

The background of the cover features a large, faint, circular seal of the National Tax Research Center. The seal contains the text "NATIONAL TAX RESEARCH" at the top and "Public" at the bottom. In the center of the seal is a shield with a sunburst in the upper half and a lion and an eagle in the lower half. A quill pen is positioned diagonally across the shield.

2021

Tax Reforms and Developments

NATIONAL TAX RESEARCH CENTER
Department of Finance



HON. CARLOS G. DOMINGUEZ
Secretary
Department of Finance



MARLENE A. LUCERO-CALUBAG
Executive Director



DEBBIE F. ASISTIO-SY
Deputy Executive Director



ATTY. MARK LESTER L. AURE
OIC - Deputy Executive Director
and Chief, Local Finance Branch



GIAN CARLO D. RODRIGUEZ
OIC - Deputy Executive Director
Chief, Administrative and
Financial Branch



MONICA G. REMPILO
Chief, Economics Branch



DONALDO M. BOO
Chief, Direct Taxes Branch



JONAH P. TIBUBOS
Chief, Tax Statistics Branch



ROSELYN C. DOMO
Chief, Fiscal Incentives Branch



JASON P. RAPOSAS
Chief, Special Research and
Technical Services Branch



MA. BERLIE L. AMURAO
Chief, Indirect Taxes Branch



MA. RHEA L. CARO
Chief, Planning and
Coordinating Branch



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Finance
NATIONAL TAX RESEARCH CENTER
3rd Floor, Palacio del Gobernador Condominium
Gen. Luna Street cor. A.Soriano Jr. Avenue
Intramuros, Manila



His Excellency
President of the Republic
of the Philippines
Malacañang, Manila

Thru: The Secretary of Finance

SIR:

I have the honor to submit the 2021 Annual Report of the National Tax Research Center. This report briefly presents the studies conducted by the NTRC, as well as the various technical assistance rendered by this Office to different government and private entities. A brief description of the training programs and activities of the staff during the year is also presented.

Very truly yours,



MARLENE A. LUCERO - CALUBAG
Executive Director

TABLE OF CONTENTS

i - iv INTRODUCTION

1 SALIENT FEATURES OF TAX LEGISLATION PROMULGATED IN 2021

28 MAJOR STUDIES AND OTHER RESEARCHES

36 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN THE ASSESSMENT OF REFERRED TAX BILLS

66 FISCAL INCENTIVES REVIEW BOARD RESOLUTIONS ISSUED IN 2021

75 STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

INTRODUCTION

The year 2021 remained a challenging year for the country due to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic coupled with natural disasters that affected the country's economy and its people. Nevertheless, Filipinos are known to be resilient with ability to rise above challenges and uncertainties. The world witnessed the spirit of 'bayanihan' as Filipinos opened community pantries for the poor, where people gave according to one's ability and received according to one's need. The Philippines' first Olympic gold by Ms. Hidilyn Diaz boosted the pride and morale of the Filipinos and paved the way for several proposals of granting tax incentives and other benefits for professional athletes, bringing home honor and glory to the country.

The passage of Republic Act (RA) No. 11534, or the "Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises (CREATE) Act" which was approved on March 26, 2021, has concretized the aspiration of the Duterte Administration of providing the largest fiscal stimulus for businesses and increasing the country's investment appeal to better compete with its ASEAN counterparts.

The CREATE Act strengthened the Fiscal Incentives Review Board (FIRB) where the NTRC serves as its Secretariat since 1987. The law expanded the functions and powers of the FIRB wherein in addition to its mandate of granting tax subsidy to government-owned or-controlled corporations, government instrumentalities, government commissaries, and state universities and colleges, it now exercises policy-making and oversight functions on the administration and grant of tax incentives by the Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs).

As a consequence thereof, the organizational structure and staffing pattern of the NTRC has been increased in order to support the expanded functions of the FIRB. Three additional groups were created: Fiscal Incentives Management Group, Monitoring and Evaluation Group, and the Legal Group. Each group composed of at least two divisions is headed by a Deputy Executive Director. The existing Administrative and Financial Branch of the NTRC was converted into a group headed by a Deputy Executive Director and composed of four divisions: Finance, Human Resource Management and Development, General Services, and Management Information System.

INTRODUCTION

As part of the duties and functions of the NTRC as Secretariat to the FIRB, the following specific tasks were performed in 2021: (1) reviewed and processed applications for tax incentives and tax subsidies; (2) prepared evaluation reports thereon based on established target performance metrics; (3) coordinated with the IPAs and members of the FIRB for the regular and/or special meetings as may be called upon for the purpose; and (4) conducted cost-benefit analyses on tax incentives to determine their impact to the economy and whether agreed performance targets are met, provided inputs and technical support to the Department of Finance (DOF) in the drafting of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the CREATE Act, and assisted in the development of the FIRB online portal, that is, the Fiscal Incentives Registration and Monitoring System or FIRMS.

The NTRC prepared basic studies supportive of national goals and priorities, particularly on the tax reform measures/packages, e.g., (1) Tax Assessment of Stock Transaction Tax as Amended by RA 10963; (2) Tax Assessment of 5% Excise Tax on Invasive Cosmetic Procedures Pursuant to Section 46 of RA 10963; (3) Profile and Taxation of Health Maintenance Organization Industry in the Philippines; (4) Profile and Taxation of Cooperatives in the Philippines and the ASEAN Region; and (5) Market-Based Instruments to Support the Local Activated Carbon Industry.

Several studies were also prepared in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic: (1) A Review of the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Travel Tax Collection of the Government; and (2) A Review of the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Stock Transaction Tax and Initial Public Offering Tax Collection of the Government.

On referred bills by Congress and the DOF-Policy Research and Liaison Office (PRLO), the NTRC submitted to the PRLO 195 comments on tax bills and Resolutions as input to the DOF position paper on tax proposals.

With regard to Package 4, or the “Passive Income and Financial Intermediary Taxation”, the NTRC provided both the technical and secretariat support to the DOF’s Revenue Operations Group and the Strategy, Economics, and Results Group in the preparation of revenue estimates, cross-country comparisons, answered queries from stakeholders, and attended meetings and technical briefings regarding P4, among others.

As [Secretariat to the FIRB](#), the NTRC processed and evaluated applications for tax subsidies of certain government agencies and commissaries for consideration of the FIRB Technical Committee and the Board Proper. The FIRB issued eight

INTRODUCTION

Resolutions and ten Certificates of Entitlement to Subsidy to certain government agencies and provided 175 technical assistance relative to tax subsidy applications of various government agencies.

As *Secretariat to the Task Force on Fees and Charges*, the NTRC monitored the compliance of various National Government Agencies (NGAs) in the revision of fees and charges pursuant to Administrative Order No. 31 on the rationalization of fees and charges; and provided technical assistance on fee revision and cost determination to certain NGAs.

As *Consultant to the Executive Committee on Real Property Valuation (ECRPV) and Technical Committee on Real Property Valuation (TCRPV)*, the NTRC attended 31 ECRPV/TCRPV meetings/public consultations and six public hearings in coordination with the Bureau of Internal Revenue in the revision of zonal values in various Revenue District Offices in the country.

Other activities for 2021 included participation in the DOF's gender mainstreaming program in compliance with the provisions of RA 9710 or the "Magna Carta of Women". The NTRC prepared the Annual Gender and Development (GAD) Plans and Budget (GPB) for CY 2022 and accomplishment reports and attended several capacity development webinars on gender analysis and GAD planning and budgeting. The Agency once again received the endorsement of its GPB for CY 2021 from the Philippine Commission on Women.

The NTRC has been a recipient of the Certificate of Compliance for being fully compliant with the set of Freedom of Information requirements as validated by the Presidential Communications Operations Office, pursuant to Section 5 (b) of Memorandum Circular No. 2021-1, issued by the Inter-Agency Task Force on the Harmonization of National Government Performance Monitoring, Information, and Reporting Systems (Task Force Administrative Order 25, s. 2011).

Moreover, the NTRC received a recertification for the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) 9001:2015 Quality Management System. The ISO 9001:2015 recertification once again attested to the fact that the NTRC, consistently provided services that meet customers' needs and satisfaction.

INTRODUCTION

Finally, as part of its mission to provide continuing staff development, officials and employees attended various training to keep abreast with the latest trends and developments in taxation.

This Annual Report summarizes the works undertaken by the NTRC during the year under review as input to policymakers to make the tax system a more effective tool for economic development and growth, viz.:

- a. Chapter 1 presents the features of tax laws, tariffs, and other reform measures legislated and adopted during the year;
- b. Chapter 2 presents the highlights of basic studies undertaken during the year;
- c. Chapter 3 presents the technical assistance rendered through various comments on tax bills undertaken during the year;
- d. Chapter 4 presents the FIRB resolutions issued during the year; and
- e. Chapter 5 presents the staff development and similar activities through the participation of NTRC officials and employees in seminars and conferences.

-oOo-

Chapter 1

SALIENT FEATURES OF TAX LEGISLATION PROMULGATED IN 2021

RA 11523 An Act Ensuring Philippine Financial Industry Resiliency Against the COVID-19 Pandemic

RA 11523, otherwise known as the “Financial Institutions Strategic Transfer (FIST) Act”, signed into law by the President on February 16, 2021, is part of the government’s economic recovery program to mitigate the adverse effects of the Coronavirus Disease of 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. The FIST Act recognized the role of banks and other financial

institutions (FIs) as mobilizers of savings and investments and in providing the needed financial system liquidity to keep the economy afloat. It thus declared the following policies of the State:

- a. To develop and maintain a sound financial sector for the country;
- b. To address the non-performing asset (NPA) problems of the financial sector;
- c. To encourage private sector investments in NPAs;
- d. To eliminate existing barriers in the acquisition of NPAs;
- e. To help in the rehabilitation of distressed businesses with the end in view of their becoming economic value-added contributors; and

- f. To improve the financial system's liquidity, which can be harnessed to propel economic growth and maintain financial stability.

The law also established the Financial Institutions Strategic Transfer Corporation (FISTC) as a stock corporation organized in accordance with RA 11232¹, otherwise known as the "Revised Corporation Code of the Philippines". The FISTC is not allowed to be incorporated as a one-person corporation but shall be incorporated primarily to invest in or acquire NPAs of FIs.

Section 15 of RA 11523 provided that the transfer of NPAs from the FI to the FISTC and from FISTC to a third party in favor of an FI or in favor of the FISTC shall be exempt from the following taxes:

- a. Documentary stamp tax (DST) on the transfer of NPAs and dation in payment may be imposed under Title VII of the National Internal Revenue Code (NIRC) of 1997, as amended by RA 10963, otherwise known as the "Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN) Act";
- b. Capital gains tax imposed on the transfer of lands and/or other assets treated as capital assets as defined under Section 39(A)(1) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended;
- c. Creditable withholding income taxes imposed on the transfer of land and/or building treated as ordinary assets pursuant to the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) Revenue Regulations (RR) No. 2-98; and
- d. Value-added tax (VAT) on the transfer of NPAs as may be imposed under Title IV of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, or gross receipts tax under Title V of the Tax Code, whichever is applicable pursuant to regulations of the BIR.

The abovementioned transfers of NPAs shall also be subject to the following, in lieu of the applicable fees:

- a. Fifty percent of the applicable registration and transfer fees on the transfer of real estate mortgage and security interest to and from the

¹ Approved on February 20, 2019.

Chapter 1

TAX LEGISLATION

FISTC, as imposed in accordance with the existing circular of the Land Registration Authority (LRA);

- b. Fifty percent of the filing fees for any foreclosure initiated by the FISTC in relation to any NPA acquired from an FI, as prescribed by the Rules of Court; and
- c. Fifty percent of the land registration fees as prescribed under the existing circulars of the LRA.

The transfers from the FISTC to a third party of NPAs acquired by the FISTC within a two-year period, or within such extended period, or transfers by way of dation in payment by a borrower or by a third party to the FISTC shall enjoy the incentives and exemption privileges enumerated above for a period of not more than five years from the date of acquisition by the FISTC. Provided, properties acquired by the FISTC from government financial institutions or GOCCs devoted to socialized or low-cost housing shall not be converted to other uses.

Section 16 of the law provided the following additional tax exemption and privileges to encourage the infusion of capital and financial assistance by the FISTC for the rehabilitation of the financial consumer's business:

- a. The FITSC shall be exempt from the income tax on net interest income, DST, and mortgage registration fees on new loans in excess of existing loans extended to borrowers with non-performing loans (NPLs) that the FITSC has acquired; and
- b. In case of capital infusion by the FISTC to the borrower with NPLs, the FISTC shall also be exempt from the DST.

The tax exemptions and fee privileges granted under Section 16 of RA 11523 shall apply for a period of not more than five years from the date of acquisition of NPLs by the FISTC.

Section 17, on the other hand, provided that any loss incurred by an FI as a result of the transfer of an NPA within the two-year period from the effectivity of the law shall be treated as an ordinary loss. Provided, that the accrued interest and penalties shall not be included as a loss on said loss carry-over from operations,

subject to the provisions of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, on net operating loss carry-over or NOLCO. Such loss incurred by the FI from the transfer of NPAs within the two-year period from the law's effectivity may be carried over for a period of five consecutive taxable years immediately following the year of such loss. For purposes of gain or loss, the carry-over shall be subject to pertinent laws.

-oOo-

RA 11525
An Act Establishing the
COVID-19 Vaccination
Program Expediting the
Vaccine Procurement and
Administration Process,
Providing Funds Therefor,
and for Other Purposes

RA 11525, otherwise known as the "COVID-19 Vaccination Program Act of 2021", approved on February 26, 2021, adopted an integrated approach to health development to make available essential social services to all people at an affordable cost. It was enacted to establish the COVID-19 Vaccination Program to expedite the vaccine procurement and administration process, and provide funds therefor.

The law had the following objectives:

- a. Address the adverse impact of COVID-19 through the procurement and administration of safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines by the National Government through the Department of Health (DOH) and the National Task Force (NTF) against COVID-19 and other duly constituted authorities and instrumentalities;
- b. Source and procure through the DOH and the NTF, either through themselves jointly or in cooperation with any national government agency or instrumentality or local government unit, safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines;
- c. Recognize the experimental nature of COVID-19 vaccines available in the market and compensate for any serious adverse effects arising from the use of COVID-19 vaccine experienced by people inoculated through the COVID-19 Vaccination Program; and

- d. Creation of a COVID-19 National Vaccine Indemnity Fund to be administered by the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation to compensate persons encountering serious adverse effects pursuant to the preceding paragraph.

The law also provided exemptions from import duties, taxes, and other fees for the procurement, deployment, and administration of COVID-19 vaccines. Beginning January 1, 2021, the procurement, importation, donation, storage, transport, deployment, and administration of COVID-19 vaccines through the COVID-19 Vaccination Program by the government or any of its political subdivisions and by private entities are exempt from customs duties, VAT, excise tax, donor's tax, and other fees provided that the vaccines are not intended for resale or other commercial use and distributed without consideration from persons to be vaccinated.

-oOo-

RA 11534
An Act Reforming the Corporate Income Tax and Incentives System, Amending for the Purpose Sections 20, 22, 25, 27, 28, 29, 34, 40, 57, 109, 116, 204, and 290 of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as Amended, and Creating Therein New Title XIII, and for Other Purposes

RA 11534, otherwise known as the "Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises" (CREATE) Act, which was signed into law on March 26, 2021 and took effect on April 11, 2021, amended several provisions of the NIRC of 1997, as amended. The CREATE Act provided, among others, the lowering of the corporate income tax (CIT) rate; lowering of the preferential tax rate for proprietary educational institutions and hospitals; additional deductions on labor training expenses; VAT exemptions of certain medicines, medical supplies, and vaccines; and incentives for critical exporters and domestic market enterprises.

The CREATE Act, in particular, introduced a new Title XIII in the NIRC of 1997, as amended, which provided a general provision for the tax incentives regime in the country (Section 16). On the other hand, Section 17 amended and repealed specific provisions of various investment laws in the country that are inconsistent with the provisions of the new Title XIII of the NIRC of 1997, as amended. The law also

expanded the FIRB role, an existing government body to improve the governance of the incentives.

On the amendments to the corporate income taxes

- a. Included the one-person corporation or OPC in the definition of the term “corporation” (Section 4);
- b. Lowered the CIT rate from 30% to 25% beginning July 1, 2020. Provided, that corporations with net taxable income not exceeding P5 million and with total assets not exceeding P100 million, excluding land on which the particular business entity’s office, plant, and equipment are situated during the taxable year for which the tax is imposed, shall be taxed at 20% (Section 6);
- c. Lowered the Minimum Corporate Income Tax (MCIT) rate from 2% to 1% beginning July 1, 2020, until June 30, 2023 (Section 6);
- d. Lowered the preferential income tax rate from 10% to 1% for proprietary educational institutions and hospitals beginning July 1, 2020, until June 30, 2023 (Section 6);
- e. Exempted foreign-sourced dividends from the final withholding tax. Provided, that the funds from such dividends actually received or remitted into the Philippines are reinvested in the business operations of the domestic corporation in the Philippines within the next taxable year from the time it is received and shall be limited to funding the working capital requirements, capital expenditures, dividend payments, investment in domestic subsidiaries, and infrastructure projects. It also provided that the domestic corporation holds directly at least 20% of the outstanding shares of the foreign corporation and has held the shareholdings for a minimum of two years at the time of the dividend distribution (Section 6);
- f. Subjected the regional operating headquarters to the regular CIT beginning January 1, 2022 (Section 7);
- g. Increased the final income tax rate for interest income derived under the expanded foreign currency deposit system by resident foreign corporations from 7.5% to 15% (Section 7);

Chapter 1

TAX LEGISLATION

- h. Imposed 15% final tax upon the net capital gains realized during the taxable year from the sale, barter, exchange, or other dispositions of shares of stock in a domestic corporation except shares sold or disposed of through the stock exchange by both resident and non-resident foreign corporations (Section 7);
- i. Repealed improperly accumulated earnings tax (Section 8); and
- j. Provided allowance of 150% deduction from taxable income for labor training expenses incurred for the skills development of enterprise-based trainees enrolled in public senior high schools, public higher education institutions, or public technical and vocational institutions and duly covered by an apprenticeship agreement under Presidential Decree (PD) No. 442², series of 1974, or the “Labor Code of the Philippines”, as amended, shall be granted to enterprises. Provided, that for the additional deduction for enterprise-based training of students from public educational institutions, the enterprise shall secure proper certification from the Department of Education (DepEd), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), or Commission on Higher Education (CHED). Such deduction shall not exceed 10% of direct labor wage (Section 9).

On the amendments to indirect taxes

- a. Expanded the coverage of the VAT exemptions to include the following transactions:
 - i. Sale or distribution, importation, printing, or publication of any educational material covered by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization agreement, including digital and electronic format;
 - ii. Sale of or importation of prescription drugs and medicines for cancer, mental illness, tuberculosis, diabetes, high cholesterol, hypertension, and kidney disease beginning January 1, 2021, instead of January 1, 2023;

² Entitled, “A Decree Instituting a Labor Code Thereby Revising and Consolidating Labor and Social Laws to Afford Protection to Labor, Promote Employment and Human Resources Development and Insure Industrial Peace Based on Social Justice”, (May 1, 1974).

