

[VOL. V, September 24, 1986]

R.C.C. NO. 91

Wednesday, September 24, 1986

OPENING OF SESSION

At 10:00 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 Jose C. Colayco.
Everybody remained standing for the Prayer.

PRAYER

MR. COLAYCO: God our Father, You love our people and our country. You heard our prayers when we cried out to You for release after years of oppression. Pour out Your wise and gentle spirit upon the men and women to whom You have entrusted the task of framing a fundamental law that will guarantee our freedom under Your divine guidance and protection. Let it bind us together as our seas bind our islands together. Let our laws be just to everyone, allowing our people to develop their talents together. Give a voice to everyone, to every person a place in the sun. Above all, bring us reconciliation Let Muslim and Christian live side by side in mutual respect, trust and peace, for we are all Your children. With the help of Mary, we ask You: Bless our people and our country for we love You, our God, forever and ever. Amen.

ROLL CALL

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

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, *reading*:

Abubakar

Present *

Natividad

Present *

Alonto Present	Present		
Nieva			
Aquino	Present *	Nolledo	Present *
Azcuna	Present	Ople	Present *
Bacani	Present *	Padilla	Present
Bengzon	Present *	Quesada	Present
Bennagen	Present	Rama	Present
Bernas	Present *	Regalado	Present
Rosario Braid	Present	Reyes de los	Present *
Calderon	Present	Rigos	Present
Castro de	Present	Rodrigo	Present
Colayco	Present	Romulo	Present
Concepcion	Present *	Rosales	Absent
Davide	Present	Sarmiento	Present
Foz	Present	Suarez	Present
Garcia	Present *	Sumulong	Present
Gascon	Present *	Tadeo	Present
Guingona	Present	Tan	Present
Jamir	Present	Tingson	Present
Laurel	Absent	Treñas	Present
Lerum	Present *	Uka	Present
Maambong	Present *	Villacorta	Present
Monsod	Present *		

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

The President is present.

The roll call shows 29 Members responded to the call.

THE PRESIDENT: The Chair declares the presence of a quorum.

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 the previous 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 the previous 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 Communications, the President making the corresponding references:

COMMUNICATIONS

Communication from Mr. Felino C. Marcelo, Taytay, Rizal, suggesting some amendments to the draft provision on the separation of the Church and State.

(Communication No. 969 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Communication from Mr. Bantas W. Suanding, OIC, Provincial Governor of Benguet, transmitting Resolution No. 53, s. 1986 of the Sangguniang Bayan of Bakun, Benguet, vehemently opposing the establishment of a Cordillera Regional Autonomy and instead favoring an administrative regionalization.

(Communication No. 970 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Local Governments.

Communication from the National Council of Churches in the Philippines signed by its General Secretary, La Verne D. Mercado, 879 EDSA, Quezon City, registering its objection to the proposed constitutional provision that would mandatorily allow for the teaching of religion in the public elementary and high schools within the regular class hour.

(Communication No. 971 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Human Resources.

Telegram from Mr. William Neves of Makati, Metro Manila, suggesting that a motto:

"In God we Trust" be printed in our currency.

(Communication No. 972 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on the National Economy and Patrimony.

Communication from Mr. Cecilio F. Hernandez of Tanauan, Batangas, suggesting, among others, that national issues should be submitted either directly to the people or through local legislators.

(Communication No. 973 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Local Governments.

Position paper of the Concerned Filipino Parents for the Constitutional Commission, containing various proposals on the declaration of principles, form of government, education and family, among others.

(Communication No. 974 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

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

Communication from Mr. Florentino L. Ospick, San Fernando, La Union, saying that in the teaching of religion, "15 Minutes A Day With the World's Greatest Book" will teach religion in public schools without offense, for it is acceptable by all Bible-reading Christians of all faiths.

(Communication No. 975 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Human Resources.

Communications seeking to include in the Constitution a provision obliging the State to protect the life of the unborn from the moment of conception, from:

1. Ms. Maria Rona T. Bueno
4 Scout Limbaga Street
Quezon City
2. 108 signatories of the Brotherhood of Christian Businessmen and Professionals
3. 2669 signatories from St. Paul College-Pasig, St. Paul Street corner Meralco Avenue, Pasig, Metro Manila
4. Mr. Ricardo P. Boto and 78 other members of Jesus is Coming Christian Fellowship, 3rd Floor, Roma Building, Novaliches Plaza, Quezon City
5. Ms. Mercedes Urmenita and 218 other vendors of 21 West Riverside Drive, San Francisco del Monte, Quezon City

6. Mr. Andrew Oback and 48 other bar candidates
7. Ms. Flora U. Kagaoan and 56 other employees of Quezon City Regional Health Office No. 4, Project 4, Quezon City
8. Mr. Rogelio Manigza and 85 other employees, students and concerned citizens, Barrio Palanas, Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
9. Ms. Ving Casison and 277 other employees of the Philippine Airlines Comptroller's Office
10. Mr. Amado Lucindo and 128 others, No. 5 Kalayaan, Gulod, Novaliches, Quezon City
11. Mr. Felix T. Antonio and 90 other employees, No. 50-A Banana Road, Potrero, Malabon Metro Manila
12. Ms. Elvira O. Nebre and 220 other employees from various government offices
13. Ms. Jocelyn S. Gonzales and 98 other students from the "university belt"
14. Ms. Carmina C. Mallari and 245 other school teachers from Pasig, Metro Manila
15. Mr. Armando Egonio and 196 other concerned citizens from San Juan, Metro Manila
16. Ms. Lita Diakono and 93 other concerned citizens from San Francisco del Monte, Quezon City
17. Ms. Ma. Victoria A. Suarez and 102 other concerned citizens from
18. Manila
19. Mr. Pablo A. Atienza and 153 other concerned citizens with their respective addresses
20. Dr. Joselito Matheus and 81 other physicians, interns, nurses, medical consultants and employees of the FEU Hospital
21. Mr. Antonio H. Ceniza and 221 other concerned citizens with their respective addresses
22. Mr. Jorge Quila and 179 other students from the University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City
23. Mr. Mateo F. Lagoy and 269 other employees, vendors and concerned citizens with their respective addresses