



# 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
7. Extending Passport Validity (RA 10928) – signed August 2, 2017
8. Free Wi-Fi in Public Places (RA 10929) – signed August 2, 2017

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

Gray Highlight - LEDAC priority measures

\*Updated as of February 27, 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 - RSR
  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. National Integrated Protected Areas System Act amendments
  4. Regulating the Practice of Food Technology
- 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. Crop Insurance for Farmers and Fisherfolks

Senate: Pending in Agriculture Committee

House: Approved on Third Reading

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

Senate: Under Education, Arts, Culture deliberation

House: Approved on Third Reading





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9. Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development  
Senate: Pending Second Reading  
House: Approved on Third Reading
10. Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act  
Senate: Approved on Third Reading  
House: Approved by Energy Committee
11. Energy Virtual One Stop Shop  
Senate: Approved on Third Reading  
House: Under Energy TWG deliberation
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: Under Public Services TWG deliberation  
House: Approved on Third Reading





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16. Regulating the Practice of Criminology  
Senate: Pending Second Reading  
House: Pending Second Reading
17. Regulation of Payment Systems  
Senate: Pending Second Reading  
House: Approved on Third Reading
18. **Rightsizing of the Government Bureaucracy**  
Senate: Pending Second Reading (Period of Interpellation)  
House: Approved on Third Reading
19. Road Board Abolition  
Senate: Approved in Third Reading  
House: Approved by Public Works Committee
20. Security of Tenure (RSR)  
Senate: Pending in Labor Committee  
House: Approved on Third Reading
21. **Telecommunications Act amendments**  
Senate: Under Public Services Committee deliberation  
House: Approved on Third Reading
22. **Universal Healthcare Act amendments**  
Senate: Pending in Health Committee  
House: Approved on Third Reading





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## IV. Pending Second 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. Bangsamoro Basic Law

Senate: Pending Second Reading

House: Under Local Government Committee deliberation

### 4. BSP Charter amendments

Senate: Pending Second Reading (For sponsorship)

House: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation

### 5. **Corporation Code amendments**

Senate: Pending Second Reading (Period of amendments)

House: Under Trade Committee TWG deliberation

### 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 interpellation)

House: Pending Second Reading







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8. Mining Free Zone bills (Kibungan Benguet, North Cotabato, Cagayan de Oro City, Southern Leyte, Palawan, Davao, Biliran) - RSR  
Senate: No bill filed  
House: Pending Second Reading
9. National Transportation Safety Board Creation  
Senate: Pending Second Reading  
House: Under Government Reorganization TWG deliberation
10. Salary Standardization Law  
Senate: Pending Second Reading  
House: Pending in Appropriations Committee

## V. Under Committee/TWG Deliberation

1. **BOT Law amendments**  
Senate: Pending in Public Works Committee  
House: Under Public Works TWG deliberation
2. Direct Remittance of LGU share in national wealth taxes  
Senate: Under Local Government TWG deliberation  
House: Pending in Local Government Committee
3. Immigration Act  
Senate: Pending in Justice Committee  
House: Approved by Justice Committee





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4. Mining-free Zone bills (RSR) – 3<sup>rd</sup> Dt. Palawan, Marinduque  
Senate: Pending in Environment Committee  
House: Under Natural Resources Committee deliberation
  
5. Strengthen the Crop Insurance System  
Senate: Pending in Agriculture Committee  
House: Pending in Agriculture Committee
  
6. **Water Sector Reform act**  
Senate: Pending in Public Services Committee  
House: Under Government Enterprises Committee TWG deliberation
  
7. **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