- iii. Sale or importation of the following from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2023:
 - 1. Capital equipment, its spare parts, and raw materials necessary for the production of personal protective equipment components such as coveralls, gowns, surgical caps, surgical masks, N-95 masks, scrub suits, goggles and face shields, double or surgical gloves, dedicated shoes, and shoe covers, for COVID-19 prevention;
 - 2. All drugs, vaccines, and medical devices specifically prescribed and directly used for the treatment of COVID-19; and
 - 3. Drugs for the treatment of COVID-19 approved by the Food and Drug Administration for use in clinical trials, including raw materials directly necessary for the production of such drugs;
- b. For persons whose sales or receipts are exempt under Section 109(CC) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, from the payment of VAT and who are not VAT-registered, they will pay a percentage tax of 1% from 3% of their gross quarterly sales or receipts effective July 1, 2020, until June 30, 2023 (Section 13); and
- c. Veto of the amendment to Section 109(P) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, on the increase of the VAT-exempt threshold on sales of real properties on a residential lot, house and lot, and other residential dwellings.

On tax and duty incentives

- a. Tax incentives that may be granted to registered projects or activities and the conditions and period of availment thereof (Sections 294, 295, and 296):
 - i. Income Tax Holiday;
 - ii. Special Corporate Income Tax Rate;
 - iii. Enhanced Deductions;

- iv. Duty exemption on importation of capital equipment, raw materials, spare parts, or accessories; and
- v. VAT exemption on importation and VAT zero-rating on local purchases.

On the expanded functions of the FIRB

- a. Expanded functions and powers of the reconstituted FIRB, include oversight powers in the grant and administration of tax incentives of investment promotion agencies and other government agencies administering tax incentives, approval or disapproval of grant of incentives to registered business enterprises upon the recommendation of the concerned investment promotion agency, monitoring and audit of compliance to performance standards of tax incentives beneficiaries, cancellation, suspensions, or withdrawal of the enjoyment of tax incentives for any violation/s of the conditions imposed in the said grant, among others (Section 297);
- b. Formulation of the Strategic Investment Priority Plan, which shall contain the priority projects or activities eligible for incentives, scope, and location of industry tiers, recommendations for types of fiscal and non-fiscal support needed to create high-skilled jobs to grow a local pool of enterprises, particularly micro, small and medium enterprises, that can supply to domestic and global value chains, to increase the sophistication of products and services that are produced and/or sourced domestically, to expand domestic supply and reduce dependence on imports, and to attract significant foreign capital or investment (Section 300);
- c. Power of the President to approve a set of incentives not exceeding 40 years to attract highly desirable projects or very specific industrial activities that will create more employment, higher level of skills training, and greater value-added to the economy (Section 301); and
- d. Tax incentives management and transparency (Sections 305 to 308).

-oOo-

RA 11537

An Act Renewing for Another Twenty-Five (25) Years the Franchise Granted to Mindanao Islamic Telephone Company, Inc., Presently Known as Dito Telecommunity Corporation, under Republic Act No. 8627

RA 11537, approved on May 18, 2021, extended for another 25 years from its expiration on April 24, 2023, the franchise granted under RA 8627³ to Mindanao Islamic Telephone Company, Inc., presently known as Dito Telecommunity Corporation.

The franchise grantee, its successors or assignees, shall have the right, privilege, and authority to carry on the business of providing telecommunications services in and between provinces, cities, and municipalities in the Philippines and between the Philippines and other countries and territories and, for this purpose, to establish, operate, manage, lease, maintain, and purchase telecommunications systems, and other telecommunications systems, fiber optics, satellite transmission and reception systems, and other telecommunications systems and their value-added services such as transmission of voice, data, facsimile, control signs, audio and video, and all other telecommunications systems technologies as are at present available or will be made available through technical advances or innovations in the future, or construct, acquire, lease, and operate or manage transmitting and receiving stations and switching stations, both for local and international services, lines, cables or systems, as is, or are, convenient or essential to efficiently carry out the purpose of the franchise.

The grantee shall secure from the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity or the appropriate permits and licenses for the construction, installation, and operation of its telecommunications systems/facilities. The NTC shall have the power to impose such conditions relative to the construction, operation, maintenance, or service level of the telecommunications systems, as well as the authority to regulate the construction and operation of the grantee's telecommunications systems.

³ Entitled, "An Act Granting the Mindanao Islamic Telephone Company, Inc. a Franchise to Construct, Establish, Install, Maintain and Operate Wire and/or Wireless Telecommunications Systems in the Philippines", (April 18, 1998).

The law also required the grantee to provide mobile number portability (MNP) and its implementing mechanism, including the required infrastructure and processes. It shall interconnect, directly or indirectly, with the infrastructure, facilities, systems, or equipment of other telecommunications franchise grantees. The grantee shall not install network features, functions, or capabilities that will impede the implementation of a nationwide MNP system.

The law also mandated the franchise grantee to provide and promote the creation of employment opportunities as well as accept on-the-job trainees in their franchise operations. Priority shall be given to the residents of the place where the principal office of the grantee is located, and the grantees shall ensure that at least 60% of its employees are regular employees, and in no case shall the percentage of contractual employees, job orders, casuals, and independent contractors combined, exceed 40% of its total workforce.

Under Section 18 of the law, the grantee, its successors, or assignees shall be liable for the following taxes:

- a. Same taxes on real estate, buildings, and personal property, exclusive of the franchise, as other persons or corporations which are now or hereafter may be required by law to pay;
- b. VAT on all gross receipts of the business transacted under its franchise by the grantee, its successors, or assignees, in the Philippines, in lieu of any and all taxes of any kind, nature, or description levied, established, or collected by an authority whatsoever including, but not limited to, city, municipal, provincial or national, from which the grantee is hereby expressly exempted effective from the date of effectivity of RA 11537; and
- c. Income taxes payable under Title II of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, pursuant to Section 2 of Executive Order (EO) No. 72 unless the latter enactment is amended or repealed, in which case the amendment or repeal shall be applicable thereto.

Meanwhile, the radio telecommunications and electronic communications equipment, machinery, and spare parts needed in connection with the grantee's business shall be exempt from customs duties, tariffs, and other taxes.

The grantee shall file the return with and pay the tax due thereon to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue or his duly authorized representative in accordance with the NIRC of 1997, as amended. The return shall be subject to audit by the BIR.

The grantee is also committed to providing and promoting employment opportunities and accepting on-the-job trainees in the franchise operations. The grantee shall prioritize residents of the place where the principal office of the grantee is located, provided that the grantee shall ensure that at least 60% of its employees are regular employees and in no case shall the percentage of contractual employees, job orders, casuals, and independent contractors combined, exceed 40% of its total workforce. Moreover, the grantee must comply with the applicable labor standards and allowance entitlement under existing labor laws, rules and regulations, and similar issuances.

The law also provided for an equality clause which states that any advantage, favor, privilege, exemption, or immunity granted under other existing franchises, or may hereafter be granted, upon prior review and approval of Congress, shall ipso facto become part of previously granted telecommunications franchises and shall be accorded immediately and unconditionally to the grantees of such franchises: Provided, however, That the foregoing shall neither apply to nor affect the provisions of telecommunications franchises concerning territory covered by the franchise, the life span of the franchise, or the type of service authorized by the franchise.

-oOo-

RA 11540

An Act Renewing for Another Twenty-Five (25) Years the Franchise Granted to the University of the Philippines System Under Republic Act No. 8160 to Construct, Establish, Maintain, and Operate for Educational and Other Related Purposes Radio and Television Broadcasting Stations Within the University of the Philippines and in Other Areas Within the Scope of Its Operations

RA 11540 granted the University of the Philippines (UP) System, its successor or assignees, franchise to construct, establish, maintain, and operate for educational and other related purposes and in the public interest, radio and television broadcasting stations within the campuses of the UP and in other places within the scope of its operations, where

RA 11572
An Act Establishing
the Philippine Energy
Research and Policy
Institute, Defining Its
Objectives, Powers, and
Functions, and Providing
Funds Therefor

frequencies and/or channels are still available for radio and television broadcasting, including digital television system, through microwave, satellite or whatever means, as well as the use of any new technology in television and radio systems, with the corresponding technological auxiliaries and facilities, special broadcast and other program and distribution services and relay stations, for another 25 years.

On the other hand, RA 11572, otherwise known as the “Philippine Energy Research and Policy Institute Act”, approved on July 30, 2021, declared it the policy of the State to ensure energy, security, equity, and sustainability. Pursuant to the national policy of enhancing the country’s energy research and development capability, the law provided the establishment of the Philippine Energy Research and Policy Institute (PERPI), which shall be an independent agency attached to the UP.

Section 8 and Section 18 of RAs 11540 and 11572, respectively, provided that the UP System and PERPI shall be exempt from paying all taxes and fees as provided in Section 25 of RA 9500⁴ or “The University of the Philippines Charter of 2008”.

Section 25 of RA 9500 provided, among others, the following tax exemptions:

- a. Exemption from all taxes and duties of all revenues and assets of the UP used for educational purposes or in support thereof;
- b. Exemption from donor’s tax of gifts and donations of real and personal properties of all kinds and the same shall be considered as allowable deductions from the donor’s gross income, in accordance with the provisions of the NIRC of 1997, as amended. Provided, that the allowable deductions shall be equivalent to 150% of the value of such donation. Valuation of assistance other than money shall be based on the acquisition cost of the property, taking into consideration the depreciated value of property in case the said property has been used; and
- c. Exemption from taxes of all academic awards.

-oOo-

⁴ Entitled, “An Act to Strengthen the University of the Philippines as the National University”, (April 29, 2008).

RA 11554

An Act Converting the Basilan State College (BASSC) in the City of Isabela, Province of Basilan into a State University to be Known as the Basilan State University (BASSU), and Appropriating Funds Therefor

RA 11574

An Act Converting the Abra State Institute of Sciences and Technology in the Municipalities of Lagangilang and Bangued, Province of Abra into a State University, to be Known as the University of Abra, and Appropriating Funds Therefor

RA 11585

An Act Converting the Bicol State College of Applied Sciences and Technology (BISCAST) in the City of Naga, Province of Camarines Sur, into a State University to be Known as the Southeast Asian University of Technology, and Appropriating Funds Therefor

RA 11586

An Act Converting the Agusan Del Sur State College of Agriculture and Technology (ASSCAT) in the Municipality of Bunawan, Province of Agusan Del Sur into a State University, Integrating Therewith the Satellite Campus in the Municipality of Trento, Province of Agusan Del Sur, to be Known as the Agusan Del Sur State University (ADSSU), and Appropriating Funds Therefor

RA 11587

An Act Converting the Occidental Mindoro State College in the Municipality of San Jose, Province of Occidental Mindoro, into a State University to be Known as the Occidental Mindoro State University, and Appropriating Funds Therefor

RAs 11554, 11574, 11585, 11586, and 11587 converted certain educational institutions and/or their existing satellite/(extension) campuses into state universities.

The Board of Regents of the concerned universities is authorized by the said Acts to receive in trust legacies, gifts, and donations of real and personal properties of all kinds and to administer and dispose of the same when necessary for the benefit of the University subject to the limitations, directions, and instructions of the donor, if any.

The Acts provided that the importation of economic, technical, and cultural books or publications, which are for economic, technical, vocational, scientific, philosophical, historical, or cultural purposes made by the Universities upon certification by the CHED, shall be exempt from customs duties in accordance with the provisions of RA 10863, otherwise known as the “Customs Modernization Tariff Act”. Furthermore, all grants, bequests, endowments, donations, and contributions made to the Universities, to be used actually, directly, and exclusively by the Universities, shall be exempt from donor’s tax, and the same shall be considered as an allowable deduction from the gross income of the donor for purposes of computing their taxable income in accordance with the provisions of the NIRC of 1997, as amended.

-oOo-

RA 11569
An Act Extending the
Estate Tax Amnesty
and for Other
Purposes, Amending
Section 6 of Republic
Act No. 11213,
Otherwise Known as
the “Tax Amnesty Act”

RA 11569, approved on June 30, 2021, extended the period of availment of the estate tax amnesty by amending Section 6 of RA 11213⁵, or the “Tax Amnesty Act”. Section 1 of RA 11569 provided that the executor or the administrator of the estate, or if there is no executor or administrator appointed, the legal heirs, transferees, or beneficiaries, who wish to avail of the estate tax amnesty shall, within June 15, 2021, until June 14, 2023, file with the Revenue District Office of the BIR, which has jurisdiction over the last residence of the decedent, a sworn Estate Tax Amnesty Return, in such forms as may be prescribed in the implementing rules and regulations (IRR).

-oOo-

⁵ Entitled, “An Act Enhancing Revenue Administration and Collection by Granting an Amnesty on All Unpaid Internal Revenue Taxes Imposed by the National Government for Taxable Year 2017 and Prior Years with Respect to Estate Tax, Other Internal Revenue Taxes, and Tax on Delinquencies”, (February 14, 2019).

RA 11589
An Act Strengthening
and Modernizing
the Bureau of Fire
Protection and
Appropriating Funds
Therefor

RA 11589, otherwise known as the “Bureau of Fire Protection Modernization Act,” which was approved on September 10, 2021, strengthened the powers and functions of the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), which was created under RA 6975⁶, otherwise known as the “Department of the Interior and Local Government Act of 1990”, as amended.

Under the law, the BFP is tasked to establish and implement a modernization program that will enhance the capability of its personnel and acquire state-of-the-art fire prevention, fire suppression, fire investigation, and emergency medical and rescue services facilities and equipment over a period of 10 years effective upon the date of approval of the Act. The following components make up the BFP Modernization Program: (a) fire protection service; (b) force restructuring and organizational development; (c) capability, material, and technology development; (d) specialized services development; and (e) human resource development.

Section 7 of RA 11589 transferred the existing trust fund created under Section 13 of RA 9514⁷ to a new trust fund to be known as the BFP Modernization Trust Fund (BMTF), which the Chief of the BFP will administer in accordance with the existing budgeting accounting and auditing rules and regulations. The BMTF shall be used exclusively to implement the BFP Modernization Program, including all expenses for the procurement of facilities, machineries, equipment, and services, but excluding the salaries and allowances for the BFP personnel.

The funding for the BMTF will be sourced from the following:

- a. Appropriations for the BFP Modernization Program as provided in Section 12 of the Act;
- b. Eighty percent share of the BFP from all taxes, fees, and fines collected pursuant to RA 9514;

⁶ Entitled, “An Act Establishing the Philippine National Police under a Reorganized Department of the Interior and Local Government, and for Other Purposes”, (December 13, 1990).

⁷ Entitled, “An Act Establishing a Comprehensive Fire Code of the Philippines, Repealing Presidential Decree No. 1185 and for Other Purposes”, (December 19, 2008).

- c. Proceeds from the disposal of excess and uneconomically repairable equipment and other movable assets of the BFP;
- d. Funds from any budgetary surplus, as may be authorized by Congress;
- e. Loans, grants, bequests, or donations from local and foreign sources specifically earmarked to be used for the BFP Modernization Program; and
- f. All interest income that accrues to the trust fund.

Meanwhile, Section 8 of RA 11589 authorized the city and municipal governments to use their respective share of all taxes, fees, and fines collected pursuant to RA 9514 for the following purposes:

- a. Operation and maintenance of local fire stations;
- b. Construction, repair, rehabilitation, and improvement of local fire stations;
- c. Acquisition of lots and right-of-way for local fire stations;
- d. Acquisition or installation of firefighting equipment, including fire trucks and aerial ladders;
- e. Procurement of personal protective equipment, self-contained breathing apparatus, and other firefighting tools; and
- f. Other relevant programs, projects, and activities as may be identified by the BFP in accordance with Section 4, subsections (a), (c), and (d) of the Act.

-oOo-

RA 11590
An Act Taxing Philippine Offshore Gaming Operations, Amending for the Purpose Sections 22, 25, 27, 28, 106, 108 and Adding New Sections 125-A and 288 (G) of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as Amended and for Other Purposes

RA 11590, approved on September 22, 2021, amended the NIRC of 1997, as amended, to establish the tax regime of the Philippine Offshore Gaming Operation, otherwise known as POGO.

Taxation of Offshore gaming licensees

Offshore gaming licensee (OGL) shall refer to the offshore gaming operator, whether organized abroad or in the Philippines, duly licensed and authorized, through a gaming license, by the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) or any special economic zone authority or tourism zone authority or Freeport authority to conduct offshore gaming operations, including the acceptance of bets from offshore customers, as provided for in their respective charters. Meanwhile, OGL-gaming agent shall refer to the representative in the Philippines of an offshore-based operator who shall act as a resident agent for the mere purposes of receiving summons, notices, and other legal processes for the OGL and to comply with disclosure requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The OGLs are subject to a gaming tax of 5% under the new Section 125-A of the NIRC of 1997, as amended. The 5% gaming tax shall be imposed on the entire gross gaming revenue or receipts or the agreed predetermined minimum monthly revenues or receipts from gaming, whichever is higher, in lieu of all other direct and indirect revenue taxes and local taxes. The gross gaming revenue or receipts shall mean the gross wagers less payouts.

The sales to and services rendered to OGLs subject to the 5% gaming tax under Section 125-A of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, shall be subject to the 0% VAT under Sections 106(A)(2)(c) and 108(B)(9) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended.

The PAGCOR or any special economic zone authority or tourism zone authority or Freeport authority may also impose regulatory fees on OGLs which shall not cumulatively exceed 2% of the gross gaming revenue or receipts derived from gaming operations and similar related activities of all OGLs or a predetermined minimum guaranteed fee, whichever is higher.

Chapter 1

TAX LEGISLATION

Meanwhile, non-gaming revenues of Philippine-based OGLs shall be subject to an income tax equivalent to 25% of the taxable income derived during each taxable year from all sources within and without the Philippines under Section 27(F) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended. On the other hand, non-gaming revenues of foreign-based OGLs shall be subject to a CIT equivalent to 25% of the taxable income derived during each taxable year under Section 28(A)(7) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended.

The non-gaming revenues of all OGLs shall be subject to VAT or percentage tax, whichever is applicable.

Taxation of accredited service providers

An accredited service provider to an OGL shall refer to a juridical person that is duly created or organized within or outside the Philippines or a natural person, regardless of citizenship or residence, which provides ancillary services to an OGL as defined by Section 22 (II) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended or to any gaming licensee or operator with licenses from other jurisdictions. Such ancillary services may include, but shall not be limited to, customer and technical relations and support, information technology, gaming software, data provision, payment solutions, and live studio streaming services.

Except as otherwise provided in the NIRC of 1997, as amended, accredited service providers organized within the Philippines shall pay an income tax rate of 25% imposed upon the taxable income derived during each taxable year from sources within and without the Philippines. Meanwhile, accredited service providers organized outside the Philippines shall pay an income tax rate of 25% imposed upon the taxable income derived during each taxable year from sources within the Philippines.

Sale of services and sales of goods or properties by VAT-registered service providers, including accredited service providers, to OGLs subject to the 5% gaming tax under Section 125-A of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, shall be subject to 0% VAT rate. In cases, wherein the services provided are used in the non-gaming operations of the OGLs, the 0% VAT rate shall not apply.

The accredited service providers shall withhold and remit the applicable withholding taxes under the NIRC of 1997, as amended, for their purchases of goods and services.

