. REPUBLIC ACTS/ BILLS

#### I. Enacted into Law

1. Philippine Credit Card Industry Regulation Law (RA 10870) – lapsed into law July 17, 2016
2. Agricultural Land Reform Code amendments (RA 10878) – lapsed into law July 17, 2016
3. **Foreign Investment Liberalization Act** (RA 10881) – lapsed into law July 17, 2016
4. Special Program for Employment of Students (RA 10917) – lapsed into law July 21, 2016
5. **Pharmacy Profession Act amendments** (RA 10918) – lapsed into law July 21, 2016
6. Anti-money Laundering Act amendments (RA 10927) – signed July 14, 2017

#### II. For PRRD Signature

1. Extending driver's license validity

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

***Bold and italics – other Arangkada recommendation***

Gray Highlight - LEDAC priority measures

\*Updated as of July 31, 2017. 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 17th 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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2. Free Wi-Fi in Public Places
  3. Indexation of the Revised Penal Code
  4. Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education
- III. Approved on Second/Third Reading
1. Agricultural Free Patent Reform  
Senate: Approved on Third Reading  
House: Pending in Justice Committee
  2. **Comprehensive Tax Reform**  
Senate: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation  
House: Approved on Third Reading
  3. Declaring July 27 Iglesia ni Cristo Foundation as NWH – RSR  
Senate: Pending in Education, Arts, Culture  
House: Approved Third Reading
  4. Declaring December 8 as NWH (Feast of Immaculate Conception)  
Senate: Pending Second Reading - SWH  
House: Approved on Third Reading - NWH
  5. Expanding the National Integrated Protected Areas System Act  
Senate: Approved on Third Reading  
House: Approved on Second Reading





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6. Mining Free Zone bills (Davao City, Biliran) - RSR  
Senate: No bill filed  
House: Approved Second Reading
7. National Land Use Act  
Senate: Pending in Environment Committee  
House: Approved on Third Reading
8. Regulation of Payment Systems  
Senate: Under Banks TWG deliberation  
House: Approved on Third Reading
9. Rightsizing of the Government Bureaucracy  
Senate: Pending Second Reading (Period of Interpellation)  
House: Approved on Third Reading

#### IV. Pending Second/Third Reading

1. **Amendments to the Constitution (Constituent Assembly resolution)**  
Senate: Under Constitutional Amendments Committee deliberation  
House: Pending Second Reading
2. Apprenticeship Reform Act  
Senate: Pending Second Reading (Period of Interpellation)  
House: Approved by House Labor Committee
3. BSP Charter amendments  
Senate: Pending Second Reading (For sponsorship)





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House: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation

#### 4. **Corporation Code amendments**

Senate: Pending Second Reading (Period of amendments)

House: Pending in Trade Committee

#### 5. **Ease of Doing Business**

Senate: Pending Second Reading (Amendments)

House: Approved by Trade Committee

#### 6. **Freedom of Information**

Senate: Pending Second Reading

House: Under Public Information Committee deliberation

#### 7. **Granting Emergency Powers to the President to address Traffic Congestion**

Senate: Pending Second Reading (Period of amendments)

House: Approved by Transportation, Appropriations Committee

#### 10. Mining Free Zone bills (North Cotabato, Cagayan de Oro) - RSR

Senate: No bill filed

House: Pending Second Reading

#### 11. **Public Service Act amendments**

Senate: Pending in Public Services Committee

House: Pending Second Reading

#### 10. Regulating the Practice of Criminology

Senate: Pending Second Reading

House: Pending in Civil Service Committee





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11. Universal Healthcare Act amendments  
Senate: Pending in Health Committee  
House: Pending Second Reading

## V. Under Committee/TWG Deliberation

1. **Bank Secrecy Law amendments**

Senate: Under Banks Committee TWG deliberation

House: Pending in Banks Committee (contained in Income Tax Reform Bill)

2. **BOT Law amendments**

Senate: Pending in Public Works Committee

House: Under Public Works Committee deliberation

3. Direct Remittance of LGU share in National Wealth taxes

Senate: Under Local Government TWG deliberation

House: Pending in Local Government Committee

4. Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act

Senate: Under Energy TWG deliberation

House: Under Energy Committee deliberation

5. Mining-free Zone bills (RSR)

Senate: Pending in Environment Committee

House: Under Natural Resources Committee deliberation

6. Salary Standardization Law

Senate: Under Civil Service Committee deliberation





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House: Pending in Civil Service Committee

7. Security of Tenure (RSR)

Senate: Pending in Labor Committee

House: Under Labor Committee deliberation

8. Strengthen the Crop Insurance System

Senate: Pending in Agriculture Committee

House: Pending in Agriculture Committee

9. **Telecommunications Act amendments**

Senate: Pending in Science and Technology Committee

House: Under ICT Committee deliberation

10. **Water Sector Reform act**

Senate: Pending in Public Services Committee

House: Under Government Enterprises Committee deliberation

11. **Retail Trade Act amendments**

Senate: Pending in Public Services Committee

House: Under Economic Affairs Committee TWG deliberation

## **B. EXECUTIVE ORDERS/ PROCLAMATIONS/ ISSUANCES**

### I. Positive

1. Freedom of Information (EO 2) – signed July 23, 2016
2. Creating a Consultative Committee to Review the 1987 Constitution (EO 10) – signed Dec 7, 2016
3. Energy Projects of National Significance (Draft EO of DOE)
4. Directing GPH Agencies to Implement the PDP (Draft EO of NEDA)





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5. Separating Aircraft Investigation Board from CAAP (Draft EO of TAF)

## II. Requiring Substantial Reconsideration (RSR)

1. Ban on Export of Mineral Ores  
Senate: No bill filed  
House: Under Natural Resources Committee TWG deliberation
2. Legislative Franchise Requirement for Infrastructure Projects  
Senate: No bill filed  
House: Pending in House Public Works Committee
3. Legislative Franchise Requirement for Mining Operations  
Senate: No bill filed  
House: Pending in Natural Resources Committee
4. Legislative Franchise Requirement for Public Transportation  
Senate: No bill filed  
House: No bill filed

