

March 3, 2020



Sen. Pia Cayetano
Chairperson
Committee on Ways and Means
Senate of the Philippines
Pasay City, Manila



Dear Chairperson Cayetano:

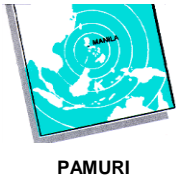
We would like to express our sincere and deep appreciation for listening to our appeal to make improvements to the House CITIRA Bill and for providing a better incentive package in Senate Bill No. 1357.



Although SB 1357 makes welcome improvements to the previous versions of CITIRA, there remain a number of concerns which the undersigned foreign chambers and business groups hope can be addressed by the Senate, including:



- The slow schedule of reduction in CIT;
- The short transition period granted to ROHQs;
- The grant of only a maximum 7 year transition period even to industries that export 100% or almost 100% of their goods and/or services;
- The lack of clarity on whether existing registered business entities can register their expansion activities or renew their incentives;
- The grant of exclusive and original jurisdiction to the Secretary of Finance to interpret provisions of tax incentives; and
- The extreme reductions in the powers and functions of IPAs.



Attached is the consolidated position paper of the Joint Foreign Chambers of the Philippines, IBPAP, and SEIPI discussing further and providing suggestions to all remaining concerns of the undersigned chambers and organizations on SB 1357.



We appreciate your sincere effort to achieve a resolution to the long-standing reform proposals which are so important to our investors, our employees, and to government revenue agencies. We hope that our comments and suggestions will contribute to achieving this worthwhile goal. We look forward to any questions you may have on our proposals.



Sincerely yours,



PETER HAYDEN
President
American Chamber of
Commerce of the
Philippines, Inc.

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

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



NABIL FRANCIS
President
European Chamber of
Commerce
of the Philippines

REY UNTAL
President & CEO
Information Technology and
Business Process Association of
the Philippines

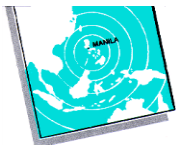
KEIICHI MATSUNAGA
President
Japanese Chamber of
Commerce and Industry
of the Philippines, Inc.



HO IK LEE
President
Korean Chamber of
Commerce
of the Philippines, Inc.

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

DANILO LACHICA
President
Semiconductor & Electronics
Industries in the Philippines
Foundation, Inc.



PAMURI

CC: All senators
Sec. Carlos G. Dominguez III
Sec. Ramon M. Lopez
Usec. Karl Kendrick T. Chua
Usec. Ceferino S. Rodolfo