Taxation of alien individuals employed by POGO entities

Alien individuals, regardless of their residency, term, and class of working or employment permit or visa, who are employed and assigned in the Philippines by an OGL or its accredited service provider shall have a Taxpayer Identification Number and pay a final withholding tax of 25% on their gross income. The minimum FWT due for any taxable month from the said persons shall not be lower than P12,500 and shall be withheld and remitted monthly by the employer, including the corresponding penalties, interests, and surcharges, if any, in accordance with RR 2-98, as amended.

The gross income shall include, whether in cash or in kind, basic salary/wages, annuities, compensation, remuneration, and other emoluments, such as honoraria and allowances, received by the alien employee from a POGO entity.

Any income earned from all other sources within the Philippines by foreign employees shall be subject to the income tax under the pertinent provisions of the NIRC of 1997, as amended.

All OGLs and accredited service providers that employ or engage a foreign national without the TIN shall be liable for a fine of P20,000 for every foreign national, and in proper instances, revocation of their primary and other government licenses and/or perpetual or temporary ban in employing or engaging foreign nationals for their operations.

Disposition of revenues from gaming tax on OGLs

RA 11590 also provided for the disposition of the revenues from the gaming tax on OGLs. Under the law, 60% of the total revenue collected from the gaming tax imposed on OGLs shall be allocated and used exclusively in the following manner:

- a. Sixty percent for the implementation of RA 11223, otherwise known as the “Universal Health Care Act”;
- b. Twenty percent to the Health Facilities Enhancement Program, the annual requirements of which shall be determined by the DOH; and
- c. Twenty percent for the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Provided, That the specific SDG targets shall be determined by the National Economic and Development Authority.

RA 11597

An Act Providing for the Revised Charter of the Philippine Veterans Bank, Repealing for the Purpose Republic Act No. 3518, as Amended, Otherwise Known as “An Act Creating the Philippine Veterans Bank, and for Other Purposes”

RA 11597, otherwise known as the “Philippine Veterans Bank Act”, which was approved on December 10, 2021, declared it the policy of the State to execute a viable plan that will promote the welfare of all Filipino war veterans and retired military personnel. It shall foster their socioeconomic security and general well-being by extending substantial support for their livelihood and income-generating projects through the efficient and effective revitalization of the Philippine Veterans Bank, which is deeply imbued with the public interest.

Section 6(a) of RA 11597 provides that the term “veteran or veterans” shall include primarily any person or persons who served in the regularly constituted air, land, or naval services or arms or in such non-regularly organized military units in the Philippines during World War II, and whose services with such units are duly recognized by the Republic of the Philippines or by the government of the United States of America. Provided that it also includes the widow, orphan, or a compulsory heir of a deceased veteran, as determined by existing laws, and those veterans referred to under RA 6948⁸, as amended by RAs 7696⁹ and 9396¹⁰.

Section 5(b) of the law provides that the transfer of the share/s of a veteran to the widow, orphan, or compulsory heir of a veteran by way of succession or donation shall not be subject to tax.

-oOo-

⁸ Entitled, “An Act Standardizing and Upgrading the Benefits for Military Veterans and Their Dependents”, (April 9, 1990).

⁹ Entitled, “An Act Amending Certain Sections of Republic Act No. 6948, Otherwise Known as “An Act Standardizing and Upgrading the Benefits for Military Veterans and Their Dependents”, (April 9, 1994).

¹⁰ Entitled, “An Act Redefining the Term “Veteran” Thereby Amending Further Republic Act No. 6948, as Amended, (March 18, 2007).

RA 11600

An Act Granting Maynilad Water Services, Inc. a Franchise to Establish, Operate, and Maintain a Waterworks System and Sewerage and Sanitation Services in the West Zone Service Area of Metro Manila and Province of Cavite

RA 11601

An Act Granting Manila Water Company, Inc. a Franchise to Establish, Operate, and Maintain the Waterworks and Sewerage System in the East Zone Service Area of Metro Manila and the Province of Rizal

RA 11600, approved on December 10, 2021, granted Maynilad Water Services Inc. (MWSI) a 25-year franchise to establish, operate, and maintain for commercial purposes and in the public interest, a waterworks system to ensure an uninterrupted and adequate supply and distribution of potable water for domestic, commercial, and other purposes, and for the establishment and maintenance of sewerage system and sanitation services in the West Zone Area of Metro Manila and the Province of Cavite, under a concession from the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS), or an appropriate Certificate Of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN), license, or permit from the Regulatory Office established under the Concession Agreement or its legal successor, as may be created or reorganized by executive order or by law.

Similarly, RA 11601 granted the Manila Water Company Inc. (MWCI) a 25-year franchise to establish, operate, and maintain the waterworks and sewerage system in the East Zone Area of Metro Manila and the Province of Rizal.

The Concession Agreements of the MWSI and MWCI with the MWSS shall serve as the grantees' CPCN, license, or permit to operate its waterworks and sewerage system. Section 5 of both laws authorizes the MWSS to approve the amendment of the Concession Agreements to extend their term up to the period of the franchise when public interest for affordable water security so requires, and upon grantee's application.

With regard to tariffs, rates, and other charges, Section 8 of both laws states that they must remain fair and reasonable to ensure economic viability and a fair return on investments. It shall be based on and consistent with a rate-setting methodology that the Regulatory Office shall define and publish after due consultation with stakeholders.

Chapter 1

TAX LEGISLATION

Under Section 23 of the franchise laws, the MWSI and MWCI shall be liable to pay the same taxes on their real estate, buildings, and personal property, as other persons or corporations which are now or hereafter be required by law to pay. The grantees, their successors, or assignees, shall continue to be liable for income taxes payable under Title II of the NIRC of 1997, as amended. In no case shall the income taxes due from the grantee, its successors, and assignees, be passed on to its consumers.

The grantees shall file the return with and pay the tax due thereon to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue or his duly authorized representative in accordance with the NIRC of 1997, as amended. The return shall be subject to audit by the BIR.

The franchise laws also provided for an equality clause under Section 24, which states that any advantage, favor, privilege, exemption, or immunity granted under existing franchises, or which may hereafter be granted for water distribution utility, upon prior review and approval of Congress, shall become part of the franchises and shall be accorded immediately and unconditionally to the grantees: Provided, that it shall neither apply to nor affect the provisions of waterworks and sewerage system franchises concerning territorial coverage, the term, or the type of service authorized by the franchises.

-oOo-

RA 11635 **An Act Amending** **Section 27(B) of the** **National Internal** **Revenue Code of 1997,** **as Amended, and for** **Other Purposes**

RA 11635, approved on December 10, 2021, amended Section 27(B) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, to read as follows:

“(B) Hospitals which are nonprofit and proprietary educational institutions shall pay a tax of ten percent (10%) on their taxable income except those covered by Subsection (D) hereof: Provided, that beginning July 1, 2020, until June 30, 2023, the tax rate herein imposed shall be one percent (1%): Provided, further, that if the gross income from unrelated trade, business or other activity exceeds fifty percent (50%) of the total gross income derived by such educational institutions or hospitals from all sources,

the tax prescribed in Subsection (A) hereof shall be imposed on the entire taxable income. For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘unrelated trade, business, or other activity’ means any trade, business, or other activity, the conduct of which is not substantially related to the exercise or performance by such educational institution or hospital of its primary purpose or function. ‘Proprietary educational institution’ means any private school maintained and administered by private individuals or groups with an issued permit to operate from the DepEd, or the CHED, or the TESDA, as the case may be, in accordance with existing laws and regulations.”

-oOo-

**IRR of EO 138, s. 2021
Full Devolution of
Certain Functions of
the Executive Branch
to Local Governments,
Creation of a Committee
on Devolution, and for
Other Purposes**

EO 138 served as the implementing document for the operationalization of the Supreme Court Ruling on the Mandanas-Garcia petition. As the EO called for the full devolution of certain functions of the national government (NG) to the LGUs, the NG still needs to set the national policy, development strategy, and other guiding principles needed for the stronger implementing role of the LGUs that they shall assume.

The IRR prescribed the composition and other factors regarding the Committee on Devolution constituted under Section 6 of EO 138, which shall perform functions such as overseeing and monitoring the implementation of administrative and fiscal decentralization goals. It also prescribed the creation of a devolution transition plan that the NG will prepare to ensure the smooth implementation of EO 138, which shall indicate the appropriate assignment of functions, services, and facilities to each level of government; identify and make an inventory of standards for the delivery of devolved services; and strategize or the capacity development of national government agencies (NGAs); among others. This shall be done with the help of non-government organizations, civil society organizations, and people’s organizations.

The formulation of a capacity development agenda is also pushed forth, in light of the full devolution of certain functions from the NGAs, provinces,

cities, and municipalities. Rule 9 of the IRR laid out the foundation needed for such capacity development. If implemented efficiently, it will serve as a strategy to enable LGUs to absorb, manage, and sustain the responsibilities needed under a fully devolved setup.

-oOo-

IRR of RA 11292
The Seal of Good
Local Governance
(SGLG) Act

Pursuant to Section 10 of RA 11292, the IRR was promulgated to prescribe the procedures and guidelines for institutionalizing and implementing the SGLG Act of 2019 as a performance assessment and incentive system for LGUs.

Under Rule II, the provisions of the Act and the IRR shall apply to all LGUs, including those in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

The SGLG is an award, incentive, honor, and recognition-based program for all LGUs which encourages commitment from LGUs to continuously progress and improve their performance along with various governance areas. It aims for conditions where LGUs:

- a. Uphold the practice of fiscal discipline and sustainability and transparency and accountability in the use of public funds;
- b. Prevent and prepare for disasters, whether natural or human-induced, to strengthen their resilience;
- c. Demonstrate responsiveness to the needs of, and facilitate meaningful engagement with the vulnerable and marginalized sectors of society;
- d. Set up, implement, and sustain health policies and programs that would strengthen and promote the well-being, healthy lifestyle, and safety of the public while ensuring that all individuals, especially the vulnerable, have fair opportunities for better health without causing financial hardship through the organization of an integrated healthcare delivery system;

- e. Implement education reforms and programs to support the vision of quality education for all;
- f. Enable pro-competitive policies and interventions and facilitate ease of doing business, in accordance with the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018 (RA 11032);
- g. Protect constituents from threats to life and damage to property;
- h. Safeguard and preserve the integrity of the environment through adaptive social responsibility;
- i. Foster the value of sustainable tourism and nurture culture and heritage; and
- j. Stimulate meaningful participation of youth in local governance and nation-building.

In addition, the Council of Good Local Governance (the “Council”) shall be established and shall be composed of the following:

- a. Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG);
- b. Department of Budget and Management (DBM);
- c. Department of Finance;
- d. Department of Health;
- e. Department of Social Welfare and Development;
- f. DepEd;
- g. Department of Tourism;
- h. Department of Environment and Natural Resources;
- i. National Economic and Development Authority;

Chapter 1

TAX LEGISLATION

- j. Office of Civil Defense; and
- k. One representative from the basic sectors to be nominated by the National Anti-Poverty Commission.

The IRR also highlighted the expansion of performance areas from 7 to 10. The original seven areas are: (a) Financial Administration; (b) Disaster Preparedness; (c) Social Protection; (d) Business-Friendliness and Competitiveness; (e) Peace and Order; (f) Environmental Management; and (g) Tourism, Culture, and the Arts. The three additional governance areas comprised: (a) Health Compliance and Responsiveness; (b) Sustainable Education; and (c) Youth Development. The IRR also provided for the concrete assessment criteria of the preceding areas.

As provided in Section 16 of the SGLG Act, the activities and operational expenses, related to the implementation of the said Act, other than the incentive payouts, are to be covered initially from the DILG's Performance Challenge Fund. The DILG shall include in its annual budget to be incorporated in the General Appropriation Act (GAA) the item for the SGLG operating fund in the amount equivalent to 2% of the SGLG Fund. The DILG, as the implementing agency, may recommend the proportion of the aforementioned item be increased.

Section 11 of the SGLG Act provided the creation of the said SGLG Fund, a special account under the GAA. The fund shall only be used to pay out incentives provided to LGUs that qualify for the SGLG as specified in the Council's criteria. It will also be managed and administered by the DILG, under the Council's oversight and in joint coordination with the DBM.

The use of incentives provided out of the SGLG Fund shall be controlled by the policies governing the use of 20% of the annual internal revenue allotment for local development projects, the Annual Investment Program, and the Local Development Investment Program.

-oOo-

Chapter 2

MAJOR STUDIES AND OTHER RESEARCHES

PROFILE AND TAXATION OF THE PRE-NEED INDUSTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES

This paper provided basic information on the country's pre-need industry and its tax treatment as well as the industry's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The paper also served as valuable input to fiscal policymakers in the deliberation of Package 4, or the "Passive Income and Financial Intermediary Taxation Act" (PIFITA), of the Comprehensive Tax Reform Program (CTRP).

With the government's initiatives to revitalize the pre-need industry, more Filipinos are slowly regaining their confidence in buying pre-need products, judging from the steady growth of plans sold in recent years. This pandemic highlighted how crucial it is to have safety nets in case of unexpected costs or expenses, especially for those most vulnerable.

Package 4 pushes for the shift of the tax treatment of pre-need plans from the current 12% VAT to 2% premium tax to place them on equal footing with life insurance companies as both industries are in the life insurance business. The said tax reform would make pre-need plans more affordable, thereby encouraging more Filipinos to invest and safeguard their future needs.

TAX ASSESSMENT OF THE STOCK TRANSACTION TAX AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10963

This paper assessed the revenue performance of the Stock Transaction Tax (STT) pursuant to Republic Act (RA) No. 10963, also known as the “Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN)” Law, which took effect on January 1, 2018. The TRAIN Law increased the STT rate from 0.50% to 0.60% of the gross selling price or gross value in money of the shares of stock sold, bartered, exchanged, or otherwise disposed of through the local stock exchange which the seller or transferor shall pay.

The increase in the STT rate successfully achieved its objective of generating additional revenue for the government to compensate for the revenue loss from lowering the individual income tax and finance the government’s priority social and infrastructure programs. During the initial year of the implementation of RA 10963 in 2018, the STT collection increased to P9.74 billion from P8.90 billion in 2017 and continued to grow to P10.10 billion in 2019. It was also reported that the TRAIN incremental revenues from the STT amounted to P900 million in 2019.

It is noted, however, that Package 4 of the CTRP, or the PIFITA, proposes to gradually reduce the current 0.60% STT rate to put the Philippines at par with its neighboring countries and increase market participation which will lead to a higher volume of stock transactions, hence, widening the tax base and raise more revenues for the government.

TAX ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPOSITION OF EXCISE TAX ON INVASIVE COSMETIC PROCEDURES PURSUANT TO SECTION 46 OF RA 10963

This paper assessed the revenue performance of the excise tax on invasive cosmetic procedures. RA 10963, also known as the TRAIN Law, which took effect on January 1, 2018, inserted a new section indicated as Section 150-A under Chapter VI, Title VI of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, imposed a 5% excise tax on gross receipts derived from the performance of services, net of excise tax and VAT on invasive cosmetic procedures, surgeries, and body enhancements.

Although the 5% excise tax on invasive cosmetic procedures, surgeries, and body enhancements cannot be considered a major revenue-raising measure of the government, it improved the equity and progressivity of the TRAIN Law as only those belonging to the upper- and middle-income groups bear the burden of the tax. Also, the fact that some still opted to pay the tax in 2018, despite the absence of rules and regulations to interpret the applicability of the 5% excise tax on invasive cosmetic procedures, surgeries, and body enhancements is an indication of taxpayers' willingness to contribute their fair share to the government. With RR 2-2019 now in place, it is believed that the revenue stream from the said tax will eventually increase. At this time of pandemic, whatever little revenue the government collects would greatly help bring the economy back into full swing.

PROFILE AND TAXATION OF HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATION INDUSTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES

This paper provided basic information on the country's Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) industry as well as its response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The current tax treatment and contribution of the sector to the revenue effort of the government are likewise discussed in the study to serve as valuable input to fiscal policymakers in the deliberation of Package 4, or PIFITA, of the CTRP.

The growing health consciousness of most Filipinos has led to the positive growth of the HMO industry throughout the years. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the value of availing of HMO as part of the health protection of every Filipino.

In recognition of the important role HMOs play in providing Filipinos with a wide range of health care benefits, starting from preventive care to physician care and hospitalization, Package 4 pushes for the shift of the tax treatment of HMO plans from the current 12% VAT to 2% premium tax to place them on equal footing with life insurance companies as both industries mainly engaged in human lives. The move would make HMO plans more affordable, thereby encouraging more Filipinos to invest in HMO plans to have better access to quality health care.

A REVIEW OF THE IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON THE TRAVEL TAX COLLECTION OF THE GOVERNMENT

This paper examined the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the collection of the travel tax. The COVID-19 pandemic has deterred the international travel of Filipinos due to travel restrictions and lower passenger confidence, which likewise resulted in the drastic decline of the travel tax collection in 2020, thereby, affecting the budget and funding requirements of government agencies benefitting from the said revenue.

Fifty percent of the proceeds from the travel tax is allocated to the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA) for its infrastructure projects, capital outlays, and administrative expenses. At the same time, 40% goes to the Higher Education Development Fund of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). The remaining 10% goes to the National Endowment Fund for Culture and the Arts, being maintained by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) to support, preserve, conserve, and protect the Philippine historical and cultural heritage.

It is already a given that the COVID-19 pandemic will have a lingering effect on the tourism industry. With the expectation that a full rebound in international tourism will not happen before 2023, it is, therefore, important that the present structure of the travel tax, both as to rates and coverage, is not diminished by any expansion of exemption and/or grant of discount so as not to further deplete the revenue stream from the said tax. Otherwise, tourism-related programs and projects of the TIEZA, CHED, and NCCA would likewise be unduly affected.

REVIEW OF THE IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON THE STOCK TRANSACTION TAX COLLECTIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT

This paper examined the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the stock transaction tax (STT) collection of the government. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, the stability of the country's stock market was challenged as uncertainty and risk are important aspects of decision-making in the financial markets. Accordingly, any economic shock greatly influences the stock market's

performance. The potential effect on investors is to reduce the value and number of transactions in the stock market and then the stock returns, especially when the news contains risks on a global scale. Due to the bearish trading in the local bourse, the government's collection from the STT was likewise affected.

The paper also discussed the Philippine Stock Exchange's (PSE) performance and its programs to address market volatility and regain investors' confidence in the middle of a global health crisis that started in the early part of 2020. Along with this, government economic measures likewise helped keep the stock market afloat.

To complement all of these, the government is pushing for the passage of Package 4 of the CTRP, which offers tax measures that aim to develop the country's capital market and become regionally competitive. Its immediate passage is necessary in order to sustain the positive momentum the PSE is now slowly gaining and to bring back investors' confidence in the local stock exchange.

PROPOSED MARKET-BASED INSTRUMENTS TO SUPPORT THE LOCAL ACTIVATED CARBON INDUSTRY

This study aimed to propose market-based instruments to help support the local Activated Carbon (AC) industry, thereby yielding more revenues for the government and creating more jobs in the country. Over the years, AC has become one of the major coconut export products of the country. However, the AC industry is presently suffering from a recurring shortage of its main raw material, the coconut shell, as some companies utilize the same as mere fuel with lower application value.

