

LAWS, RESOLUTIONS AND LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS OF THE PHILIPPINE CONGRESS RELATIVE TO THE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE 30TH AIPA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Senate of the Philippines ratified the ASEAN Charter in 2008. Hence, the Philippine Congress binds itself to AIPA initiatives in support of and as a contribution to the creation of an ASEAN Community in 2015.

The Philippines has enacted pertinent laws to address the common issues expressed by AIPA to promote human rights and address global and regional security situations, namely:

- Republic Act No. 9745 – penalizes torture and other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment; and
- Republic Act No. 9372 – provides for the security of our country and protection of our people from terrorism.

On economic matters, a law was enacted to encourage entrepreneurship particularly among micro, small and medium scale enterprises (MSMSEs), and another law to address the energy situation. Thus:

- Republic Act No. 9501 – promotes and strengthens MSMSEs; and
- Republic Act No. 9513 – promotes the utilization and commercialization of renewable energy resources.

On the role of women and gender equality, the following laws were passed:

- Republic Act No. 9710 – provides a Magna Carta of Women that defines and secures the rights of the Filipino women; and
- Republic Act No. 9995 – defines and penalizes the crime of photo and video voyeurism.

Several legislative measures relevant to the thrusts of AIPA to contribute to the ASEAN Political-Security Community were also filed and are under various stages of consideration. Some of these measures include:

- House Bill No. 966 – An Act Improving Philippine Commitment to Human Rights Promotion and Protection by Providing the Necessary Mechanisms for the Prevention of the Occurrence and Protection from the Adverse Effects of Internal Displacement
- House Bill No. 6633 – An Act Defining and Penalizing Crimes Against International Humanitarian Law, Genocide and Crimes Against Humanity, Operationalizing Universal Jurisdiction, Designating Special Courts, and for

Related Purposes

- House Bill No. 590 – An Act Penalizing the Provision of Firearms, Ammunitions, Explosives, Chemical, Biological or Nuclear Weapons or Any Parts or Components Used in the Manufacture Thereof to Enemies of the State
- House Bill No. 854 – An Act Allowing Law Enforcement Officers to Monitor and Record Communications and Conversations Through Wire-Tapping, Electronic Surveillance and Other Modern Covert Investigative Techniques Upon Written Order of the Court in Case of Any Attempt or Conspiracy to Commit Any of the Specified Unlawful Acts Penalized Under Article II of Republic Act No. 9165, Otherwise Known as the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002
- House Bill No. 4203 – An Act Securing the Philippine's Borders to Make More Effective the Prohibition Against the Entry of Illegal Drugs into the Country

The Philippine Congress, particularly the House of Representatives, shall do its share in the establishment of a mechanism of cooperation and information exchange among the parliaments of ASEAN in accordance with the ASEAN Charter and the AIPA Statute, and shall extend its full support to the ASEAN initiative to harmonize the laws of ASEAN Member States on matters of common concern.