



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 July 31, 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.

9. Extending driver's license validity (RA 10930) – signed August 2, 2017





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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
 15. **Ease of Doing Business/ Expanded Anti-red Tape Act (RA 11032)** – signed May 28, 2018
 16. Balik Scientist Program (RA 11035) – signed June 15, 2018
 17. National Integrated Protected Areas System Act amendments (RA 11038) – signed June 22, 2018
 18. Regulating the Practice of Food Technology (RA 11052) – signed July 4, 2018
 19. Bangsamoro Organic Law (RA 11054) – signed July 27, 2018
- II. For President's Signature
1. National ID System
 2. Personal Property Security Act
- III. For Bicameral Conference
1. Coconut Levy Fund utilization
 2. Regulating the Practice of Criminology





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3. Road Board abolition
4. Telecommuting bill

IV. Approved on Second/Third Reading

1. **Agricultural Free Patent Reform**

Senate: Approved on Third Reading

House: Under Justice Committee deliberation

2. **Amendments to the Constitution (Constituent Assembly resolution)**

Senate: Under Constitutional Amendments Committee deliberation

House: Approved on Third Reading

3. Budget Reform Act

Senate: Pending Second Reading

House: Approved on Third Reading

4. Clean Air Act amendments

Senate: Pending in Environment Committee

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





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7. Crop Insurance for Farmers and Fisherfolk
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
9. Delineation of Forest Limits
Senate: Pending in Natural Resources Committee
House: Approved on Third Reading
10. Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development
Senate: Pending Second Reading (Period of amendments)
House: Approved on Third Reading
11. Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act
Senate: Approved on Third Reading
House: Approved by Energy/Appropriations Committees
12. Energy Virtual One Stop Shop
Senate: Approved on Third Reading
House: Under Energy TWG deliberation
13. Innovative Startup
Senate: Approved on Third Reading
House: Pending in Trade Committee
14. **National Land Use Act**
Senate: Pending in Environment Committee
House: Approved on Third Reading





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15. New Central Bank Act amendments
Senate: Pending Second Reading (for sponsorship)
House: Approved on Second Reading
16. Philippine Innovation Act
Senate: Approved on Third Reading
House: Under Small Business and Entrepreneurship Development TWG deliberation
17. **Public Services Act amendments**
Senate: Pending Second Reading
House: Approved on Third Reading
18. Regulating the Practice of Radio X-ray Technology
Senate: Pending Second Reading
House: Pending in Civil Service Committee
19. Regulation of Payment Systems
Senate: Pending Second Reading
House: Approved on Third Reading
20. **Rightsizing of the Government Bureaucracy**
Senate: Pending Second Reading (Period of Interpellation)
House: Approved on Third Reading
21. Security of Tenure (RSR)
Senate: Pending on Second Reading
House: Approved on Third Reading





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22. **Universal Healthcare Act amendments**

Senate: Under Health Committee TWG deliberation

House: Approved on Third Reading

V. Pending Second Reading

1. Agricultural Tarrification

Senate: Pending in Agriculture Committee

House: Pending Second Reading

2. Anti-Political Dynasty

Senate: Pending Second Reading

House: Pending in Suffrage and Electoral Reforms Committee

3. Apprenticeship Reform Act

Senate: Pending Second Reading (Period of Interpellation)

House: Approved by House Labor Committee

4. **Corporation Code amendments**

Senate: Pending Second Reading (Period of amendments)

House: Under Trade Committee TWG 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

House: Pending Second Reading





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7. Immigration Act
Senate: Pending in Justice Committee
House: Pending Second Reading
 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
- VI. 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 TWG deliberation
 3. CAAP law amendments
Senate: Pending in Public Services Committee
House: Under Government Enterprises/Transportation Committee deliberations





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4. Constitutional amendments (economic provision)
Senate: Under Constitutional Amendments Committee deliberations
House: Under Constitutional Amendments Committee deliberations
5. Creating the Philippine Airports Development Corporation
Senate: Pending in Government Corporation Committee
House: Under Government Enterprises Committee TWG deliberation
6. Direct Remittance of LGU share in national wealth taxes
Senate: Under Local Government TWG deliberation
House: Pending in Local Government Committee
7. Downstream Natural Gas Industry
Senate: Under Energy Committee deliberation
House: Pending in Committee
8. Mining-free Zone bills (RSR) – 3rd Dt. Palawan, Marinduque
Senate: Pending in Environment Committee
House: Under Natural Resources Committee deliberation
9. Strengthen the Crop Insurance System
Senate: Pending in Agriculture Committee
House: Pending in Agriculture Committee
10. Tax Reform (TRAIN 1b – Tax Amnesty, Bank Secrecy)
Senate: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation
House: Under Ways and Means Committee Deliberation
11. Tax Reform (TRAIN 2 – Corporate Income Tax, Fiscal Incentives; RSR)
Senate: No bill filed
House: Under Ways and Means Committee Deliberation





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12. **Water Sector Reform act**

Senate: Pending in Public Services Committee

House: Under Government Enterprises Committee TWG deliberation

13. **Retail Trade Act amendments**

Senate: Pending in Trade Committee

House: Under Trade Committee 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. 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)

II. Requiring Substantial Reconsideration (RSR)

1. Ban on Export of Mineral Ores
Senate: Pending Second Reading
House: Under Natural Resources Committee TWG deliberation





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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: Approved by Natural Resources Committee

4. Legislative Franchise Requirement for Public Transportation
Senate: No bill filed
House: Pending in Transportation Committee