To better address the recurring shortage of coconut shells in the AC industry, the possibility of imposing a tax on companies using the same as merely fuel, which has a lower application value, may be explored. However, while the good intention of the proposal is recognized, the administration and enforcement of such tax may not be feasible due to the inherent complications in the coconut value chain. It also has low revenue take and its impact and effectiveness are not guaranteed. The proposal also goes against RA 9513, which promotes the use of biomass, including coconut shells, as a renewable energy source.

As an alternative measure to taxation, the industry may consider imposing restrictions on the usage of coconut shells to reduce inefficiencies associated with excessive utilization of these resources in other major sub-coconut industries.

PROFILE AND TAXATION OF THE COOPERATIVES INDUSTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES AND THE ASEAN REGION

The study provided basic information on the Philippine cooperatives industry, the tax incentives available to them, and a comparison with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) member-countries. The importance of cooperatives has been highlighted amidst the pandemic as they were able to widen sources of credit and provide other assistance to their members and non-members. In the Philippines, the tax incentives available to cooperatives are provided by RA 9520, otherwise known as the “Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008”.

Compared to its ASEAN neighbors, the cooperatives industry in the Philippines enjoy various tax exemptions, with the objective that the favorable fiscal incentive policies accorded to cooperatives will further translate into strong and wider delivery of support services to the marginalized sectors of the economy.

Cooperatives are expressly exempt from income tax in the Philippines, Brunei Darussalam, and Singapore, but they are subject to income taxes in Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, and Vietnam. Like the Philippines, certain transactions of cooperatives are exempt from the documentary stamp tax/stamp duty in Thailand and Singapore. In terms of the imposition of business tax, savings cooperatives in Thailand, with respect only to loans provided to their members or another savings cooperative, are exempt from its special business tax. In contrast, cooperatives in Myanmar may be exempted from commercial tax subject to certain conditions. In Indonesia, dividends paid by a domestic corporate taxpayer to a resident cooperative are subject to a 15% withholding tax. On the other hand, dividends paid by cooperatives in Singapore are subject to income tax.

REVENUE AND TAX EFFORT IN THE ASEAN, 2010-2019

This paper analyzed the performance of member countries of the ASEAN in terms of tax and revenue efforts or the ratios of tax and total revenues to gross domestic product from 2010 to 2019. The ASEAN, of which member-countries are perceived to have a relatively comparable pattern of public finance and system of taxation, includes the Philippines, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR), Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

This study presented statistics on government revenues of each ASEAN-member country to give insights mainly on the similarity and diversity of the tax revenue sources of these countries.

TAX IMPLICATIONS OF SECTIONS 16 AND 17 OF RA 11534

This paper provided the tax implications of Sections 16 and 17 of RA 11534, or the CREATE Act, which was enacted into law on March 26, 2021, and took effect on April 11, 2021. Section 16 of the CREATE Act introduced a new Title XIII in the NIRC of 1997, as amended, which provides a general provision for tax incentives regime in the country. On the other hand, Section 17 thereof amended and repealed specific provisions of various investment laws in the country that are inconsistent with the provisions of the new Title XIII of the NIRC of 1997, as amended.

The CREATE Act provided a time-bound single menu of incentives based on location and industry tiers to encourage investments to generate more jobs, engage in sophisticated sectors, and locate in less developed areas. These tax incentives include an income tax holiday for four to seven years followed by enhanced deductions for 10 years for export-oriented projects/activities and five years for domestic market enterprises, duty exemption on importation of capital equipment, raw materials, spare parts, or accessories.

The tailor-made set of incentives creates a more equitable tax incentives regime to allow inclusive growth and generation of jobs and opportunities in all the country's regions. Another essential feature of the CREATE Act is the formulation of the SIPP, which will contain the priority projects or activities eligible for incentives

Chapter 2

MAJOR STUDIES

to ensure a more targeted list of projects and activities with significant positive externalities and which will make the Philippines globally competitive. The expanded functions and powers of the FIRB under the law is to ensure that the grant of fiscal incentives is time-bound, performance-based, transparent, and targeted to priority industries and areas; and to strengthen as well the management and monitoring of tax incentives granted so that the government will not unnecessarily forego its much-needed revenues.

COMPARATIVE MATRIX OF THE PACKAGE 2 BILLS, LEGISLATIVE DEVELOPMENTS AND KEY FEATURES OF RA NO. 11534, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CORPORATE RECOVERY AND TAX INCENTIVES FOR ENTERPRISES (CREATE) ACT

This paper presented the highlights, legislative developments and evolution, and key features of RA 11534, otherwise known as the CREATE Act. A comparative matrix on the full provisions of House Bill No. 4157, or the Corporate Income Tax and Incentives Reform Act (CITIRA); Senate Bill No. 1357, or the CREATE Act; the Reconciled Bill as ratified by the Congress; and finally, the provisions of the CREATE Act, or RA 11534 were also presented.

-oOo-

Chapter 3

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN THE EVALUATION OF REFERRED TAX BILLS

In 2021, the NTRC prepared 195 comments on Tax Bills/Resolutions requested by the Philippine Congress and Department of Finance (DOF) and submitted these to the Policy, Research, and Liaison Office as inputs to DOF's official position thereon.

HOUSE BILLS

1. House Bill (HB) No. 187, entitled, "An Act Creating a Mandatory Feeding Program for School Children, Allocating 3% of the IRA for Every City and Municipality, and for Other Purposes";
2. HB 243, entitled, "An Act Reversing Regressive and Anti-Poor Taxation, Repealing for the Purpose Certain Sections of RA 10963 Otherwise Known as Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion Act";
3. HB 245, entitled, "An Act Exempting the System Loss Charge Component in the Sale of Electricity by Distribution Companies and Electric Cooperatives from the Coverage of the VAT, Amending for the Purpose Section 109 of the National Internal Revenue Code (NIRC) of 1997, as Amended";
4. HB 256, entitled, "An Act Classifying the Services of Franchise Grantees of Water Utilities, and Sale or Importation of Machinery and Equipment Directly Used in Operating, Maintaining, Improving and Expanding Distribution of Potable Water by Water Utilities as VAT-Exempt Transactions, Amending for

the Purpose Section 109 (1) of the NIRC, as Amended by RA 9337, and for Other Purposes”;

5. HBs 314, 4020, and 6511, entitled, “Acts Establishing the Scope and Procedure for Philippine Ship Registry, Recognition and Enforcement of Maritime Claims, and Limitation of Liability, as well as Providing Essential Incentives Which Collectively Will Promote a Comprehensive and Orderly Philippine Ship Registry System for the Regulation of Vessels Carrying the Flag State Which Shall be Known as the “Philippine Ship Registry System Act”;
6. HB 481, entitled, “An Act Exempting Oil, LPG, and Other Basic Necessities, from the Imposition of the VAT, Amending for the Purpose Section 109 (1) of RA 8424, Otherwise Known as the Tax Reform Act of 1997, as Amended by RA 9337, and for Other Purposes”;
7. HB 1612, entitled, “An Act Recognizing and Strengthening the Tax Exemptions Granted to Educational Institutions Pursuant to Article XIV, Section 4(3) of the 1987 Constitution by Amending Several Provisions of PD 1158 as Amended by RA 8424, Otherwise Known as the NIRC of the Philippines”;
8. HB 2071, entitled, “An Act Exempting Bibles and Other Religious Articles and Certain Merchandise from Taxes, Duties, Fees and Other Charges, Exempting Churches from the Requirement of Tax Exemption Certificates in Availing Tax Exemptions, and for Other Purposes”;
9. HB 2598, entitled, “An Act Providing a Five (5) Year Tax Holiday for the Horseracing Industry”;
10. HB 2808, entitled, “An Act Exempting from Estate Tax the Unpaid Balance of Just Compensation Due the Decedent Owner or His/Her Legal Heirs or Successors in Interest of Agricultural Land Acquired by the Government Under PD 27, EO 228, EO 229, RA 6657 and RA 9700 (Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program), Amending for the Purpose Section 87 of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”;
11. HB 3007, entitled, “An Act Providing for Exemption from Income Tax to Military Uniformed Personnel, Amending Further Section 24(A)(2) of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended by RA 9504 and for Other Purposes”;

12. HB 3392, entitled, “An Act Exempting Micro and Small Enterprises from National and Local Taxes Arising from Their First Five Years of Operations; Medium Enterprises from National or Local Taxes Arising from Their First Two Years of Operations”;
13. HB 3558, entitled, “An Act Granting Incentives for Commercial and Industrial Establishments, and Developers Who Will Incorporate Rainwater Harvesting Technology in Their Businesses and for Other Purposes Therefor”;
14. HB 3622, entitled, “An Act Imposing a Six-Year Moratorium on the Increase of All Government Fees and Charges”;
15. HB 3931, entitled, “An Act Exempting Petroleum Products from VAT, Amending for the Purpose Section 9 of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”;
16. HB 4316, entitled, “An Act Regulating the Application of Local Charges (At Origin and Destination) Imposed by International Shipping Lines to Comply with Existing Laws on Obligations and Contracts and International Commercial Terminology Establishing Guidelines Therefor”;
17. HB 4354, entitled, “An Act Removing the Conditions for the Condonation of All Unpaid Income Taxes Due from Local Water Districts, Amending for the Purpose Section 289-A of the NIRC, as Amended”;
18. HB 4425, entitled, “An Act Prescribing a Standardized Rate for Optional Standard Deduction at 40% of Gross Income for All Taxpayers, Amending for the Purpose Section 34(L) of NIRC of 1997, as Amended”;
19. HB 4521, entitled, “An Act Exempting Pledge of Personal Property Covering a Loan of Money Not Exceeding Ten Thousand Pesos from Documentary Stamp Tax, Amending for the Purpose Section 195 of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”;
20. HB 4538, entitled, “An Act Setting a Ceiling to the Indebtedness of the Republic of the Philippines to Ensure Macro-Economic Stability and Sustainable Growth and for Other Purposes”;
21. HB 4542, entitled, “An Act Exempting Tollway Operations from the VAT, Amending for this Purpose Sections 108 and 109 of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”;

Chapter 3

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

22. HB 4551, entitled, “An Act Exempting the Sale or Importation of Petroleum Products and Sale of Electricity from the VAT, Amending for this Purpose Sections 108 and 109 of the NIRC Of 1997, as Amended”;
23. HB 4823, entitled, “An Act Providing for a Fair and Reasonable Public Utility Jeepney (PUJ) Modernization Program to Facilitate Transitory Assistance to PUJ Drivers, Operators, and Concerned Stakeholders, Appropriating Fund Therefor, and for Other Purposes”;
24. HB 4912, entitled, “An Act Exempting Dividends from Income Tax and Abolishing the Improperly Accumulated Earnings Tax, Amending for this Purpose Sections 24(B), 25(A), and Repealing Section 29 of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”;
25. HB 5162, entitled, “An Act Exempting A Government Agency, Bureau or Instrumentality from the Payment of Taxes and Fees on the Purchase of Fire Sprinklers for the Construction, Establishment, Rehabilitation and/or Improvement of Public Buildings, Facilities and/or Structures by Amending Section 13 of RA 9514 or Otherwise Known as “The Revised Fire Code of the Philippines”;
26. HB 5397, entitled, “An Act Repealing Section 150(A) of the NIRC of 1997 and Declaring the Non-Applicability of Section 151(A)(2) and (A)(3)(a) to Jewelry Enterprises”;
27. HB 5463, entitled, “An Act Providing Incentives and Rewards to Private Entities and Individuals Who Use Water Recycling and Reuse Devices and Technologies or Develop or Undertake Effective Water Recycling and Reuse Processes or Activities and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
28. HB 6020, entitled, “An Act Providing for the Maximization of Benefits from Finite Minerals and Mineral Products and Quarry Resources and for Other Purposes”;
29. HB 6287, entitled, “An Act Creating a Network of Meister Schools in the Country, and for Other Purposes”;

30. HB 6551, entitled, “An Act Establishing the Marinduque Special Economic Zone in the Municipality of Santa Cruz, Province of Marinduque, Creating for the Purpose the Marinduque Special Economic Zone Authority, Appropriating Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes”;
31. HB 6874, entitled, “An Act Providing for a Comprehensive Policy to Accelerate and Harness the Digital Revolution to Foster Inclusive Economic Growth, Sustainable Development, and Participatory Governance”;
32. HB 7425, entitled, “An Act Imposing VAT on Digital Transactions in the Philippines, Amending for the Purpose Sections 105, 108, 109, 110, 113, 114, and 236 and Adding a New Section 105-A of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”;
33. HB 7436, entitled, “An Act Exempting Electronic Gadgets to be Used for Online Distance Learning from Taxes, Duties, Fees, and Other Charges”;
34. HB 7563, entitled, “An Act Creating the Music Development Council of the Philippines, Defining its Powers and Functions, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”;
35. HB 7756, entitled, “An Act Creating the Music Development Council of the Philippines, Defining Its Powers and Functions, Appropriating Funds Therefor, Providing for Penalties for Certain Acts, and for Other Purposes”;
36. HB 7850, entitled, “An Act Institutionalizing Water Demand Management for National Conservation, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”;
37. HB 7943, entitled, “An Act Exempting Educational Applications, Gadgets, Computers and E-Books from VAT for the Principal Use of Teachers and Students in Online and Distant Learning, Amending for the Purpose Section 109 (1) of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”;
38. HB 8164, entitled, “An Act Providing for the Revised Charter of the Philippine Veterans Bank, Repealing for the Purpose RA 3518, as Amended”;
39. HB 8259, entitled, “An Act Providing Income Tax Relief to Medical Frontliners for Taxable Year Two Thousand Twenty”;

Chapter 3

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

40. HB 8319, entitled, “An Act Exempting the Sale or Importation of Disposable Absorbent Hygiene Pads from VAT, Amending for the Purpose Section 109 of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended, and for Other Purposes”;
41. HB 8427, entitled, “An Act Providing Tax and Customs Duty Exemptions to the Revenues of, and Sponsorships, Gifts, and Donations to the Palarong Pambansa, Amending for the Purpose Section 20 of RA 10588, Otherwise Known as the “Palarong Pambansa Act of 2013”;
42. HB 8700, entitled, “An Act Strengthening the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines, Amending for the Purpose RA 9497, Otherwise Known Civil Aviation Authority Act of 2008”;
43. HB 8832, entitled, “An Act Granting an Income Tax Exemption to Senior Citizens Aged 60 and Above”;
44. HB 8895, entitled, “An Act Exempting Critical Medical Products, Essential Goods, Inputs, Raw Materials, and Equipment from Taxes, Duties, and Other Fees During Public Health Emergencies”;
45. HB 8938, entitled, “An Act to Deepen the Capital Market by Developing a Robust Institutional Investor Base”;
46. HB 9171, entitled, “An Act Imposing Excise Tax on Plastic Bags, Thereby Adding a New Section, Designated as Section 150 – C in the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”;
47. HB 9263, entitled, “An Act Institutionalizing the Income Classification of Provinces, Cities, and Municipalities, and for Other Purposes”;
48. HB 9271, entitled, “An Act Creating a Sustainable Fiscal Framework for the Separation, Retirement, and Pension Benefits of the Military Uniformed Personnel, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”;
49. HB 9306, entitled, “An Act Providing for a Comprehensive and Rationalized Grant of Rewards to Informers for the Discovery of Violations of Internal Revenue and Customs Laws”;

50. HB 9324, entitled, “An Act Providing for Relief Package to the Air Transport Sector of the Philippines”;
51. HB 9559, entitled, “An Act Establishing the Philippine Virology Science and Technology Institute and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
52. HB 9821, entitled, “An Act Institutionalizing a National Psoriasis Care Program and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
53. HB 10253, entitled, “An Act Imposing a ‘Super-Rich Tax’ on Individuals With Net Value Assets Exceeding One Billion Pesos, Amending for the Purpose Certain Provisions of the NIRC of 1997 or RA 10963, as Amended”;
54. HB 10283, entitled, “An Act Converting the Northern Negros State College of Science and Technology in Sagay City, Province of Negros Occidental, into a State University to be Known as the “State University of Northern Negros”;
55. HB 10440, entitled, “An Act Reorganizing the Land Bank of the Philippines and for Other Purposes”;

UNNUMBERED SUBSTITUTE BILLS

56. Unnumbered Substitute Bill (USB) to HBs 13, 37, 565, 1409, 1894, 2219, 2618, 3446, 3569, 3996, 4141, 4571, 4615, 4652, 5352, 5965, 5967, 6089, and 6438, entitled, “An Act Regulating the Use of Motorcycles as Public Utility Vehicles and for Other Purposes”;
57. USB to HBs 22, 44, 165, 439, 536, 602, 670, 690, 763, 874, 1304, 1366, 1494, 1557, 1787, 2081, 2700, 3159, 3276, 3291, 3355, 3487, 3511, 3801, 3985, 4096, 4271, 4395, 4575, 5003, 5026, 5057, 5342, 5496, 6263, 6562, and 6629, entitled, “An Act Providing for the Magna Carta of Barangay Health Workers”;
58. USB to HB 36, entitled, “An Act Declaring a Portion of the Philippine Rise Natural Park Situated Within the Exclusive Economic Zone of the Philippine Sea as a Protected Area with the Category of Marine Resource Reserve under

Chapter 3

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS), to be Referred to as the Philippine Rise Marine Resource Reserve, Providing for Its Management, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;

59. USB to HBs 77, 1244, 4873, 5452, and 6575, entitled, “An Act Strengthening Public-Private Partnerships and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
60. USB to HBs 97, 294, 975, 1675, 1973, 3179, 4015, 4233, 4904, 6814, and 6892, entitled, “An Act Providing for the Comprehensive Management of Hazardous Waste”;
61. USB to HBs 127, 2241, 4184, 4389, 4605, 4963, 5567, 5578, 5635, and 5964, entitled, “An Act Strengthening the Governance and Management of the Philippine Science High School System”;
62. USB to HB 178, entitled, “An Act Imposing Excise Tax on Plastic Bags, Thereby Adding a New Section, Designated as Section 150-C, in the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”;
63. USB to HBs 206 and 2246, entitled, “An Act Institutionalizing a Philippine Self-Reliant Defense Posture Program and a National Defense Industry, Repealing for the Purpose Presidential Decree (PD) No. 415, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
64. USB of HBs 265, 1684, 3351, 3614, 4860, and House Resolution (HR) No. 248, entitled, “An Act Providing for the Conservation and Protection of Wildlife Resources and Their Habitats, and Appropriating Funds Therefor, Repealing for this Purpose RA 9147 or the “Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act”;
65. USB to HBs 284, 637, 855, 2119, 3412, 4081, 5640, 5923, 6472, 7614, and 7768, entitled, “An Act Promoting Integrated Urban Agriculture in Urban Areas Nationwide to Address Food Security and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
66. USB to HBs 444, 738, 1432, 2020, 4075, 4179, 4356, 4366, 4391, 4962, 6604, 7298, 7299, 7317, and 7607, entitled, “An Act Providing the National Energy Policy and Regulatory Framework for the Use of Electric Vehicles, Appropriating Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes”;

