



ARANGKADA PHILIPPINES

A Project of the Joint Foreign Chambers of the Philippines

PRIORITY BILLS OF THE BUSINESS SECTOR (17th 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
 7. Extending Passport Validity (RA 10928) – signed August 2, 2017
 8. Free Wi-Fi in Public Places (RA 10929) – signed August 2, 2017

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

Gray Highlight - LEDAC priority measures

*Updated as of January 29, 2018. 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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9. Extending driver's license validity (RA 10930) – signed August 2, 2017
 10. Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education (RA 10931) – signed August 3, 2017
 11. Indexation of the Revised Penal Code (RA 10951) – signed August 30, 2017
 12. **Comprehensive Tax Reform (RA 10963)** – signed December 19, 2017
 13. Declaring the Feast of Immaculate Conception every December 8 as NWH (RA 10966) – signed December 28, 2017
 14. Philippine Qualifications Framework (RA 10968) – signed January 16, 2018
- II. For Bicameral Conference
1. Balik Scientist Program
 2. **Ease of Doing Business/ Expanded Anti-red Tape Act**
 3. Food Technology Act
- III. Approved on Second/Third Reading
1. **Agricultural Free Patent Reform**
Senate: Approved on Third Reading
House: Pending in Justice Committee





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2. **Bank Secrecy Law amendments**

Senate: Under Banks Committee TWG deliberation

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

3. Clean Air Act amendments

Senate: Pending in Environment Committee

House: Approved on Third Reading

4. Coconut Levy Fund Utilization

Senate: Pending Second Reading

House: Approved on Third Reading

5. Compressed Work Week Scheme (RSR)

Senate: No bill filed

House: Approved on Second Reading

6. Crop Insurance for CARP Beneficiaries

Senate: Pending in Agrarian Reform Committee

House: Approved on Third Reading

7. Declaring the Iglesia ni Cristo Foundation every July 27 as NWH – RSR

Senate: Under Education, Arts, Culture deliberation

House: Approved on Third Reading

8. Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act

Senate: Approved Second Reading

House: Under Energy Committee deliberation





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9. Energy Virtual One Stop Shop
Senate: Approved on Third Reading
House: Under Energy TWG deliberation

10. Expanding the National Integrated Protected Areas System Act
Senate: Approved on Third Reading
House: Approved on Second Reading

11. Mining Free Zone bills (Davao City, Biliran) - RSR
Senate: No bill filed
House: Approved Second Reading (reconsidered)

12. **National ID System**
Senate: Under Justice Committee deliberation
House: Approved on Third Reading

13. **National Land Use Act**
Senate: Pending in Environment Committee
House: Approved on Third Reading

14. Philippine Innovation Act
Senate: Approved on Third Reading
House: Under Small Business and Entrepreneurship Development TWG deliberation

15. **Public Service Act amendments**
Senate: Pending in Public Services Committee
House: Approved on Third Reading





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16. Regulation of Payment Systems
Senate: Pending Second Reading
House: Approved on Third Reading
17. **Rightsizing of the Government Bureaucracy**
Senate: Pending Second Reading (Period of Interpellation)
House: Approved on Third Reading
18. Security of Tenure (RSR)
Senate: Pending in Labor Committee
House: Approved on Third Reading
19. **Telecommunications Act amendments**
Senate: Pending in Public Services Committee
House: Approved on Third Reading
20. **Universal Healthcare Act amendments**
Senate: Pending in Health Committee
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





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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)
House: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation
4. **Corporation Code amendments**
Senate: Pending Second Reading (Period of amendments)
House: Under Trade Committee deliberation
5. **Freedom of Information**
Senate: Pending Second Reading
House: Under Public Information Committee deliberation
6. **Granting Emergency Powers to the President to address Traffic Congestion**
Senate: Pending Second Reading (Period of interpellation)
House: Pending Second Reading
7. Mining Free Zone bills (Kibungan Benguet, North Cotabato, Cagayan de Oro City, Southern Leyte, Palawan) - RSR
Senate: No bill filed
House: Pending Second Reading
8. National Transportation Safety Board Creation
Senate: Pending Second Reading
House: Under Government Reorganization TWG deliberation





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9. Regulating the Practice of Criminology
Senate: Pending Second Reading
House: Approved by Civil Service; Appropriations Committee

10. Salary Standardization Law
Senate: Pending Second Reading
House: Pending in Appropriations Committee

V. Under Committee/TWG Deliberation

1. Bangsamoro Basic Law
Senate: Under Local Government Committee deliberation
House: Under Local Government Committee deliberation
2. **BOT Law amendments**
Senate: Pending in Public Works Committee
House: Under Public Works TWG deliberation
3. Direct Remittance of LGU share in national wealth taxes
Senate: Under Local Government TWG deliberation
House: Pending in Local Government Committee
4. Immigration Act
Senate: Pending in Justice Committee
House: Approved by Justice Committee
5. Mining-free Zone bills (RSR) – 3rd Dt. Palawan, Marinduque
Senate: Pending in Environment Committee
House: Under Natural Resources Committee deliberation





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6. Strengthen the Crop Insurance System
Senate: Pending in Agriculture Committee
House: Pending in Agriculture Committee

7. **Water Sector Reform act**
Senate: Pending in Public Services Committee
House: Under Government Enterprises Committee TWG deliberation

8. **Retail Trade Act amendments**
Senate: Pending in Trade Committee
House: Pending in Trade Committee

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. Memorandum Order directing the NEDA Board and its member agencies to exert utmost efforts to lift or ease restrictions on certain investment areas of activities with limited foreign participation (MO 16) – signed Nov 21, 2017
4. Energy Projects of National Significance (Draft EO of DOE)
5. Directing GPH Agencies to Implement the PDP (Draft EO of NEDA)
6. Separating Aircraft Investigation Board from CAAP (Draft EO of TAF)





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II. Requiring Substantial Reconsideration (RSR)

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

