

[VOL. IV, September 06, 1986]

R.C.C. NO. 76

Saturday, September 6, 1986

OPENING OF SESSION

At 9:48 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 Cirilo A. Rigos.

Everybody remained standing for the prayer.

PRAYER

REV. RIGOS: Almighty God, Whose nature is love and Whose will is for us to work together in harmony, as we pause before Thy Holy Presence, impart unto us the blessings of eternity. Enable us to rise above the tumults of our time, and make us instruments of Thy peace. Keep us humble in the thought that what we hold to be true may be tainted by some error, and that the error of our neighbors may yet contain some elements of truth.

May our work today contribute to the rebuilding of a nation on the foundation of justice and freedom. Inspire us to serve with utmost dedication so that in the process, we may be saved from pride or cynicism and from every thought of self-glorification.

We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

ROLL CALL

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

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, *reading*:

Abubakar	Absent	Bengzon	Present [*]
Alonto	Present [*]	Bennagen	Present
Aquino	Present [*]	Bernas	Present
Azcuna	Present [*]	Rosario Braid	Present
Bacani	Present	Calderon	Present
Castro de	Present	Quesada	Present [*]
Colayco	Present	Rama	Present

Concepcion	Present [*]	Regalado	Present
Davide	Present	Reyes de los	Present
Foz	Present	Rigos	Present
Garcia	Present [*]	Rodrigo	Present
Gascon	Present	Romulo	Absent
Guingona	Present	Rosales	Absent
Jamir	Present	Sarmiento	Present
Laurel	Present	Suarez	Present
Lerum	Present [*]	Sumulong	Present
Maambong	Present [*]	Tadeo	Present [*]
Monsod	Present	Tan	Present
Natividad	Present [*]	Tingson	Present
Nieva	Present	Treñas	Present [*]
Nolledo	Present [*]	Uka	Present
Ople	Present [*]	Villacorta	Present
Padilla	Present	Villegas	Present

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 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 approve the Journal of yesterday's session.

BISHOP BACANI: Madam President.

THE PRESIDENT: Commissioner Bacani is recognized.

BISHOP BACANI: Even though I realize that we have a rule regarding corrections, I believe this is an important correction that has to be inserted on page 48, since there is a complete change of sense in a very important answer that was given by Commissioner Villacorta.

THE PRESIDENT: Please proceed.

BISHOP BACANI: Under "INQUIRY OF MR. BACANI," the last sentence reads: "Mr. Villacorta replied that the noninclusion would mean exclusion." It should be: "Mr. Villacorta replied that the noninclusion would NOT mean exclusion."

THE PRESIDENT: That is true. Is that all?

BISHOP BACANI: I verified this with Commissioner Villacorta and he said that is really the sense.

APPROVAL OF JOURNAL

THE PRESIDENT: Is there any objection to the approval of the Journal of yesterday's session? (*Silence*) The Chair hears none; the Journal, as corrected, 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

Letter from Mr. Celso A. Landicho, transmitting a resolution of the Sangguniang Bayan of Mataas na kahoy, Batangas, opposing the abolition of the death penalty.

(Communication No. 734 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Citizenship, Bill of Rights, Political Rights and Obligations and Human Rights.

Letter from eighty-six (86) members of the faculty, staff and students of Convention Baptist Bible College, Bakyas, Bacolod City, urging the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution a provision on the inviolability of the separation of Church and State.

(Communication No. 735 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Letter from Mr. Cirilo M. Vera Cruz, Catholic Action Center Building, Naga City, appealing to the Constitutional Commission for the inclusion in the Constitution of a provision on the right to life and the protection the fetus in the mother's womb.

(Communication No. 736 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

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

Communication from sixty (60) members of the Campus Crusade for Christ, Quezon City, submitting a resolution defending the freedom of belief, upholding the time-honored principle of separation of Church and State, and opposing mandatory religious instruction in public schools.

(Communication No. 737 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Steering Committee.

Communication from Ms. Rita Macasaet-Eala and one hundred ninety-nine (199) signatories of San Pablo College, San Pablo City, urging the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution a provision obliging the State to protect the life of the unborn from the moment of conception.

(Communication No. 738 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

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

Communication signed by three thousand seventy-four (3,074) concerned citizens from various parts of the country, urging the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution a provision obliging the State to protect the life of the unborn from the moment of conception.

(Communication No. 739 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

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

Communication from the members of Capitol Alliance Church, Temple of God, Foursquare Gospel Church, United Methodist Church, Isulan Christian Center, all of Isulan, Sultan Kudarat, urging the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution a provision that the separation of Church and State shall be inviolable as embodied in the 1973 Constitution and as understood historically and jurisprudentially in the Philippines.

(Communication No. 740 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Communication from thirty (30) signatories of Oroquieta City, seeking the inclusion in the Constitution of a provision obliging the State to protect the life of the unborn from the moment of conception.

(Communication No. 741 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

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

Communication from seventy-two (72) concerned residents of Merville Park, Parañaque, Metro Manila, expressing strong support for the approval of Proposed Resolution No. 272, entitled: "Resolution to incorporate in the new Constitution a separate article on the protection and promotion of the rights of the family."

(Communication No. 742 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

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

Communication from seventy-four (74) officers and members of the Iglesia Filipina Independiente, F. Torres St., Davao City, P.O. Box 416, appealing to the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution that the separation of Church and State shall be inviolable as embodied in the 1973 Constitution and as understood historically and jurisprudentially in the Philippines.

(Communication No. 743 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Letter from members of the Bureau of Technical and Vocational Education, Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports, Palacio del Gobernador Bldg., Intramuros, Manila, requesting for the inclusion of a section on technical and vocational education, to wit: "The State, in partnership with the industrial and business sectors, shall establish, maintain and support an integrated and coordinated system of technical and vocational education and training for the secondary to tertiary levels for more effective human resource development and utilization.

(Communication No. 744 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on Human Resources.

Communication from sixty-four (64) officers and members of the Fellowship of Evangelical Churches, Cagayan de Oro City, appealing to the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution that the separation of Church and State shall be inviolable as embodied in the 1973 Constitution and as understood historically and jurisprudentially in the Philippines.

(Communication No. 745 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Letter from the Consistory and Members of the Pulupandan Christian Reformed Church, Pulupandan, 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. 746 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Communication from Rosevelinda E. Calingasan, President of Holy Face Organization, urging the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution a provision obliging the State to protect the life of the unborn from the moment of conception.

(Communication No. 747 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

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

Letter from Pastor Camilo Napila and eighty-five (85) concerned Christians of the Tulong Evangelical Church, Tulong, Urdaneta, Pangasinan, urging the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution the provision that the separation of Church and State shall be inviolable as embodied in the 1973 Constitution and as understood historically and jurisprudentially in the Philippines.

(Communication No. 748 — Constitutional Commission of 1986)

To the Committee on General Provisions.

Communication from Ms. Norma B. Dychangco, District Deputy, Daughters of Mary Immaculate, San Pablo City, urging the Constitutional Commission to incorporate in the Constitution a provision obliging the State to protect the life of the unborn from the moment of conception.