67. USB to HBs 663, 4694, 652, 1031, 2535, 2738, 2785, 4267, 4558, 5005, 6316, 7191, and 7675, entitled, “An Act Providing for a Comprehensive Atomic Regulatory Framework, Creating for the Purpose, the Philippine Atomic Regulatory Commission, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
68. USB to HBs 770, 1251, 1893, 1910, 2299, 2520, 2794, 4493, 5374, 5435, 5495, 6799, and 8156, entitled, “An Act Institutionalizing the Use of Bicycle as an Alternative Mode of Transportation, Defining the Rights of Bicycle Riders, Establishing Appropriate Infrastructure and Facilities, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”;
69. USB to HBs 783, 784, 800, 2591, 5278, and 5548, entitled, “An Act Amending Sections 102, 104, 119(b), 201, 209, 307, 402, 407, 423, 427, 431, 800(g), 802, 806, 900, 1100, 1111, 1117, 1118, 1129, 1131, 1135, 1138, 1141, 1147(a), 1204, 1226, 1400, 1505 and 1512; and Adding Section 440-A All Under RA 10863, Otherwise Known as the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act”;
70. USB to HBs 969, 1171, 2439, 3952, and 6406, entitled, “An Act Promoting Inclusive and Sustainable Productivity Growth, Repealing for the Purpose RA 6971, Otherwise Known as the Productivity Incentives Act of 1990”;
71. USB to HB 1050, entitled, “An Act Establishing a National High School for the Arts in Barangay San Rafael, Municipality of Tigaon, Province of Camarines Sur to be Known as San Rafael National High School for the Arts and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
72. USB of HBs 1168, 1172, 1176, 2450, 2564, 3541, 3837, 4759, 4902, 7079, 7268, 7291, 7405, 7567, and 8941, entitled, “An Act Providing for a National Housing Development, Production, and Financing Program, Regularizing Its Appropriation for Its Implementation”;
73. USB to HBs 1255, 3630, 7634, entitled, “An Act Providing for the Promotion of Audiovisual Tourism, Creating the Film Philippines Office, Providing Funds Therefor”;
74. USB to HBs 1332 and 2812, entitled, “An Act Providing for a Free and Culture-Sensitive Civil Registration System for Indigenous Peoples”;

Chapter 3

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

75. USB to HBs 1475, 1771, 3253, 4082, 5344, 5585, and 6429, entitled, “An Act Institutionalizing a Philippine Cacao Development Program, Creating for the Purpose the Philippine Cacao Industry Council, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
76. USB to SB 1549, entitled, “An Act Creating the Regional Investment and Infrastructure Coordinating Hub of Central Luzon, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”;
77. USB to HBs 1655, 4115, 7398, and 7403, entitled, “An Act Establishing Information and Communications Technology Hubs Nationwide and for Other Purposes”;
78. USB to HBs 1674 and 2108, entitled, “An Act Strengthening the National Research Council of the Philippines for the Promotion of Research Work Along Scientific Lines and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
79. USB to HB 1833, entitled, “An Act to Strengthen the Competitiveness of the Philippine Motor Vehicle Manufacturing Industry”;
80. USB to HBs 1903 and 3040, entitled, “An Act Increasing the Rate of Discount Granted to Senior Citizens on Their Monthly Electric and Water Consumption, Amending for the Purpose RA No. 7432, as Amended, Otherwise Known as the “Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2010”;
81. USB to HBs 2042, 7563, and 7756, entitled, “An Act Creating the Music Development Council of the Philippines, Defining Its Powers and Functions, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”;
82. USB to HBs 2282, 2349, 5581, 6153, 6160, 6221, 6258, 6265, 6267, 6289, 6304, 6488, 6544, 6681, and 7240, entitled, “An Act Strengthening and Codifying the Alternative Child Care Laws Reorganizing for this Purpose the Inter-Country Adoption Board into the National Authority for Child Care and Providing Funds Therefor”;
83. USB to HBs 2333, 2963, 3281, 4005, 4197, 4212, 4653, 5329, 5495, and HR 748, entitled, “An Act Providing for a Magna Carta for Tricycle Drivers and Operators, Institutionalizing Mechanisms for Its Implementation, Regulation and for Other Purposes”;

84. USB to HBs 2435, 7765, and 7878, entitled, “An Act Providing for the Registration, Regulation, and Operation of Cooperative Banks and Other Purpose”;
85. USB to HB 2496, entitled, “An Act Creating the Zamboanga International Airport Authority and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
86. USB to HB 2621, entitled, “An Act Strengthening the Constitutional Rights of Government Employees to Self-Organization, Collective Bargaining and Negotiation and Peaceful Concerted Activities and Use of Voluntary Modes of Dispute Settlement”;
87. USB to HBs 2719 and 8675, entitled, “An Act Granting Hazard Pay to Prosecutors in the National Prosecution Service and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
88. USB to HB 2836, entitled, “An Act Strengthening the Legal Education Board, Thereby Amending RA 7662, Otherwise Known as the “Legal Education Reform Act of 1993”;
89. USB to HB 3372, entitled, “An Act Establishing the Biotechnology Authority of the Philippines and Appropriating Funds Thereof”;
90. USB to HBs 4256, 4622, 5143, and 8359, entitled, “An Act Strengthening Rural Banks in the Philippines Amending Further for the Purpose RA 7353 Otherwise Known as the Rural Act of 1992, as Amended”;
91. USB of HBs 4692, 6476, and 8101, entitled, “An Act Providing for the Promotion and Development of the Philippine Creative Industries and Providing Funds Therefor”;
92. USB to HBs 5174 and 7817, entitled, “An Act Designating the National Music Competitions for Young Artists (NAMCYA) as the National Youth Development Program for Music, Defining Its Role and Functions, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
93. USB to HBs 5687 and 7778, entitled, “An Act Establishing the Cordillera Autonomous Region”;

Chapter 3

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

94. USB to HBs 5782, 9956, and 10024, entitled, “An Act Granting Distinctive Honors and Privileges to National Athletes, Creating a National Endowment Fund for Sports Heroes, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
95. USB to HBs 5906 and 6243, entitled, “An Act Strengthening the National Competition Policy, Amending for the Purpose RA 10667, Otherwise Known as the Philippine Competition Act”;
96. USB to HB 6439, entitled, “An Act Declaring the Philippine Merchant Marine Academy as the National Maritime Academy, Strengthening It for the Purpose, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
97. USB to HB 6578, entitled, “An Act Creating Lamon Bay Development Authority, Defining Its Powers, Functions, and Duties, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
98. USB to HB 6863, entitled, “An Act Creating the General Paulino Santos International Airport Authority, Transferring Existing Assets of the General Santos Airport to the Authority, Vesting the Authority with Powers to Administer and Operate the General Paulino Santos International Airport, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
99. USB to HBs 7028, 7590, and 8229, entitled, “An Act Instituting a National Unemployment Insurance Program and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
100. USB to HBs 7415 and 7881, entitled, “An Act Introducing Administrative Tax Reforms, Amending Sections 21, 22, 51, 56, 58, 77, 81, 90, 91, 103, 106, 108, 109, 110, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 128, 200, 236, 237, 245 and 248, and Adding Section 291 of Republic Act No. 8424, Otherwise Known as “The National Internal Revenue Code of 1997”, as Amended”;
101. USB to HB 7741, entitled, “An Act Protecting the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous Cultural Communities Affected by Renewable Energy Investments in Their Ancestral Lands, Amending Certain Provisions of RA 9513, Otherwise Known as the Renewable Energy Act of 2008”;
102. USB to HB 7968, entitled, “An Act Establishing a Barangay Microfinance System, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;

103. USB to HB 8123, entitled, “An Act Establishing a College of Medicine in the University of Science and Technology of Southern Philippines-Cagayan De Oro City Campus in Cagayan De Oro City, Province of Misamis Oriental, to be Known as the “University of Science and Technology of Southern Philippines-College of Medicine”, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
104. USB to HB 8247, entitled, “An Act Establishing a College of Medicine in the University of Southern Mindanao (USM)-Main Campus in the Municipality of Kabacan, Province of Cotabato, to be Known as the “University of Southern Mindanao-College of Medicine”, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
105. USB to HB 8596, entitled, “An Act Declaring the Batangas State University as the National Engineering University, Strengthening It for the Purpose, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;

SENATE BILLS

106. Senate Bill (SB) No. 93, entitled, “An Act Instituting the Expanded Balikbayan Program, Amending for the Purpose RA 6768, as Amended by RA 9174, and for Other Purposes”;
107. SB 273, entitled, “An Act Enhancing Revenue Administration and Collection by Granting an Amnesty on All Unpaid Internal Revenue Taxes Imposed by the National Government for Taxable Year 2018 and Prior Years”;
108. SB 406, entitled, “An Act Amending Sections 34, 110, 113, 237-A, 255, 256, and 257 of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended, and for Other Purposes”;
109. SB 453, entitled, “An Act Granting Tax Relief to Persons with Disabilities, and for Other Purposes”;
110. SB 478, entitled, “An Act Modernizing Agriculture, Providing Funds from the Annual VAT Collections, Amending for the Purpose the NIRC of 1997, as Amended;
111. SB 592, entitled, “An Act Providing Tax Relief to the Labor Sector by Expanding the Coverage of Exclusions from Gross Income and Increasing the Amount of

Chapter 3

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

De Minimis Benefits Exempt from Tax, Amending for the Purpose Sections 32(B) and 33 of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended, and for Other Purposes”;

112. SB 836, entitled, “An Act Modernizing Healthcare and Health Infrastructure, Providing Funds from the Annual VAT Collections, Amending for the Purpose the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”;
113. SB 1007, entitled, “An Act to Reconstruct and Rehabilitate the Existing 479-Kilometer Philippine National Railways Line from San Fernando, La Union to Legazpi City, Albay, Providing Funds from the Annual VAT Collections, Amending for the Purpose the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”;
114. SB 1065, entitled, “An Act Accelerating Public Sector Investments in Local Infrastructure, Establishing for the Purpose the Local Build, Build, Build Program, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”;
115. SB 1138, entitled, “An Act Strengthening Local Government Participation in Agriculture Development by Institutionalizing a 10% Budgetary Allocation from Their Internal Revenue Allotment for the Implementation of Programs, Activities, and Services for Agriculture and Fisheries, and Amending for the Purpose Sections 17, 106, 107, 110, 287, 443, 454, 482(A), and 511-A of RA 7160 Otherwise Known as the Local Government Code and for Other Purposes”;
116. SB 1163, entitled, “An Act Ordaining a Bill of Rights for Taxpayers”;
117. SB 1166, entitled, “An Act to Develop and Strengthen the Agricultural Education and Training in the Country through the Institutionalization of Manpower Development for Agricultural Entrepreneurship in the Post-Secondary Level”;
118. SB 1363, entitled, “An Act Providing for Protection of the Remittances of Overseas Filipino Workers, and for Other Purposes”;
119. SB 1411, entitled, “An Act Amending RA 8972 Otherwise Known as “An Act Providing for Benefits and Privileges to Solo Parents and Their Children, Appropriating Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes”;

120. SB 1421, entitled, “An Act Institutionalizing Microfinance Programs and Access to Capital to Support and Grow Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises, Allocating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”;
121. SB 1484, entitled, “An Act Establishing an Information and Communication Technology Hub in Every Legislative District in the Philippines and for Other Purposes”;
122. SB 1496, entitled, “An Act to Promote the Growth and Development of Social Enterprises as a Means to Alleviate Poverty, Establishing for the Purpose the “Poverty Reduction Through Social Entrepreneurship (Present) Program” Providing Incentives and Benefits, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”;
123. SB 1512, entitled, “An Act Establishing the Philippine E-Health System in the Delivery of Health Services with the Use of Information and Communications Technology in the Philippines, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
124. SB 1549, entitled, “An Act Creating the Regional Investment and Infrastructure Coordinating Hub of Central Luzon and for Other Purposes”;
125. SB 1581, entitled, “An Act Establishing the National Police Clearance System, Providing Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes”;
126. SB 1638, entitled, “An Act Providing Immunity from All Taxes the Sale of Fertilizers and Pesticides to All Farmers, Whether Corporate or Otherwise, and for Other Purposes”;
127. SB 1763, entitled, “An Act Providing for Simplified Registration, Filing of Returns and Payment of Income and Percentage Taxes and Providing Tax Relief for Micro-Enterprises, Amending for the Purpose Sections 74, 128, and 236 of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”;
128. SB 1988, entitled, “An Act Exempting the Local Government Units and the Private Sector who are Acquiring and Purchasing COVID19 Vaccines from Import Duties, Taxes, and Other Fees Including the Exemption from RA 9184 Otherwise Known as the “Government Procurement Reform”;

Chapter 3

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

129. SB 2046, entitled, “An Act Exempting the Donation of Vaccines, Critical Products, Essential Goods, Equipment or Supplies Needed to Contain and Mitigate Covid-19 from Donor’s Tax and for Other Purposes”;
130. SB 2077 in substitution of SBs 193 and 805, entitled, “An Act Creating the Philippine Boxing and Combat Sports Commission and for Other Purposes”;
131. SB 2272, entitled, “An Act Amending Section 27 (B) of the NIRC, as Amended, and for Other Purposes”;
132. SB 2320, entitled, “An Act Granting the President of the Philippines the Power to Lower the Rate or Suspend the Imposition of VAT on Petroleum Products for a Limited Period of One (1) Year in Times of National Emergency or State of Calamity, Amending for the Purpose Sections 106 and 107 of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”;
133. SB 2420, entitled, “An Act Providing Compensation for the Loss or Destruction of Properties as a Result of the 2017 Marawi Siege, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
134. SB 2425, entitled, “An Act Institutionalizing the Practice of Extended Producer Responsibility on Plastic Packaging Waste, Amending for this Purpose RA 9003 Otherwise Known as the “Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000”;
135. SB 2440, entitled, “An Act Lowering the Cost of Electricity and Petroleum Products”;
136. SB 2445, entitled, “An Act Providing for the Automatic Suspension of Excise Taxes on Regular Gasoline, Unleaded Premium Gasoline, and Diesel, Amending for the Purpose Section 148 of the NIRC, as Amended”;

CONSOLIDATED BILLS

137. Consolidated Comments on HBs 12, 226, 644, and 4570, entitled, “An Act Strengthening the People’s Right to Information”; HBs 51, 1302, 1487, and 1975, entitled, “An Act Implementing the People’s Right to Information and the Constitutional Policies of Full Public Disclosure and Honesty in the Public

Service and for Other Purposes”; HBs 712, 813, 1608, and 7229, entitled, “An Act Implementing the Right of the People to Information on Matters of Public Concern Guaranteed Under Section Seven, Article Three of the 1987 Constitution and the State Policy of Full Public Disclosure of All Its Transactions Involving Public Interest Under Section Twenty-Eight, Article Two of the 1987 Constitution, and for Other Purposes”; HBs 837, 1625, 3063, and 4673, entitled, “An Act to Strengthen the Right of Citizens to Information Held by the Government”; HB 5566, entitled, “An Act to Ensure Public Access to Official Records, Documents and Any Other Information of Public Concern”; and HB 7219, entitled, “An Act Implementing the Right of the People to Information on Matters of Public Concern and State Policies of Full Public Disclosure of All Its Transactions Involving the Public Interest and Honesty in the Public Service and for Other Purposes”;

138. Consolidated Comments on HBs 13, 37, 565, 1409, 2219, 2618, 3446, 3569, 3996, 4141, 4571, 4615, 4652, 5352, 5965, 5967, 6089, and 6438, entitled, “An Act Allowing and Regulating the Use of Motorcycles as Public Utility Vehicles, Amending for This Purpose Republic Act No. 4136, Otherwise Known as the Land Transportation and Traffic Code, and for Other Purposes”; and HB 1894, entitled, “An Act Regulating Habal-Habal and Other Motorcycle Services”;
139. Consolidated Comments on SBs 91 and 631, entitled, “An Act Abolishing the Travel Tax” and SB 384, entitled, “An Act Abolishing the Philippine Travel Tax Imposed to Filipinos Departing from All International Airports and Seaports in the Philippines”;
140. Consolidated Comments on HBs 112 and 254, entitled, “An Act to Regulate the Rational Exploration, Development, and Utilization of Mineral Resources, and to Ensure the Equitable Sharing of Benefits for the State, Indigenous Peoples, and Local Communities, and for Other Purposes”; and “An Act Re-Orienting the Philippine Mining Industry Towards National Industrialization and Ensuring the Highest Industry Development Standards, and for Other Purposes”, respectively;
141. Consolidated Comments on HBs 115 and 2713, entitled, “An Act Providing Additional Personal Exemption for Individual Taxpayers Who Take Care of Their Elderly Parents, Amending for the Purpose RA 8424, as Amended, Otherwise Known as the “National Internal Revenue Code of 1997; and “An

Chapter 3

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Act Further Amending Section 35 of RA 8424, as Amended Otherwise Known as the NIRC of 1997, as Amended, to Give Higher Additional Personal Exemptions to Taxpayers Who Have Dependents that are Persons With Disability”, respectively;

142. Consolidated Comments on HBs 214, 2521, and 4812, entitled, “An Act Declaring a National Policy for Sports as an Engine for Nation Building, Social Progress and Promotion of Total Human Development, and Creating the Department of Sports, Defining Its Powers and Functions and Appropriating Funds Therefor”; “An Act Creating the Department of Sports, Defining Its Powers and Functions and Appropriating Funds Therefor”; and “An Act Creating and Establishing the Philippine Youth and Sports Department, Defining Its Powers, Functions and Responsibilities, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”, respectively;
143. Consolidated Comments on HBs 225 and 5485, entitled, “An Act Exempting from Income Taxation All Amounts Granted to Persons Rendering Election Service for Local and National Elections”; and “An Act Providing Income Tax Exemption to Compensation of Teachers Serving as Members of the Electoral Board for National or Local Elections”, respectively;
144. Consolidated Comments on SBs 246, 894, and HB 4664, entitled, “An Act Instituting Reforms in Real Property Valuation and Assessment in the Philippines, Reorganizing the Bureau of Local Government Finance, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”; and SB 519, entitled, “An Act Instituting Reforms in Real Property Valuation in the Philippines, Establishing the National Valuation Authority and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
145. Consolidated Comments on SB 269, entitled, “An Act Strengthening Local Government Participation in National Development by Increasing the Share of Local Government Units in the National Internal Revenue Taxes, Amending for the Purpose Section 284 of Republic Act No. 7160, Otherwise Known as the Local Government Code of 1991” and HB 7430, entitled, “An Act Amending Sections 284, 285, 287 and 290 of RA 7160 or the Local Government Code of 1991”;
146. Consolidated Comments on HBs 275 and 1259, entitled, “An Act Providing for a Revised Apprenticeship Program, Repealing for the Purpose Chapters I

and II of Title II of PD 442, as Amended, Otherwise Known as the Labor Code of the Philippines”; and HB 2045, entitled, “An Act Providing for a Revised National Apprenticeship Program, Clarifying the Standards for Training and Engagement of Apprentices and Accreditation of Apprenticeship Programs, Repealing for the Purpose Chapters I And II of Title II, Book II of Presidential Decree No. 442, as Amended, Otherwise Known as the Labor Code of the Philippines, and for Other Purposes”;

