



ARANGKADA PHILIPPINES

A Project of the Joint Foreign Chambers of the Philippines

PRIORITY BILLS OF THE BUSINESS SECTOR (18th CONGRESS)*

I. Enacted into law

1. Transnational Higher Education Act (RA 11448) – signed August 28, 2019
2. Salary Standardization Law (RA 11466) – signed January 8, 2020
3. Amended Excise Tax Law on Alcohol, E-cigarettes (RA 11467) – signed January 22, 2020
4. Bayanihan to Heal as One Act/Emergency Powers law to address COVID-19 situation (RA 11469) – signed March 23, 2020
5. Bayanihan to Recover as One (RA 11494) – signed September 11, 2020
6. Streamlining Government Services in Times of National Emergency (RA 11517) – signed December 23, 2020
7. AMLA amendments (RA 11521) – signed January 29, 2021
8. Financial Institution Strategic Transfer Act (RA 11523) – signed February 16, 2021
9. Coconut Farmers and Industry Trust Fund Act (RA 11524) – signed February 26, 2021

*Updated as of June 3, 2021. 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 18th 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.

** RESPOND bills.

RSR – Bills requiring substantial reconsideration





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10. Tax Reform (TRAIN 2/TRABAHO/CREATE) (RA 11534) – signed March 26, 2021

II. For Enrollment to Office of the President

1. Energy Research And Policy Institute Act
2. Improving Confirmation Process of Imperfect Land Titles

III. For Bicameral Conference

1. Retail Trade Act amendments**
2. National Transportation Safety Board Creation

IV. Approved on Second/Third Reading

1. Bayanihan to Arise as One Act
Senate: Pending in Economic Affairs Committee
House: Approved on Third Reading
2. Better Normal for Workplace, Public Spaces and Communities Act - RSR
Senate: Under Health Committee deliberation
House: Approved on Third Reading





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3. Capital Market Development bill

Senate: No bill filed

House: Approved on Second Reading

4. Covid-19 Unemployment Reduction Economic Stimulus

Senate: Pending in Finance Committee

House: Approved on Third Reading

5. Declaring Mining-free Zones - Biliran, Davao Oriental, Cagayan de Oro City - RSR

Senate: No bill filed

House: Approved on Second Reading

6. Declaring Chinese New Year as NWH – RSR

Senate: Pending in Constitutional Amendments and Revision of Laws Cmte.

House: Approved on Third Reading

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

Senate: Pending in Constitutional amendments and Revision of Laws Cmte.

House: Approved on Third Reading

8. Declaring April 27 Lapu-Lapu Day as NWH – RSR

Senate: No bill filed

House: Approved on Third Reading

9. Delineation of Forest Limits

Senate: Pending in Environment Committee

House: Approved on Second Reading





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10. Department of National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority
Senate: Under National Defense Committee deliberation
House: Approved on Third Reading
11. Digital Payments Bill
Senate: Pending in Banks Committee
House: Approved on Third Reading
12. Digital Workforce Competitiveness/ Digital Careers bill
Senate: Pending Second Reading
House: Approved on Third Reading
13. E-government bill**
Senate: Pending in Science and Technology Committee
House: Approved on Third Reading
14. **Electric Vehicles and Charging Stations****
Senate: Approved Third Reading
House: Under Energy, Ecology and Transportation TWG deliberation
15. Government Financial Institutions Unified Initiatives to Distressed Enterprises for Economic Recovery (GUIDE)
Senate: Under Banks and Government Corporations Sub-committee deliberation
House: Approved on Third Reading
16. **Foreign Investments Act amendments****
Senate: Pending Second Reading
House: Approved on Third Reading





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17. Granting Additional Service Incentive Leave (RSR)
Senate: Pending in Labor Committee
House: Approved on Third Reading
18. Internet Transactions Act**
Senate: Under Trade Committee TWG deliberation
House: Approved on Third Reading
19. Lifting foreign equity restrictions**
Senate: Under Constitutional Amendments Committee deliberation
House: Approved on Third Reading
20. Open Access in Data Transmission Act**
Senate: Pending in Science and Technology Committee
House: Approved on Second Reading
21. Public Services Act amendments**
Senate: Pending Second Reading
House: Approved on Third Reading
22. Real Property Valuation Reform
Senate: Pending in Finance Committee
House: Approved on Third Reading
23. Rural Agricultural and Fisheries Development Financing System Act
Senate: Under Agriculture Committee deliberation
House: Approved on Third Reading





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24. Satellite-based Technologies Promotion Act

Senate: No bill filed

House: Approved on Third Reading

25. Security of Tenure (RSR)

Senate: Pending in Labor Committee

House: Approved on Third Reading

26. Single-Use Plastic Products

Senate: Pending in Environment Committee

House: Approved on Second Reading

27. Sustainable Forest Management

Senate: Pending in Environment Committee

House: Approved on Third Reading

28. Tax Reform (TRAIN 4 – Financial Sector)

Senate: Under Ways and Means Committee deliberation

House: Approved on Third Reading

29. Waste-to-Energy bill

Senate: Pending Second Reading

House: Approved on Third Reading

V. Pending Second Reading

1. Bank Secrecy Law amendments

Senate: Pending in Banks Committee

House: Pending Second Reading





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2. Better Internet Act**
Senate: Pending Second Reading
House: Approved by ICT Committee
3. BOT Law amendments/Public-Private Partnership Act
Senate: Pending Second Reading
House: Approved by Public Works; Ways and Means Committee
4. **Ease of Paying Taxes**
Senate: No bill filed
House: Pending Second Reading
5. Mining fiscal regime bills (RSR)
Senate: Pending in Ways and Means Committee
House: Pending Second Reading
21. Regulation on employment of foreign nationals
Senate: Pending Second Reading
House: Pending in Labor Committee
7. Thirty-five Hour Work Week Scheme (RSR)
Senate: No bill filed
House: Pending Second Reading
8. **VAT on Digital Transactions**
Senate: No bill filed
House: Pending Second Reading





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VI. Approved by Committee

1. Adopt a 30-Year National Infrastructure Program

Senate: No bill filed

House: Approved by Public Works Committee

2. Civil Aviation Authority Act amendments

Senate: No bill filed

House: Approved by Transportation Committee

3. Creative Industries bill**

Senate: Under Trade Committee deliberation

House: Approved by Creative Industry and Ways and Means Committee; Pending with Appropriations Committee

4. Paid Pandemic Leave (RSR)

Senate: No bill filed

House: Approved by Labor Committee

5. Philippine Airports Authority creation

Senate: Pending in Government Corporations Committee

House: Approved by Government Enterprises and Transportation Committees

6. Unemployment Insurance

Senate: Pending in Labor Committee

House: Approved by Labor Committee





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7. Water Sector Reform Act
Senate: Pending in Public Services Committee
House: Approved by Government Reorganization and Appropriations Committees

VII. Under Committee/TWG Deliberation

1. Contractor's License Law amendments**
Senate: Under Trade Committee deliberation
House: Under Trade TWG deliberation
2. Freedom of Information
Senate: Pending in Public Information Committee
House: Under Public Information TWG deliberation
3. Granting Emergency Powers to the President to address Traffic Congestion/Creating the Office of Mobility Czar
Senate: Pending Second Reading
House: Pending in Transportation Committee

VIII. Pending in Committee

1. Holiday Rationalization bill
Senate: No bill filed
House: Pending in Revision of Laws Committee

