

[VOL. IV, September 05, 1986]

R.C.C. NO. 75

Friday, September 5, 1986

OPENING OF SESSION

At 9:50 a.m., the President, the Honorable Cecilia Muñoz Palma, opened the session.

THE PRESIDENT: The session is called to order.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

THE PRESIDENT: Everybody will please rise to sing the National Anthem.

Everybody rose to sing the National Anthem.

THE PRESIDENT: Everybody will please remain standing for the Prayer to be led by the Honorable Florenz D. Regalado.

Everybody remained standing for the Prayer.

PRAYER

MR. REGALADO: Almighty Father, when You created man You breathed Your own life into him. When You established a covenant with Your people, a You called them into friendship with You and assured them of Your abiding presence. You established the law as a bond of love between Yourself and Your people and between each man and his community. Through law, You have brought order into the universe, and through law You have enabled each one to find his fulfillment as a person created in Your image and likeness.

As we gather here to formulate a new law as the foundation of our society, we ask You to fill us with Your spirit of wisdom and compassion, so that our work may be an instrument of Your justice and thus lead our people on their continuing pilgrimage towards the peace and freedom of our salvation.

We make our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ROLL CALL

THE PRESIDENT: The Secretary-General will please call the roll.

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, reading:

Abubakar	Present *	Aquino	Present *
Alonto	Present *	Azcuna	Present *
Bacani	Present	Nolledo	Present *
Bengzon	Present	Ople	Present *
Bennagen	Present	Padilla	Present

Bernas	Present *	Quesada	Present
Rosario Braid	Present	Rama	Present
Calderon	Present	Regalado	Present
Castro de	Present	Reyes de los	Present
Colayco	Present	Rigos	Present
Concepcion	Present	Rodrigo	Present
Davide	Present	Romulo	Present
Foz	Present	Sarmiento	Present *
Garcia	Present *	Suarez	Present *
Gascon	Present *	Sumulong	Present
Guingona	Present	Tadeo	Present *
Jamir	Present	Tan	Present *
Laurel	Present	Tingson	Present
Lerum	Present *	Treñas	Present
Maambong	Present	Uka	Present
Monsod	Present	Villacorta	Present
Natividad	Present *	Villegas	Present
Nieva	Present		

The Secretariat is in receipt of official advice of absence of Commissioner Rosales.

The President is present.

The roll call shows 31 Members responded to the call.

MR. CALDERON: Madam President.

THE PRESIDENT: The Assistant Floor Leader is recognized.

MR. CALDERON: I move that we dispense with the reading of the Journal of yesterday's session.

THE PRESIDENT: Is there any objection? (Silence) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

MR. CALDERON: Madam President, I move that we approve the Journal of yesterday's session.

THE PRESIDENT: Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

MR. CALDERON: Madam President, I move that we proceed to the Reference of Business.

THE PRESIDENT: Is there any objection? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the motion is approved.

The Secretary-General will read the Reference of Business.

REFERENCE OF BUSINESS

The Secretary-General read the following Proposed Resolution on First Reading and Communications, the President making the corresponding references:

PROPOSED RESOLUTION ON FIRST READING

Proposed Resolution No. 544, entitled:

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR SYNCHRONIZED ELECTIONS WITH A
STAGGERING OF THE TERM FOR SENATORS.

Introduced by Hon. Davide, Jr.

To the Committee on Amendments and Transitory Provisions.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letter from the Honorable Salvador H. Laurel, Vice-President and Minister for Foreign Affairs, reiterating his recommendation in his letter of June 25, 1986 that the President's power to appoint "Ambassadors, other public Ministers and Consuls" be specifically provided for in the new Constitution to conform with the standard practice in international diplomacy and likewise recommend that the Constitutional Commission consider providing for a more descriptive statement of our national flag.

(Communication No. 719 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Steering Committee.

Telegram from the Christian Reformed Diaconal Assembly of Negros Occidental, urging the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution the provision that the separation of the Church and the State shall be inviolable as embodied in the 1973 Constitution and as understood historically and jurisprudentially in the Philippines.

(Communication No. 720 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Communication from Mr. Agaton N. Ibarbia I, President, Small Landowners Association of Buhi, Inc., 42 San Jose St., San Felipe, Naga City, proposing the ejection of tenants who are also small landowners, and the ejection of landless tenants who have substantially dispossessed, impoverished, caused economic dislocation among small landowners.