147. Consolidated Comments on HBs 314, 4020, and 6511, entitled, “An Act Establishing the Scope and Procedure for Philippine Ship Registry, Recognition and Enforcement of Maritime Claims, and Limitation of Liability, as well as Providing Essential Incentives Which Collectively Will Promote a Comprehensive and Orderly Philippine Ship Registry System for the Regulation of Vessels Carrying the Flag State”;
148. Consolidated Comments on SB 537, entitled, “An Act Classifying the Sale or Importation of Petroleum Products and Raw Materials in the Manufacture Thereof as VAT Exempt Transactions, Amending for the Purpose Section 109(1) of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended, and for Other Purposes”, and SB 829, entitled, “An Act Exempting the Sale or Importation of Petroleum Products and Sale of Electricity from the VAT, Amending for this Purpose Sections 108 and 109 of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”;
149. Consolidated Comments on HBs 604, entitled, “An Act Converting the National Center for Geriatric Health Into a Corporate Body and Appropriating Funds Therefor”; HB 958, entitled, “An Act Establishing the National Center for Geriatric Health, Defining Its Objectives, Powers and Functions, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”; HBs 3949 and 7101, entitled, “An Act Converting the National Center for Geriatric Health Into a Corporate Body to be Known as the “National Center for Geriatric Health and Research Institute”, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”; and HB 7169, entitled, “An Act Establishing the Philippine Geriatric Health and Research Institute, Defining Its Objectives, Powers, and Functions, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”;
150. Consolidated Comments on SBs 604 and 1872, entitled, “An Act Exempting Books, Newspapers, Magazines, Journals, Reviews, Bulletins and Other Educational or Learning Materials Made or Published in Digital or Electronic

Chapter 3

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Format from VAT, Amending for the Purpose Section 109 (1) of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”;

151. Consolidated Comments on HBs 653 and 2058, entitled, “An Act Institutionalizing the Income Classification of Provinces, Cities, and Municipalities, and for Other Purposes”;
152. Consolidated Comments on HBs 666, 2501, and 6198, entitled, “An Act Mandating 14th Month Pay for All Employees in the Government and Private Sectors Regardless of Status of Employment”;
153. Consolidated Comments on SBs 755, 1042, 1419, and 1864, entitled, “An Act Strengthening the Military and Uniformed Personnel (MUP) Pension System, Creating the MUP Insurance Fund, Amending Sections 3 and 24 of RA 8291, and for Other Purposes”; “An Act Reforming the MUP Retirement and Pension, Amending PD 361, 1638, 1656, RA 8551 and 9993, and for Other Purposes”; “An Act Providing for a Unified System for Separation, Retirement, and Pension of the MUP Services of the Republic of the Philippines, Creating the MUP Retirement Fund Authority, Providing Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes”; and “An Act Providing for a Unified System for Separation, Retirement, and Pension of the MUP Services of the Republic of the Philippines, Creating the MUP Retirement Fund, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”, respectively;
154. Consolidated Comments on SBs 887 and 1350, entitled, “An Act Upgrading the Position of the Provincial Science and Technology Officer into the Provincial Science and Technology Director in the Department of Science and Technology Amending Republic Act No. 6959, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”;
155. Consolidated Comments on HBs 1089 and 5345, entitled, “An Act Providing for Tax Relief in Times of Calamity”; and “An Act Providing for Tax Relief During Times of Calamity and for Other Purposes”, respectively;
156. Consolidated Comments on HBs 1247, 2619, 3447, and 9028, entitled, “An Act Intensifying Local Government Participation in National Development by Increasing the Internal Revenue Allotment of Local Government Units from 40% to 60% of All National Taxes Collected by the Bureau of Internal Revenue

and Other Government Agencies and Authorizing the LGUS to Automatically Retain Their IRA, Amending the Section 284 and 286 of the Local Government Code of 1991”; “An Act to Clearly Define the National Taxes Revenue Base and Enhance the Just Share from the National Taxes of Local Government Units, and Rename the “Internal Revenue Allotment” (IRA) to “National Tax Allotment” (NATA), Amending for the Purpose, Republic Act No. 7160, Otherwise Known as the Local Government Code of 1991”; “An Act Strengthening Local Government Participation in National Development by Increasing the Share of Local Government Units in the National Internal Revenue Taxes, Amending for the Purpose Section 284 of Republic Act No. 7160, Otherwise Known as the Local Government Code of 1991”; “An Act Providing for a Just and Equal Share in the Internal Revenue Allotment for Barangays Created by Local Government Units, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 7160, also Known as the “Local Government Code of 1991”, respectively;

157. Consolidated Comments on SB 1295 and HB 5777, entitled, “An Act Establishing the Tax Regime of Philippine Offshore Gaming Operators, Amending for this Purpose Sections 27, 28, 42, and 199 of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as Amended”; and “An Act Taxing Persons Engaged In Philippine Offshore Gaming Operations Amending for the Purpose Section 25 and Adding a New Section 150-C of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”, respectively;
158. Consolidated Comments on SB 1382, entitled, “An Act Providing the National Energy Policy and Regulatory Framework for the Use of Electric Vehicles and the Establishment of Electric Charging Stations”, and HB 10213, entitled, “An Act Providing for the Development of the Electric Vehicle Industry and Establishing a Regulatory Framework for the Manufacture and Use of Electric Vehicles”;
159. Consolidated Comments on SBs 1643 and 1682; and HB 6924, entitled, “Acts Enabling Banks to Expand Service Delivery Channels Through Cash Agents and Providing Guidelines Therefor”;
160. Consolidated Comments on SBs 1706 and 2189, entitled, “An Act Providing for Tax Incentives for Individuals on a Work-From-Home or Telecommuting Program, Further Amending for the Purpose, RA 8424 Otherwise Known as the National Internal Revenue Code (NIRC) of 1997, and for Other Purposes”; and “An Act Expanding the Coverage of the Telecommuting Act and Providing Incentives for Telecommuting Employees, Amending for the Purpose,

Chapter 3

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

RA 11165, Otherwise Known as the Telecommuting Act and for Other Purposes”, respectively;

161. Consolidated Comments on SBs 1708, 1759, 1766, and 1796, entitled, “An Act Strengthening Domestic Healthcare Manufacturing Industries, Providing for the Protection Against Pandemic, and for Other Purpose”; “An Act Providing for the Protection Against Pandemic and the Development of the Healthcare and Manufacturing Industries, and Providing Funds Therefor”; “An Act Providing for the Development of the Healthcare and Manufacturing Industries to Strengthen the Country’s Protection Against Pandemics and Providing Funds Therefor”; and “An Act Providing for the Development of Healthcare and Manufacturing Industries in the Philippines to Strengthen the Country’s Readiness and Protection Against Pandemics and Providing Funds Therefor”, respectively;
162. Consolidated Comments on SB 1748 and HB 6496, entitled, “An Act Strengthening the National Program for the Elimination of Tuberculosis, Amending for the Purpose RA 10767 or the “Comprehensive Tuberculosis Elimination Plan Act”;
163. Consolidated Comments on SB 1764, entitled, “An Act Promoting the Adoption of Digital Payments for Financial Transactions of the Government and All Merchants and for Other Purposes, Otherwise Known as the “Use of Digital Payments Act”, and HB 8992, entitled, “An Act Promoting the Use of Digital Payments for Financial Transactions of the Government and All Merchants”;
164. Consolidated Comments on SB 1809, entitled, “An Act Amending RA 4566, Otherwise Known as the Contractors’ License Law”; and SB 2091 and HB 7808, entitled, “An Act Amending Sections 35, 37, 38, 39 and 40 of Republic Act No. 4566, Otherwise Known as the ‘Contractors’ License Law’, Modifying the Contractors’ License Renewal Process, Increasing Fees, and Imposing Penalties for Violations Thereof”;
165. Consolidated Comments on USB to HBs 1863, 1892, 4333, and 8349, entitled, “An Act to Establish a Job Training Program for Mature or Older Workers”; and USB to HBs 2774, 3322, 6044, and 6637, entitled, “An Act Instituting the Former Prisoners’ Employment Program, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;

166. Consolidated Comments on SBs 1916 and 1954, entitled, “An Act to Protect Filipinos from the Harmful Effects of Trans-Fatty Acids, and for Other Purposes”;
167. Consolidated Comments on HBs 1952, 8001, and 8012, entitled, “An Act Establishing an Independent Broadcast System in the Country, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”; and “Acts Establishing the People’s Broadcasting Corporation, Abolishing the People’s Television Network, Inc., and for Other Purposes”;
168. Consolidated Comments on SBs 2116, 2153, and 2157, and HB 8930, entitled, “An Act Creating the Metropolitan Davao Development Authority, Defining Its Powers and Functions, and Providing Funds Therefor”;
169. Consolidated Comments on SBs 2193 and 2270, and HBs 10108, 10109, 10233, 10243, 10244, and 10255, re Acts establishing special economic zone, viz.:, “Cebu 4th District Special Economic Zone Act”, “Marinduque Special Economic Zone Act”, “Metro Iloilo Special Economic Zone Act”, “Occidental Mindoro Special Economic Zone Act”, “Cebu Fourth District Special Economic Zone Act”, “Bacolod Special Economic Zone Act”, “Northern Bohol Special Economic Zone Act”, and “Paluan Special Economic Zone Act”;
170. Consolidated Comments on HBs 2340, 2445, 3374, and 8416, re “Animal Industry and Veterinary Services Act”;
171. Consolidated Comments on HBs 2496, 4176, 6863, and 7976, entitled, “An Act Creating the Zamboanga International Airport Authority and Providing Funds Therefor”; “An Act Establishing the Aklan Airport Authority to Administer and Operate the Kalibo International Airport and the Caticlan Airport, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”; “An Act Creating the General Paulino Santos International Airport Authority, Transferring Existing Assets of General Santos City Airport to the Authority, Vesting the Authority With Such Powers to Administer and Operate General Paulino Santos International Airport, Appropriating Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes”; and “An Act Creating the Philippine Airports Authority, Defining Its Powers, Functions, and Responsibilities, and Providing Funds Therefor”, respectively;

Chapter 3

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

172. Consolidated Comments on the USBs to HBs 3071, 3898, and 4285, entitled, “An Act Establishing the Special Economic Zone and Freeport in the Municipality of Mansalay, Province of Oriental Mindoro, Creating for This Purpose the Oriental Mindoro Special Economic Zone and Freeport Authority, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”; “An Act Establishing the Special Economic Zone and Freeport in the Province of Ilocos Sur, Creating for the Purpose the Ilocos Sur Special Economic Zone and Freeport Authority, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”; and “An Act Establishing a Special Economic Zone in the City of Bislig, Province of Surigao Del Sur, Creating for the Purpose the Bislig Economic Zone Authority, Appropriating Funds Thereof, and Other Purposes”;
173. Consolidated Comments on HBs 3444 and 5241, entitled, “An Act Excluding 13th Month Pay from the Computation of Taxable Income, Amending for this Purpose Section 32 (B) (7) (e) of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as Amended”; and “An Act Excluding 13th Month Pay from the Computation of Taxable Income, Amending for this Purpose Section 32 (B) (7) (e) of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”, respectively”;
174. Consolidated Comments on HBs 3761, 4794, 5564, 6999, and 9204 entitled, “An Act Requiring Local Governments to Earmark a Portion of Their Internal Revenue Allotments for Free Medicines to Indigent Patients in Their Localities, and for Other Purposes”; “An Act Mandating Local Government Units to Earmark a Portion of Their Internal Revenue Allotment for Free Medicines to Indigent Patients in Their Jurisdictions”; “An Act Creating a Mandatory Free Soup Kitchen Allocating 3% of the Internal Revenue Allotment for Every Impoverished Barangay in the City or Municipality and for Other Purposes”; “An Act Mandating Local Government Units with Indigenous Cultural Communities or Indigenous Peoples to appropriate One Percent (1%) of Their Internal Revenue Allotment for the Development of Indigenous Cultural Communities and Welfare of Indigenous Peoples, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 7160, as Amended, Otherwise Known as the “Local Government Code of 1991”; and “An Act Mandating Local Government Units to Set Aside At Least Fifteen Percent of Their Annual Internal Revenue Allotments for Local Health Services, Amending for the Purpose, Section 287 of Republic Act No. 7160, Otherwise Known as the “Local Government Code of 1991”, respectively;

175. Consolidated Comments on HBs 4007 and 8392, entitled, “An Act Granting Additional Privileges to Persons with Disabilities, Amending for the Purpose RA 7277, as Amended, Otherwise Known as the Magna Carta for Persons with Disabilities, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
176. Consolidated Comments on HBs 4256, 4622, and 5143, entitled, “An Act Strengthening Rural Banks in the Philippines Amending Further for the Purpose RA 7353, Otherwise Known as the Rural Act of 1992, as Amended”;
177. Consolidated Comments on HBs 4455 and 4545, entitled, “An Act Lowering the Corporate Income Tax Rate Amending Sections 27 and 28 of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as Amended, and for Other Purposes”; and “An Act Instituting Income Tax Reform for Corporate Taxpayers, Amending for this Purpose Sections 27(A) and 28 of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”, respectively”;
178. Consolidated Comments on HBs 6129 and 9862, entitled, “An Act Establishing a Nursing Home for Homeless and Abandoned Senior Citizens in Every City or Municipality in the Philippines, Appropriating Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes” and HB 6244, entitled, “An Act Establishing a Nursing Home for Homeless and Abandoned Elderly Filipinos in Every Province and Another Separate Nursing Home for Every City in the Philippines, Appropriating Funds Therefor and Other Purposes”;
179. Consolidated Comments on HBs 6255, 6918, 7487, 7488, 7496, 7616, 7618, 8551, 8552, 8553, 8554, 8555; and 8556 and SB 1462, entitled, “An Act Renewing for Another Twenty-Five (25) Years the Franchise Granted to Transpacific Broadband Group Int’l. Inc., Under Republic Act No. 8657, to Construct, Establish, Install, Maintain and Operate Communications Systems for the Reception and Transmission of Messages Within the Philippines”; “An Act Renewing for Another Twenty-Five (25) Years the Franchise Granted to Romeo Cabrestante Servando, Presently Known as Rolin Broadcasting Enterprises, Inc., Under Republic Act No. 8202, entitled, “An Act Granting Romeo Cabrestante Servando, a Franchise to Construct, Install, Establish, Operate and Maintain Radio and Television Broadcasting Stations in the Province of Palawan”; “An Act Renewing for Another Twenty-Five (25) Years the Franchise Granted to Blockbuster Broadcasting System, Inc., Under Republic Act No. 8726, entitled, “An Act Granting the Blockbuster

Broadcasting System, Inc., a Franchise to Construct, Install, Establish, Operate and Maintain Radio and Television Broadcasting Stations in the Philippines”; “An Act Renewing for Another Twenty-Five (25) Years the Franchise Granted to Tagbilaran Broadcasting System, Presently Known as Tagbilaran Broadcasting System, Inc., Under Republic Act No. 8149, entitled “An Act Granting the Tagbilaran Broadcasting System a Franchise to Construct, Install, Operate and Maintain Radio and Television Broadcasting Stations in the Visayas Region, and for Other Purposes”; “An Act Granting the City Government of Davao a Franchise to Construct, Install, Operate, and Maintain Radio Broadcasting Stations in Davao City”; “An Act Granting Servotron Industries Inc. a Franchise to Construct, Install, Operate, and Maintain Radio and Television Broadcasting Stations Throughout the Philippines”; “An Act Granting Christian Music Power, Inc. a Franchise to Construct, Establish, Operate, and Maintain Radio Broadcasting Stations in the Philippines”; “An Act Granting Allied Broadcasting Center, Incorporated a Franchise to Construct, Install, Operate, and Maintain Radio and Television Broadcasting Stations in the Philippines”; “An Act Granting Palawan Broadcasting Corporation a Franchise to Construct, Install, Operate, and Maintain Radio and Television Broadcasting Stations in the Philippines”; “An Act Granting St. Jude Thaddeus Institute of Technology, Inc. a Franchise to Construct, Operate and Maintain Radio and Television Stations in the Province of Surigao Del Norte and Other Areas in the Philippines”; “An Act Granting Good News Sorsogon Foundation, Inc., a Franchise to Construct, Install, Operate, and Maintain Radio and Television Broadcasting Stations in the Bicol Region”; “An Act Renewing for Another Twenty-Five (25) Years the Franchise Granted to Baycomms Broadcasting Corporation Under Republic Act No. 8718, entitled “An Act Granting the Baycomms Broadcasting Corporation, a Franchise to Construct, Install, Establish, Operate and Maintain Radio and Television Stations in the Philippines”; and “An Act Renewing the Franchise Granted to the University of the Philippines System to Construct, Establish, Maintain and Operate for Educational and Other Related Purposes Radio and Television Broadcasting Stations Within the University of the Philippines and Such Other Areas Within the Scope of Its Operation Under Republic Act No. 8160 to Another Twenty Five (25) Years”, respectively;

180. Consolidated Comments on USB to HB 6434 and USB to HBs 2737 and 3237, entitled, “An Act Converting the Cebu Technological University into a University System to be Known as the “Cebu Technological University

System”, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”; and “An Act Strengthening the Mindanao State University System and Appropriating Funds Therefor”, respectively;

181. Consolidated Comments on USB to HBs 6793, 6798, 6808, 6838, 6873, 6913, 6992, 7494, 8934, and 9199, entitled, “An Act Establishing the Philippine Virology Science and Technology Institute and Appropriating Funds Therefor”; and USB to HBs 6096, 6383, 6633, 6651, 6655, 6711, 6718, 7013, 7243, 7283, 7290, 7314, and 7366, entitled, ““An Act Providing for the Modernization of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Establishing for this Purpose the Center for Disease Prevention and Control, and Appropriating Funds Therefor””;
182. Consolidated Comments on HBs 7096 and 9834, entitled, “An Act Granting Lucky 8 Star Quest Inc., a Franchise to Broadcast Live and Data Streamed Cockfighting Activities and Derbies, Through On-Line or Other Similar Modern Means, Anywhere in the Philippines”;
183. Consolidated Comments on USB of HBs 7473 and 7809, entitled, “An Act Establishing the College of Medicine in Mindanao State University, General Santos City Campus, Providing for Its Governance, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”; USB of HB 7797, entitled, “An Act Strengthening the Tarlac State University, Providing for the Composition and Powers of Its Governing Board, Prescribing Its Curricular Offerings, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”; and USB of HB 7857, entitled, “An Act Establishing a College of Medicine in the Southern Luzon State University Main Campus in the Municipality of Lucban, Province of Quezon, to be Known as the “Southern Luzon State University-College of Medicine”, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;
184. Consolidated Comments on HBs 7749, SBs 1646, 2003, and 2048, entitled, “An Act Providing for Government Financial Institutions Unified Initiatives to Distressed Enterprises for Economic Recovery (GUIDE)”;
185. Consolidated Comments on HB 8065 and SB 2045, entitled, “An Act Imposing Taxes on Offsite Betting Activities on Locally Licensed Cockfights and Derbies, Amending Section 125 of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as Amended”; and “An Act Imposing Amusement Tax on Digital Platform and Offsite Betting Stations of Licensed Cockpits, and Earmarking the Total

Amusement Tax Collection from Cockpits for Universal Health Care, Amending for this Purpose Section 125, and Creating A New Section 288-B of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”, respectively;

