

Philippine Business Groups Joint Foreign Chambers of the Philippines

American Chamber of Commerce of the Phils., Inc. ♦ Australian-New Zealand Chamber of Commerce (Phils.), Inc. ♦ Canadian Chamber of Commerce of the Phils., Inc. ♦ European Chamber of Commerce of the Phils., Inc. ♦ Foundation for Economic Freedom ♦ IT and Business Process Association of the Philippines ♦ Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Phils., Inc. ♦ Korean Chamber of Commerce of the Phils., Inc. ♦ Makati Business Club ♦ Management Association of the Philippines ♦ Philippine Association of Multinational Companies Regional Headquarters, Inc. ♦ Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry ♦ Semiconductors Electronics Industries in the Philippines, Inc.

July 8, 2019



President Rodrigo Roa Duterte

Office of the President
Malacañang Palace
Jose Laurel St.
San Miguel, Metro Manila



**AMCHAM
PHILIPPINES**
AMERICAN

Dear Mr. President:

We, the undersigned Philippine business groups and foreign chambers, write to recommend for your consideration legislative measures for enactment by the 18th Congress to improve the Philippine economy and our international competitiveness. We are writing similar letters to the leaders of the 18th Congress.



We would like to congratulate your administration for achieving a highly productive partnership with the 17th Congress that improves the country's business environment. We commend you and the members of the legislature for enacting key economic and social legislation such as the Agricultural Free Patent Reform, the Bangsamoro Organic Law, the Ease of Doing Business Act, the Institutionalization of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps), the National ID system, the Revised Agricultural Tariffication Law, the Revised Corporation Code Act, the first bill of the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion Package, and the Universal Healthcare Act amendments, among others.



CANADIAN

We also appreciate your certification of three bills the Philippine business groups and the Joint Foreign Chambers strongly support, namely: amendments to the Public Service Act, amendments to the Retail Trade Liberalization Act, and amendments to the Foreign Investment Act. We hope these will be re-certified.



EUROPEAN

After these meetings we jointly identified two sets of reforms we support for the 18th Congress. These follow, divided into two sets: Priority list A (13 measures) and Priority list B (15 measures.)

Priority list A

1. Public Service Act amendments
2. Train 2: TRABAHO (CIT and FIR)
3. Foreign Investment Act amendments
4. Retail Trade Act amendments
5. Apprenticeship Program Reform
6. Build Operate Transfer Law amendments





7. Freedom of Information Act
8. Bank Secrecy Law amendments
9. Foreign equity restriction amendments to the Constitution
10. Train 3: Property Valuation and Assessment
11. Train 4: Capital Income and Financial Taxes
12. Open Access in Data Transmission Act
13. Water Department Act



JAPANESE

Priority List B

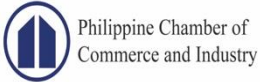


KOREAN

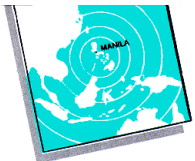
1. Farm Entrepreneurship Act
2. PEZA Act amendments
3. Train2+: Excise Tax on Alcoholic Beverages
4. Agri-Agra law amendments
5. Holiday Rationalization Act
6. National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Authority Act
7. National Land Use Act
8. National Traffic and Congestion Crisis Act
9. Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board amendments
10. PhilPorts Act (amend PPA Charter)
11. Water Regulatory Commission Act
12. CAAP Act amendments
13. CA 541 amendments
14. National Transportation Safety Board Act
15. Philippine Airports Authority Act



We urge that some of these proposals be part of your administration’s key agenda items for your important third State of the Nation Address. We believe these reforms will generate substantial impact in achieving our shared vision of inclusive growth through job generation, poverty reduction, and global competitiveness.



Sincerely yours,



PAMURI

ERNESTO M. ORDOÑEZ
President
Alyansa Agrikultura

JAMES WILKINS
President
American Chamber of Commerce
of the Philippines, Inc.

DANIEL ALEXANDER
President
Australia-New Zealand Chamber
of Commerce of the Philippines, Inc.

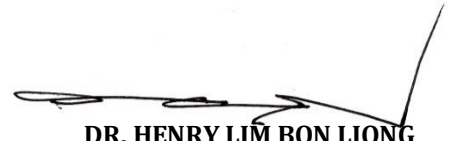




JULIAN PAYNE
President
Canadian Chamber of Commerce
of the Philippines, Inc.



NABIL FRANCIS
President
European Chamber of Commerce
of the Philippines, Inc.



DR. HENRY LIM BON LIONG
The Federation of Filipino-
Chinese Chambers of
Commerce and Industry, Inc.



CALIXTO CHIKIAMCO
President
Foundation for
Economic Freedom



REY UNTAL
President and CEO
IT and Business Process
Association of the Philippines



KEIICHI MATSUNAGA
President
Japanese Chamber of Commerce and
Industry of the Philippines, Inc.



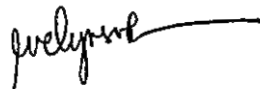
HOIK LEE
President
Korean Chamber of Commerce
of the Philippines, Inc.



EDGAR O. CHUA
Chairman
Makati Business Club



RIZA MANTARING
President
Management Association
of the Philippines



EVELYN NG
President
Philippine Association of
Multinational Companies Regional
Headquarters, Inc.



DANILO C. LACHICA
President
Semiconductor and Electronics Industries
in the Philippines, Inc.

Cc.

Secretary Salvador Medialdea

Executive Secretary, Office of the President

Secretary Adelino Sitoy

Presidential Adviser on Legislative Affairs and Head

Secretary Karlo Nograles

Cabinet Secretary of the Philippines

Secretary Carlos G. Dominguez

Department of Finance

Secretary Ramon Lopez

Department of Trade and Industry

Secretary Ernesto Pernia

National Economic and Development Authority

Atty. Michael Ong

Deputy Executive Secretary for General Administration