(Communication No. 721 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Social Justice.

Telegram from the Faculty and Staff of Christian Reformed Seminary and Bible College, Bacolod City, Negros Occidental, urging the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution the provision that the separation of the Church and the State shall be inviolable as embodied in the 1973 Constitution and as understood historically and jurisprudentially in the Philippines.

(Communication No. 722 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Telegram sent by Mr. Pedro B Cruz for the seven thousand eight hundred forty-six Nueva Ecija public school teachers, expressing support for the provision on industrialization, protectionism and economic nationalism.

(Communication No. 723 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on the National Economy and Patrimony.

Communication from Rev. Fernando R. Basilio of the Caloocan Bethel Assembly of God, Inc., 504 A. Mabini St., Caloocan City, urging the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution the provision that the separation of the Church and the State shall be inviolable as embodied in the 1973 Constitution and as understood historically and jurisprudentially in the Philippines.

(Communication No. 724 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Communication from the Catholic Bishops' Commission on Family Life, signed by Bishop Jesus Y. Varela, 470 Gen. Luna St., Intramuros, Manila, opposing the inclusion in the new Constitution of a provision in the 1973 Constitution stating that "it is the responsibility of the State to achieve and maintain population levels most conducive to the national welfare."

(Communication No. 725 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Communication from the Community Bible Center, P.O. Box 10, Bais City, Negros Oriental, signed by Rev. Romualdo A. Pino and sixty-five (65) others, urging the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution a provision that the separation of the Church and the State shall be inviolable as embodied in the 1973 Constitution and as understood historically and jurisprudentially in the Philippines.

(Communication No. 726 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Letter from Ms. Henrietta T. de Villa, transmitting Resolution No. 1 of the Council of the Laity of the Philippines, First Regional Conference, Western Visayas, proposing an amendment to the Article on Education, Science, Technology, Arts, Culture, and Sports, such that "religion shall be considered as the most important subject in the curriculum . . ."

(Communication No. 727 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Human Resources.

Communication from Ms. Emelyn Ablay and twenty other signatories, Cambagroy, Bais City, urging the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution the provision that the separation of the Church and the State shall be inviolable as embodied in the 1973 Constitution and as understood historically and jurisprudentially in the Philippines.

(Communication No. 728 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Communication from one Beverley Symons on behalf of the Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific Coordinating Committee, P.O. Box A243, Sydney South, NSW 2000, Australia, expressing its belief that the U.S. military facilities in the Philippines represent a threat not only to the Filipinos but to all people in the Asian-Pacific region.

(Communication No. 729 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Preamble, National Territory, and Declaration of Principles.

Communication from Rev. Emilia Tallo and eleven others of Aguinaldo Street, Bais City, urging the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution the provision that the separation of the Church and the State shall be inviolable as embodied in the 1973 Constitution and as understood historically and jurisprudentially.

(Communication No. 730 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Letter from Atty. Samuel Matunog transmitting a resolution of the Protestant Lawyers League of the Philippines, 879 EDSA, Quezon City, proposing constitutional provisions for the protection of Filipino children, youth and mothers.

(Communication No. 731 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Preamble, National Territory, and Declaration of Principles.

Communication from the faculty and students of the Community Bible School, Imugan, Sta. Fe, Nueva Vizcaya, urging the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution the provision that the separation of the Church and the State shall be inviolable as embodied in the 1973 Constitution and as understood historically and jurisprudentially in the Philippines.

(Communication No. 732 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Communication jointly signed by Mr. Bernardo P. Villas and Mr. Rufino M. Espina of the Metro Dumaguete Post, Negros Oriental Chapter, Veterans Federation of the Philippines, Dumaguete City, proposing a constitutional provision urging the State to give a monthly pension to all World War II veterans at the age of sixty-three years and shall be treated as number one citizens of the Republic of the Philippines.

(Communication No. 733 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Social Justice.

MR. RAMA: Madam President.

THE PRESIDENT: The Floor Leader is recognized.

CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 29
(Article on Education, Science, Technology, Arts and Culture)
Continuation

PERIOD OF AMENDMENTS