186. Consolidated Comments on HBs 8301, 8324, 8375, 8376, 8584, 8648, 8652, and UHB, entitled, “An Act Exempting the Covid-19 Vaccine from Import Duties, Taxes, and Other Fees for Private Sector Employees and Dependents”; “An Act Granting Tax Incentives to All Employers and Philippine Common Carriers for the Importation of the Coronavirus Vaccines for Both the Private and Public Sector Workforce”; “An Act Exempting the Importation of Critical Medical Products, Essential Goods, Equipment and Supplies to Address Public Health Emergencies from Import Duties, Taxes and Other Fees”; “An Act to Allow Private Firms to Procure and Import, Tax Free, Covid-19 Testing Paraphernalia and Vaccines for the Conduct of Covid-19 Testing and Vaccination Programs for Their Employees and for Other Purposes”; “An Act Amending the National Internal Revenue Code to Ensure the Affordability of Anti-Covid-19 Testing, Treatment, Vaccination, and Local Manufacture, and for Other Purposes”; “An Act Expediting the Purchase and Administration of Vaccines for the Protection Against the Coronavirus Disease 2019 by Providing Exemptions to Compliance With the Procurement Requirements under Republic Act No. 9184, Otherwise Known as the “Government Procurement Reform Act”, and for Other Purposes”; “An Act Exempting Local Government Units and the Private Sector Acquiring and Purchasing Covid-19 Vaccines from Import Duties, Taxes, and Other Fees”; and “An Act Exempting the Importation of Critical Medical Products, Essential Goods, Inputs, Raw Materials, and Equipment from Duties, Taxes, and Other Fees During Public Health Emergencies”, respectively;
187. Consolidated Comments on USB to HBs 8616, entitled, “An Act Converting the Northern Negros State College of Science and Technology in Sagay City, Province of Negros Occidental, into a State University to be Known as the “State University of Northern Negros”, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”; USB to HB 8630, entitled, “An Act Establishing the National College for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics in New Clark City, Municipality of Capas, Province of Tarlac, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”; and USB to HB 9321, entitled, “An Act Establishing a College of Medicine in the President Ramon Magsaysay State University-Main Campus Located in the Municipality of Iba, Province of Zambales, to be Known as the “President Ramon Magsaysay State University-College of Medicine”, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;

188. Consolidated Comments on HBs 8874 and 8931, entitled, “An Act Strengthening the National Housing Authority, Extending Its Corporate Term, and Amending for this Purpose Presidential Decree No. 757 (P.D. 757), “Creating the National Housing Authority and Dissolving the Existing Housing Agencies, Defining Its Powers and Functions, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes; and “An Act Strengthening the National Housing Authority, Extending Its Corporate Term, and Amending for the Purpose Presidential Decree No. 757”, respectively;
189. Consolidated Comments on HBs 9313 and 9367, entitled, “An Act Granting Manila Water Company, Inc. a Franchise to Establish, Operate, and Maintain the Waterworks and Sewerage System in the East Zone Service Area of Metro Manila and Province of Rizal; and “An Act Granting Maynilad Water Services, Inc. a Franchise to Establish, Operate, and Maintain, for Commercial Purposes and in the Public Interest, a Water Supply and Distribution System and Sewerage and/or Sanitation Services in the Service Area West”;
190. Consolidated Comments on HBs 9573, 9577, 9596, and HR 1877, entitled, “Acts Amending Section 27(B) of the NIRC, as Amended, and for Other Purposes”; and “Resolution Urging the Bureau of Internal Revenue to Revoke Revenue Regulation No. 5-2021”;
191. Consolidated Comments on HBs 9888, 9891, and 9899, and HR 2040, entitled, “An Act Exempting All Incentives, Benefits, Gifts, and Other Emoluments Given to National Athletes By Reason of Winning an International Sports Competition from the Payment of Income, and Other Forms of Taxes, and for Other Purposes”; “An Act Exempting Monetary Donations and Rewards in Favor of National Athletes and Coaches from Taxes, Amending for the Purpose Section 4 of Republic Act No. 10699”; “An Act Exempting Monetary Donations and Rewards in Favor of National Athletes and Coaches from Taxes, Amending for the Purpose Section 4 of Republic Act No. 10699”; “An Act Exempting All Donations Given by Reason of Local and International Sports Tournaments and Competitions from the Payment of Donor’s Taxes, Including Those from Private Entities, Amending for the Purpose Section 1 of Republic Act No. 7549”; and “A Resolution Respectfully Urging the Bureau of Internal Revenue and Other Appropriate Government Agencies to Exempt the Awards, Gifts and Incentives Given to the Nation’s First Olympic Gold Medalist, Sgt. Hidilyn Francisco Diaz, from Any and All Taxes”, respectively;

Chapter 3

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

192. Consolidated Comments on HBs 10216, 10217, 10218, entitled, “An Act Establishing a Special Economic Zone in the Municipality of Mansalay, Province of Oriental Mindoro, Creating for the Purpose the Oriental Mindoro Special Economic Zone Authority, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”; “An Act Establishing a Special Economic Zone in a Portion of the Salomague Cove and in the Municipalities of San Juan and Cabugao, Province of Ilocos Sur, Creating for the Purpose the Ilocos Sur Special Economic Zone Authority, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”; and “An Act Establishing a Special Economic Zone in the City of Bislig, Province of Surigao Del Sur, Creating for the Purpose the Bislig Special Economic Zone Authority, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”, respectively;

UNNUMBERED HOUSE BILLS (UHB)

193. UHB, entitled, “An Act Establishing the Young Farmers and Fisherfolk Challenge Program, Creating for the Purpose the Young Farmers and Fisherfolk Challenge Council, Appropriating Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes”;
194. UHB, entitled, “An Act Providing Protection for Freelancers”; and

ENROLLED BILL

195. Enrolled Bill of HB 2208, and SB 7068, entitled, “An Act Extending the Estate Tax Amnesty and for Other Purposes, Amending Section 6 of RA 11213, Otherwise Known as the “Tax Amnesty Act”.

-oOo-

Chapter 4

FISCAL INCENTIVES REVIEW BOARD RESOLUTIONS ISSUED IN 2021

1. FIRB Resolution No. 01-21 [February 04, 2021]

Adopts the Department of Finance-Department of Budget and Management Joint Circular No. 002-2020, dated November 26, 2020, as the implementing guidelines of the tax subsidy provisions under Section 15 of Republic Act (RA) No. 11518 or the General Appropriations Act for the Fiscal Year 2021 by the FIRB.

2. FIRB Resolution No. 02-21 [February 26, 2021]

Grants to the University of the Philippines - Baguio tax subsidy amounting to P704,787.35 to cover its value-added tax (VAT) obligation on the importation of two units of Thread Controller 2 digital looms and accessories to be used for the implementation of the Cordillera Textile Project.

3. FIRB Resolution No. 03-21 [April 08, 2021]

Grants to the Small Business Corporation tax subsidy amounting to P80,426,044.00 to cover its documentary stamp tax (DST) liability for the issuance of the certificates of stock on the subscription of the National Government which is subject to DST at the rate of P2.00 on each P200.00,

or fractional thereof, of the par value. The issuance of the certificates of stock is for the Coronavirus Disease of 2019 (COVID-19) Assistance to Restart Enterprises Program under Section 10(e)(4) of RA 11494 or the “Bayanihan to Recover as One Act.”

4. FIRB Resolution No. 04-21 [April 14, 2021]

Formal constitution of the FIRB Technical Committee, which shall serve as the main support unit of the FIRB, pursuant to Section 298 of the National Internal Revenue Code (NIRC) of 1997, as amended by RA 11534, Otherwise known as the “Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises (CREATE) Act.” The Resolution also enumerates the roles and responsibilities of the FIRB Technical Committee.

5. FIRB Resolution No. 05-21 [April 14, 2021]

Adopts the Presidential Memorandum Order No. 50, *Approving the 2020 Investment Priorities Plan (IPP) and Its General Policies and Specific Guidelines to Implement the 2020 Investment Priorities Plan*, as the transitional Strategic Investment Priority Plan (SIPP), pending the issuance of the newly formulated SIPP under RA 11534 or the CREATE Act. The adoption of the 2020 IPP as the transitional SIPP was meant to serve as a guide for investment promotion agencies (IPAs) and prospective investors, and in order not to disrupt the country’s efforts to facilitate investments during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The resolution provides that the projects or activities that will qualify under the transitional SIPP shall, at the minimum, be registered under Tier 1 based on Section 296 of the NIRC of 1997, as amended by RA 11534, without prejudice to an upgrade if qualified under the newly formulated SIPP.

The resolution also reiterates the authority of the FIRB to approve the application for tax incentives of projects or activities with investment capital of more than P1 billion pursuant to Section 297(B) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended by RA 11534.

6. FIRB Resolution No. 06-21 [April 14, 2021]

Authorizes the FIRB Secretariat, in consultation with the Board of Investments – Department of Trade and Industry, to draw the prescribed forms and processes for the application for registration and incentives consistent with the requirements under Section 297(A) and 297(B) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended by RA 11534, for the approval of the FIRB.

7. FIRB Resolution No. 07-21 [June 03, 2021]

Grants to the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation tax subsidy amounting to P3,700,000,000.00 to cover its VAT obligations on assessment premium for the calendar year 2021.

8. FIRB Resolution No. 08-21 [June 07, 2021]

Grants to the Armed Forces of the Philippines Commissary and Exchange Service tax subsidy amounting to P368,211,211.91 to cover its VAT on general merchandise and other petroleum, oil, and lubricant products, and excise tax on gasoline and diesel due on its purchases and subsequent sale to its intended beneficiaries for the calendar year 2021.

9. FIRB Resolution No. 09-21 [June 02, 2021]

Adopts the application processes for registration and tax incentives, and application forms pursuant to Section 297(A) and (B) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended by RA 11534.

10. FIRB Resolution No. 10-21 [June 02, 2021]

Assigns the following functions to the FIRB Technical Committee: (a) to decide on tax incentives applications with investment capital of more than P1,000,000,000.00 but not more than P3,000,000,000.00, subject to

the confirmation of the FIRB, until the end of 2022; and (b) recommend policies to the Board for the development and expansion of the domestic supply chain, and place-specific strategic investment priorities plans during periods of recovery from calamities and post-conflict situations.

The resolution also provides that the FIRB Technical Committee shall inform the Board of all its denials of applications and that the Board has the power to review any appeals on the decision of the FIRB Technical Committee. Further, the resolution provides that a one-time verified Motion for Reconsideration of the decision of the Technical Committee may be filed by a business enterprise whose application for tax incentives is denied within 30 days from receipt of the decision of the Technical Committee. Furthermore, such business enterprise adversely affected by the decision of the Board, may, within 30 days from receipt of the adverse decision, appeal the same to the Court of Tax Appeals.

11. FIRB Resolution No. 11-21 [June 02, 2021]

Grants the Chairperson of the FIRB Technical Committee the authority to require IPAs and other government agencies administering tax incentives to submit, regularly or when requested, summaries of approved investment and incentives granted, and firm or entity-level tax incentives and benefits data, and to obtain information, summon, examine, inquire, and receive documents, records, books, or other data relevant or material to the resolution of issues arising from the approval, disapproval, cancellation, suspension, withdrawal, or forfeiture of the tax subsidy, or in imposing penalties for violations of the terms and conditions on the availment of the tax subsidy, or any provisions of the Title XIII of the NIRC of 1997, as amended by RA 11534.

12. FIRB Resolution No. 12-21 [June 02, 2021]

Designates the Chairperson and select members of the FIRB Technical Committee to act upon tax subsidy requests of government-owned and/or -controlled corporations, government instrumentalities, government commissaries, and state colleges and universities.

The resolution further provides that the decision of the FIRB Technical Committee on the approval, disapproval, cancellation, suspension, withdrawal, or forfeiture of tax subsidy shall be for notation of the Board.

13. FIRB Resolution No. 13-21 [June 02, 2021]

Authorizes the Head of the FIRB Secretariat, in relation to the efficient and effective conduct of the day-to-day business of the FIRB, to act on inquiries and represent the FIRB in all dealings and transactions with the public that do not require approval from either the Technical Committee or the Board, such as in meetings, fora, and other engagements with other offices, agencies, and instrumentalities of the national government and with persons and other entities, private or public, domestic or foreign.

14. FIRB Resolution No. 14-21 [June 02, 2021]

Authorizes the FIRB Technical Committee members to appoint alternate(s) in case the principal member is not available to perform his/her duties. This is to enhance efficiency in performing the Technical Committee's functions and to ensure unhampered delivery of services of the FIRB.

15. FIRB Resolution No. 15-21 [July 01, 2021]

Repeals FIRB Resolution No. 03-21 due to the change in the structure and composition of the FIRB with the passage and effectivity of the CREATE Act. The resolution maintains the approval of the tax subsidy request of the SBCorp amounting to P80,426,044.00 to cover its DST liability from the issuance of the certificate of stock on the subscription of the National Government.

16. FIRB Resolution No. 16-21 [August 02, 2021]

Approves the tax incentives application of a developer of a mass housing (economic and low-cost housing) project in Iloilo with an investment capital

of P1,389,379,126.00. The grant of tax incentive is limited to four years of income tax holiday (ITH) and duty exemption on importations.

The resolution also enumerates the performance commitments to be complied with by the grantee relative to the grant of tax incentives. Furthermore, the availment of tax incentives shall be subject to the terms and conditions of registration pursuant to the CREATE Act, its implementing rules and regulations, and Executive Order (EO) No. 226, Otherwise Known as the “Omnibus Investments Code of 1987”, as amended.

17. FIRB Resolution No. 17-21 [August 02, 2021]

Approves the tax incentives application of an expansion project of a producer of cement in Pampanga with an investment capital of P3,065,587,921.00. The grant of tax incentive is limited to two years ITH followed by five years enhanced deductions and duty exemption on importations.

The resolution also enumerates the performance commitments to be complied with by the grantee relative to the grant of tax incentives. Furthermore, the availment of tax incentives shall be subject to the terms and conditions of registration pursuant to the CREATE Act, its implementing rules and regulations, and EO 226, otherwise known as the “Omnibus Investments Code of 1987”, as amended.

18. FIRB Resolution No. 18-21 [August 02, 2021]

Approves the tax incentives application of a new project engaged in the production of cement in Batangas with an investment capital of P24,940,680,557.00. The grant of tax incentive is limited to six years ITH followed by five years enhanced deductions and duty exemption on importations.

The resolution also enumerates the performance commitments to be complied with by the grantee relative to the grant of tax incentives. Furthermore, the availment of tax incentives shall be subject to the terms and conditions of registration pursuant to the CREATE Act, its implementing

rules and regulations, and EO 226, otherwise known as the “Omnibus Investments Code of 1987”, as amended.

19. FIRB Resolution No. 19-21 [August 02, 2021]

Allows registered business enterprises (RBEs) of the Information Technology – Business Process Management (IT-BPM) sector to continue implementing work-from-home (WFH) arrangements without adversely affecting their fiscal incentives and/or the period of availment as a temporary measure under Rule 23 of the implementing rules and regulations of Title XIII of the NIRC of 1997, as amended by RA 11534.

The resolution also provides the conditions that RBEs of the IT-BPM sector need to satisfy for them to maintain their incentives and/or period of availment. One of the conditions set forth is that the number of employees under a WFH arrangement shall not exceed 90% of the total workforce of the RBE. The Resolution also provides that the 90% ceiling shall be reduced to 75% beginning January 01, 2022. However, if the State of Calamity due to COVID-19 is extended to any date beyond 01 January 2022, the ceiling shall be maintained at 90% until March 31, 2022.

20. FIRB Resolution No. 20-21 [August 09, 2021]

Denies the application for tax incentives of a project engaged in a battery energy storage system in Davao de Oro due to the high profitability of the project, its financial viability even without incentives, and it’s being potentially costly to the government and the economy.

21. FIRB Resolution No. 21-21 [August 26, 2021]

Grants to the Government Service Insurance System tax subsidy amounting to P14,070,508.58 to cover its actual and projected VAT obligations for the fourth quarter of 2020 (actual) and first to third quarters of 2021 (projected), respectively.

22. FIRB Resolution No. 22-21 [October 15, 2021]

Approves the tax incentives application of a subway project in the National Capital Region with total investment capital of P81,070,760,000.00. The grant of tax incentive is limited to four years ITH followed by five years enhanced deductions, and duty exemption on importations of capital equipment, raw materials, spare parts, or accessories.

The resolution also provides that the tax incentives shall only cover fare revenue, and be subject to the compliance of the grantee to its performance commitments. Furthermore, the availment of tax incentives shall be subject to the terms and conditions of registration pursuant to the CREATE Act, its implementing rules and regulations, and EO 226, otherwise known as the “Omnibus Investments Code of 1987”, as amended.

23. FIRB Resolution No. 23-21 [October 15, 2021]

Denies the request of the Philippine Economic Zone Authority and its enterprises engaged in the IT-BPM sector to be exempted from the required WFH arrangement of not exceeding 90% of the total workforce as provided under FIRB Resolution No. 19-21. The resolution also clarifies the definition of the terms “workforce” and “export revenues”. Furthermore, the resolution emphasizes the penalty for non-compliance with the conditions prescribed under FIRB Resolution No. 19-21.

24. FIRB Resolution No. 24-21 [October 15, 2021]

Approves the request of the BOI to implement temporary measures for reasons of the COVID-19 pandemic, African Swine Fever, Taal volcano eruption, pursuant to Rule 23 of the CREATE Act IRR. These measures include the moving of the start of commercial operation and reckoning date of the ITH incentive, and deferment of ITH entitlement depending on the exceptional circumstance of the RBE.

The resolution also provides that the BOI shall submit to the FIRB a report related to the implementation of temporary measures within 15 days following the close of each quarter in a calendar year.

25. FIRB Resolution No. 25-21 [December 10, 2021]

Grants to the Department of Interior and Local Government tax subsidy amounting to P2,412,272.70 to cover the taxes payable from the operations of the Disaster Risk Management and Institutional Strengthening Project, excluding the amount of the withholding income tax on the progress payment, unbilled progress payment, and creditable withholding tax on the procurement of laptops.

26. FIRB Resolution No. 26-21 [November 12, 2021]

Grants to the Intercontinental Broadcasting Corporation (IBC)-13 tax subsidy amounting to P117,835,395.33 to cover its tax amnesty payment for taxable years 2005 and 2008 and unpaid tax liabilities for taxable years 2007, 2009, 2010, 2014 to 2019 based on the final decision on disputed assessment.

-oOo-

Chapter 5

STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. **Marry-Jean V. Yasol**, Senior Tax Specialist, Tax Subsidies and Large Investments Division, attended the FIRB-PEZA workshop webinar held on January 13, 2021.
2. **Justin Philip R. Alegria**, Supervising Tax Specialist, Economics Staff, attended the virtual forum on National Microinsurance Forum via Zoom Video Conferencing held on January 26 – 27, 2021.
3. **Leanelle D. Reyno**, Librarian II, General Services Division, attended the “Control Your Records Before They Control You: The Basics of Records Management and Records Control” via Zoom held on January 27, 2021.
4. **Madonna Claire V. Aguilar**, Supervising Tax Specialist, **Phoebe Jane E. Orijola**, Tax Specialist II and **Gyan Karla G. Pascual**, Tax Specialist I, Local Taxation Branch, attended the WTS Global Tax Webinar entitled, “Digital Tax Lift-Off: Practical Lessons for Asia from Europe and Africa” via Zoom held on January 28 and February 4, 2021.
5. **Leanelle D. Reyno**, Librarian II, General Services Division, attended the “Attaining Wellness in the Midst of Pandemic” via Zoom held on January 29, 2021.
6. **Jemimah Kezia M. Gaylican**, Statistician I, Economics Staff, attended the Webinar on Getting Grounded on Analytics held on February 2, 2021.
7. **Phoebe Jane E. Orijola**, Tax Specialist II and **Gyan Karla G. Pascual**, Tax Specialist I, Local Taxation Branch, attended the BIR Tax Updates via Zoom held on February 9, 2021.

8. **Deputy Executive Director (DED) Debbie F. Asistio-Sy**, and **Lorelli D. Villaflores**, Administrative Officer V, Human Resource Management and Development Division, attended the Webinar on Coaching: Providing Direction held on February 10, 2021.
9. **OIC-DED Monica G. Rempillo**, Economist V, and **Lianne Carmeli B. Fronteras**, Senior Tax Specialist, Economics Staff, attended the Orientation on the application process and granting of incentives of Clark Development Corporation via Zoom held on February 18, 2021.
10. **Selected NTRC Employees** attended the Webinar: Rising to the Challenge of the Pandemic: LGU Best Practices in COVID-19 Crisis Management via Zoom held on February 23, 2021.
11. **Selected NTRC Technical Staff** attended the UP-CLRG's Counting the Costs: Understanding the Legal and Fiscal Issues of the Mandanas Ruling via Zoom held on February 25, 2021.
12. **Executive Director Marlene Lucero-Calubag**, **DED Debbie F. Asistio-Sy** and **OIC-DED Monica G. Rempillo**, attended the 2021 CES Leadership Conclave Series: Resilience 4.0: Courage, Agility and Future Ready Leadership via Zoom held on February 26, 2021.
13. **Atty. Mark Lester L. Aure**, Attorney V, and **Abraham P. Solomon**, Computer Maintenance Technician III, Management and Information System Division, attended the Webinar on Cyber Security Competency Framework held on March 1-5, 2021.
14. **Jun V. Ocol**, Senior Tax Specialist, and **Phoebe Jane E. Orijola**, Tax Specialist II, Local Taxation Branch, attended the Breaking Down the Tax Incentives Under the CREATE Bill via Zoom held on March 3, 2021.
15. **NTRC New Employees** attended the Orientation Seminar and Introduction to Tax Research held at the NTRC Function Hall held on March 3-5, 2021.
16. **Selected NTRC Employees** attended the Webinar on Financial Literacy via Google Meet, held on March 12, 2021.

Chapter 5

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

17. **All NTRC Officials and Employees** attended the Webinar on Empowering Women Through Stress Management in the New Normal via Google Meet held on March 12, 2021.
18. **Phoebe Jane E. Orijola**, Tax Specialist II, and **Gyan Karla G. Pascual**, Tax Specialist I, Local Taxation Branch, attended the Webinar: Created to Empower: Understanding the Implications of the CREATE Bill on Proprietary Schools via Zoom held on March 12, 2021.
19. **Phoebe Jane E. Orijola**, Tax Specialist II, and **Gyan Karla G. Pascual**, Tax Specialist I, Local Taxation Branch, **Jemimah Kezia M. Gaylican**, Statistician I, Economics Staff, and **Johann Louise D. Ramos**, Tax Specialist I, Planning and Coordinating Unit, attended the SECuring the Philippine Capital Market and Business Sector Webinar Series, The Whos, Whats, Whens and Whys of SEC Reportorial Requirements of Corporations via FB Live held on March 19, 2021.
20. **Selected NTRC Employees** attended the DOF Webinar on Women Inspiring Women Forum held on March 23, 2021.
21. **Atty. Mark Lester L. Aure**, Attorney V, and **Madonna Claire V. Aguilar**, Supervising Tax Specialist, Local Taxation Branch, attended the webinar entitled, "Public Policy and the Real World Confirmation" via Zoom held on March 23, 2021.
22. **Madonna Claire V. Aguilar**, Supervising Tax Specialist, Local Taxation Branch, attended the "Rethinking Employee Benefits: A Refresher on Employment Taxes" via Zoom held on March 25, 2021.
23. **Madonna Claire V. Aguilar**, Supervising Tax Specialist, **Jun V. Ocol**, Senior Tax Specialist, **Phoebe Jane E. Orijola**, Tax Specialist II, and **Gyan Karla G. Pascual**, Tax Specialist I, Local Taxation Branch, attended the "Webinar: Rising to the Challenge of the Pandemic: LGU Best Practices in COVID-19 Crisis Management, 4th Edition" via Zoom held on March 25, 2021.
24. **Selected NTRC Employees** attended the "Financial Literacy in Uncertain Times" via Google Meet held on March 26, 2021.

25. **Selected NTRC Technical Staff** attended the “SECuring Philippine Capital Market and Business Sector Webinar Series: As Easy as SEC: How to File Annual Reports Using SEC Online Submission Tools (OST)” via Zoom held on March 26, 2021.
26. **Selected NTRC Technical Staff** attended the “BDB Law Webinar on CREATE, Transfer Pricing, and Other Important Tax Updates and Court Decisions” held on March 29, 2021.
27. **Madonna Claire V. Aguilar**, Supervising Tax Specialist, Local Taxation Branch, attended the Australia Awards Webinar entitled, “Women’s Leadership Matters: Conversations on Gender Equality and Women’s Leaders in the Philippines during COVID-19” held on March 29, 2021.
28. **Madonna Claire V. Aguilar**, Supervising Tax Specialist, **Phoebe Jane E. Orijola**, Tax Specialist II and **Gyan Karla G. Pascual**, Tax Specialist I, Local Taxation Branch, attended the PWC Zalamea’s Webinar entitled, “The Big Burnout: Achieving Employee Motivation” via Zoom held on March 30, 2021.
29. **Atty. Mark Lester L. Aure**, Attorney V, **Eva Marie N. Pelayo**, Economist IV, Fiscal Incentives Branch, and **Johann Louise D. Ramos**, Tax Specialist I, Planning and Coordinating Branch, attended the Seminar on Strengthening Emergency Preparedness in a Post-COVID World Confirmation conducted by TÜV Rheinland Philippines held on March 30, 2021.
30. **Phoebe Jane E. Orijola**, Tax Specialist II, and **Gyan Karla G. Pascual**, Tax Specialist I, Local Taxation Branch, attended the “The Big Burnout: Achieving Employee Motivation” via Zoom held on March 30, 2021.
31. **Selected NTRC Technical Staff** attended the “Utilizing the Tax Incentives Under the CREATE Law” via Zoom held on April 7, 2021.
32. **Phoebe Jane E. Orijola**, Tax Specialist II, and **Gyan Karla G. Pascual**, Tax Specialist I, Local Taxation Branch, attended the “Webinar: Counting the Costs: Unpacking the Full Devolution Mandate of the Mandanas Ruling” via Zoom held on April 8, 2021.

Chapter 5

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

33. **Atty. Mark Lester L. Aure**, Attorney V, **Madonna Claire V. Aguilar**, Supervising Tax Specialist, **Phoebe Jane E. Orijola**, Tax Specialist II and **Gyan Karla G. Pascual**, Tax Specialist I, Local Taxation Branch, attended the “Webinar: CREATE Act” via FB Live held on April 19, 2021.
34. **Phoebe Jane E. Orijola**, Tax Specialist II, and **Gyan Karla G. Pascual**, Tax Specialist I, Local Taxation Branch, attended the “CREATE Law Exclusive Webinar” via Zoom held on April 20, 2021.
35. **Madonna Claire V. Aguilar**, Supervising Tax Specialist, **Jun V. Ocol**, Senior Tax Specialist, **Phoebe Jane E. Orijola**, Tax Specialist II, and **Gyan Karla G. Pascual**, Tax Specialist I, Local Taxation Branch, attended the “Webinar: Rising to the Challenge of the Pandemic: LGU Best Practices in COVID-19 Crisis Management, 5th Edition” via Zoom held on April 22, 2021.
36. **Phoebe Jane E. Orijola**, Tax Specialist II, and **Gyan Karla G. Pascual**, Tax Specialist I, Local Taxation Branch, attended the Webinar on “Assessing National Government Support Programs for LGUs and Local Provision of Water Supply” via Cisco Webex held on April 22, 2021.
37. **Selected NTRC Technical Staff** attended the Friday Learning Session: Writing for Impact via Google Meet held on April 23, 2021.
38. **Selected NTRC Technical Staff** attended the DFG-SERG-NTRC Friday Learning Session: Tips for Effective Staffing via Google Meet held on May 7, 2021.
39. **Madonna Claire V. Aguilar**, Supervising Tax Specialist, Local Taxation Branch, attended the Zalamea webinar, entitled, “Understanding the Data Privacy Act and Key Employer Obligations” via Zoom held on May 11, 2021.
40. **Selected NTRC Technical Staff** attended the DFG-SERG-NTRC Friday Learning Session: Presentations that Matter via Google Meet held on May 14, 2021.
41. **Selected NTRC Technical Staff** attended the Friday Learning Session: Presentations that Matter via Google Meet held on May 14, 2021.
42. **Madonna Claire V. Aguilar**, Supervising Tax Specialist, Local Taxation Branch, attended the Zalamea webinar entitled, “Embracing Key Leadership Skills of

the Future” via Zoom held on May 18, 2021.

43. **OIC-DED Monica G. Rempillo** and **Justin Philip Alegria**, Supervising Tax Specialist, Economics Staff, attended “The Road to IPO Roundtable Discussion on IPO Listing” held on May 25, 2021.
44. **Madonna Claire V. Aguilar**, Supervising Tax Specialist, **Jun V. Ocol**, Senior Tax Specialist, and **Phoebe Jane E. Orijola**, Tax Specialist II, Local Taxation Branch, attended the UP-NCPAG CLRG webinar Rising to the Challenge of the Pandemic: LGU Best Practices in COVID-19 Crisis Management - Batch 6, via Zoom held on May 27, 2021.
45. **Selected NTRC Technical Staff** attended the “Valuing Privacy in the Time of Digital Transformation” held on May 27-28, 2021.
46. **OIC-DED Monica G. Rempillo** and **Justin Philip Alegria**, Supervising Tax Specialist, Economics Staff, attended the “Starting a Career in the Philippine Stock Market” held on May 28, 2021.
47. **Selected NTRC Technical Staff** attended the DFG-SERG-NTRC Friday Learning Session: Effective Secretariat Support and Running Efficient Meetings via Google Meet held on May 28, 2021.
48. **Donaldo M. Boo**, Chief Tax Specialist, Direct Taxes Branch, and **Madonna Claire V. Aguilar**, Supervising Tax Specialist, Local Taxation Branch, attended the Online Course on Developmental Conversations for Leaders held on May 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, and 27, 2021.
49. **Arianne C. Fronteras**, Tax Specialist I, Administrative and Financial Branch, attended the “Recruitment, Selection and Placement for PRIME HRM Level 2 Online Course” held on June 7-28, 2021.
50. **Leanelle D. Reyno**, Librarian II, Administrative and Financial Branch, attended the “Electronic Records Management Policy Rollout” held on June 9, 2021.
51. **Selected NTRC Officials and Staff** attended the DOF Friday Learning Session- From July 4 to June 12: The Date Change of the Commemoration of Philippine Independence Day held on June 11, 2021.

Chapter 5

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

52. **Roselyn C. Domo**, Chief Tax Specialist, Fiscal Incentives Branch, attended the Virtual Seminar Workshop on “Coaching and Mentoring for Leaders” conducted by the Civil Service Commission-Civil Service Institute held on June 24-25, 2021.
53. **Selected NTRC Technical Staff** attended the Webinar on the Philippine Competition Act, State Aid, and Competitive Neutrality for NTRC and BOI via MS Teams held on June 25, 2021.
54. **Selected Administrative Staff** attended the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) Online Training for Buyers held on June 25-26, 2021.
55. **Lee Ann A. Batang**, Administrative Officer II, Administrative and Financial Branch, attended the “Competency-Based Human Resource e-Learning Course” held on July 5-9, 2021.
56. **Ma. Berlie L. Amurao**, Chief Tax Specialist, Indirect Taxes Branch, attended the Public Service Values Program (Batch 12) held on July 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, and 29, 2021.
57. **Eva Marie N. Pelayo**, Economist IV, Fiscal Incentives Branch, attended the Emotional Intelligence and Leadership held on July 14, 16, 21, 23, and 28, 2021.
58. **Internal Quality Audit Members** attended the Training-Workshop on Internal Quality Audit held on July 19, 21, 22, 23, and 27, 2021.
59. **Selected Technical Staff** attended the DFG-SERG-NTRC Friday Learning Session: CREATE Law IRR via Zoom held on July 23, 2021.
60. **Selected NTRC Employees** attended the Webinar Training on the Developing Recovery Measures in Mitigating Effects of Disaster to Government Records held on July 28-30, 2021.
61. **Selected NTRC Employees** attended the webinar on “Stock Market 101” via Zoom held on July 30, 2021.

- 62. Gian Carlo D. Rodriguez**, Chief Administrative Officer, and **Anna Catherine V. Revilles**, Administrative Assistant III, Administrative and Financial Branch, attended the Rewards and Recognition for PRIME-HRM Level 2 held on August 3, 5, 11, 17, and 25, 2021.
- 63. Madonna Claire V. Aguilar**, Supervising Tax Specialist, Local Taxation Branch, attended the “Women’s Finance Exchange Webinar: Banking the Female Economy” held on August 12, 2021.
- 64. Florida J. Jurado**, Supervising Tax Specialist, Planning and Coordinating Branch, attended the Leadership and Management Training: “Leadership in the Digital Era” conducted by the Civil Service Institute, Civil Service Commission held on September 6, 9, 20, 23, and 27, 2021.
- 65. Marry-Jean V. Yasol**, Senior Tax Specialist, Tax Subsidies and Large Investments Division, and **Grace A. Manalo**, Accountant III, Administrative and Financial Branch, attended the Public Service Values Program (Batch 14) held on September 7, 9, 21, 23, 28, and 30, 2021.
- 66. Selected Human Resource Personnel** attended the 2021 Public Sector HR Symposium, “Transforming Government Agencies into Smart Organizations: Honing Resilient and Future-Ready Public Servants” held on September 15-17, 2021.
- 67. Selected NTRC Technical Staff** attended the DFG-SERG-NTRC Friday Learning Session: All about VAT, via Zoom held on September 24, 2021.
- 68. Maria Cecelia B. Rodriguez**, Supervising Tax Specialist, Special Research and Technical Services Branch, attended the Training Course on Technical Writing Course on Statistical Reports held on September 27-30, 2021.
- 69. All NTRC Officials and Employees** attended the webinar on “Data Privacy Act” conducted via Google meet by Atty. Anna Benjieline Puzon, Attorney IV, from the National Privacy Commission Compliance and Monitoring Division held on September 30, 2021.
- 70. Selected Technical Staff** attended the Effective Presentation of Statistical Reports using Data Visualization Tools held on October 11-14, 2021.

Chapter 5

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

71. **Mariane Daiseree P. Mojica**, Tax Specialist II, Tax Statistics Branch, attended the Training Course on Basic Statistics 2: Estimation and Hypothesis Testing held on October 11-15, 2021.
72. **Maria Cecelia B. Rodriguez**, Supervising Tax Specialist, Special Research and Technical Services Branch, and **Analiza G. Berja**, Senior Tax Specialist, Direct Taxes Branch, attended the Public Service Values Program (Batch 15) held on October 13, 15, 21, 26, and 28, 2021.
73. **Selected Technical Staff** attended the webinar by the BLGF: “Mobilizing Resources Through Property Tax: Local and International Perspectives” held on October 21, 2021.
74. **All NTRC Officials and Employees** attended the GAD Webinar on Effects of Work-from-home on Women’s/Employees’ Mental Health held on October 22, 2021.
75. **All NTRC Officials and Employees** attended the GAD Webinar on Eye Health Care for Productive Aging of Men and Women held on October 28, 2021.
76. **Selected Technical Staff** attended the DFG-SERG-NTRC Friday Learning Session: Dynamic Stochastic General Equilibrium via Google Meet held on October 29, 2021.
77. **Selected Technical Staff** attended the DFG-SERG-NTRC Friday Learning Session: Input-Output Tables via Zoom held on November 5, 2021.
78. **Ronnel L. Yambao**, Senior Tax Specialist, Direct Taxes Branch, attended the Webinar on Information Security Management System via Google Meet held on November 8-12, 2021.
79. **Madonna Claire V. Aguilar**, Supervising Tax Specialist, Local Taxation Branch, acted as resource speaker to the Bukidnon State University Webinar entitled, “Making a Difference through Business Ethics and Leadership” via FB live held on November 10, 2021.
80. **All NTRC Officials and Employees** attended the GAD Webinar on Corporate Income Taxation Under Republic Act No. 11534 held on November 11, 2021.

Donaldo M. Boo, Chief Tax Specialist, Direct Taxes Branch, conducted the said webinar.

81. **Ma. Rhea L. Caro**, Chief Tax Specialist, and **Maureen Nicole N. Locquiao**, Tax Specialist II, Planning and Coordinating Branch, attended the Office for Alternative Dispute Resolution's Webinar Series Season 2, Episode 10: "ADR in the Government" held on November 12, 2021.
82. **Maureen Nicole N. Locquiao**, Tax Specialist II, and **Johann Louise D. Ramos**, Tax Specialist II, Planning and Coordinating Branch, attended the Training-Webinar on Capturing the Role of Gender in Volunteerism held on November 24-25, 2021.
83. **Madonna Claire V. Aguilar**, Supervising Tax Specialist, Local Taxation Branch, attended the PIDS Webinar on Assessing the Philippines' Performance in Meeting the ASEAN Economic Community Vision 2025 held on November 25, 2021.
84. **Marry-Jean V. Yasol**, Financial Analyst IV, Tax Subsidies and Large Investments Division, attended the "CSI Leadership Series "Values-Driven Leadership" held on November 26, 2021.
85. **All NTRC Officials and Employees** attended the Cultural, Athletics, and GAD Activities via Google Meet held on December 2, 2021.
86. **All NTRC Officials and Employees** attended the GAD Webinar on Safe Spaces Act held on December 10, 2021.

-oOo-



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
NATIONAL TAX RESEARCH CENTER
3rd Floor, Palacio del Gobernador Condominium
Gen. Luna Street, cor. A. Soriano Avenue
Intramuros, Manila

Editorial Board

Marlene L. Calubag
Debbie F. Asistio-Sy
Atty. Mark Lester L. Aure

Donaldo M. Boo
Jonah P. Tibubos
Roselyn C. Domo

Monica G. Rempillo
Jason P. Raposas
Ma. Berlie L. Amurao

Editors

Ma. Rhea L. Caro
Florida J. Jurado

Publication Staff

Lillian S. Flores
Maureen Nicole N. Locquiao
Johann Louise D. Ramos
Roberto D. Alvarez
Jess M. Tasan

Phone Numbers: 8527-2064/8527-2066
Telefax Number: 8527-2071

E-mail Address: info@ntrc.gov.ph
Web Address: <http://www.ntrc.gov.ph>