

# PING, SENADOR NG REPUBLIKA

## ANTI-CORRUPTION STAND

### **No to Pork Barrel!**

Refused to take part of the Congressional “*pork barrel*” allocations amounting to ***P200 Million a year***, which resulted in at least ***P240 Billion savings*** in taxpayers’ money.

### **Yes to Transparency!**

The only member of Congress - in the Senate and House of Representatives - who ***published online all his proposed institutional amendments and augmentations*** during every yearly budget deliberation.

### **Waiver of Bank Secrecy for Public Servants::**

Pushed for the exclusion of government officials, from the lowest-ranking clerk to the President, from the protection of the Bank Secrecy Law.

### **Anti-Money Laundering:**

Crafted Republic Act 9160 (as amended by RA 9194) or the Anti-Money Laundering Act and its subsequent amendments, strengthening the mandate of the Anti-Money Laundering Council and including casinos as ‘Covered Persons’

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## COVID RESPONSE

### **Special Risk Allowance For Health Workers:**

Introduced as an amendment to Bayanihan I Law the Special Risk Allowance for frontliners on top of their regular hazard pay.

### **Financial Aid And Medical Assistance for Health Workers:**

Introduced as an amendment to Bayanihan I Law the entitlement of P1 million financial assistance in case of death and P100,000 and medical assistance to infected health workers.

### **P1-Billion Additional Budget:**

Increased the DOH budget allotted for urban and rural areas by P1 billion in 2020.

**P8.6-Billion Budgetary Adjustment:**

Proposed the increase of DOH programmed appropriations for the HFEP from P5.9 billion to P14.6 billion.

**P3.6-Billion Flexible Learning Options:**

Provided P3.6 billion to support and prioritize the provision of self-learning modules to financially-challenged learners who have no access to internet and technology.

**P910 Million For Medical Exam Of Teachers:**

Additional P910 million for medical examination of school teachers who perform frontline services such as the distribution of modules in public schools and food packs for the continuation of school-based feeding programs.

**Overpriced Vaccines:**

Called out the DOH's non-transparent procurement of Sinovac vaccines. While the DOH initially indicated the cost was P1,814 per dose, the actual price was P517.06/dose.

**P841-M Overpriced Ambulances:**

Exposed overpricing in the procurement of ambulances - by P1M per unit - by the DOH during the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Call To Replace DOH Sec. Duque:**

Consistently vocal in the call for the removal of DOH Secretary Francisco Duque III for his incompetence in handling the Covid-19 pandemic; and the irregularities at DOH and PhilHealth; and the conflict of interest involving his family business.

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**NATIONAL BROADBAND PROGRAM:**

Pioneered the budget of the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), particularly, for the National Broadband Program.

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## **ECONOMY AND AGRICULTURE**

### **Free Irrigation:**

Authored the law waiving irrigation fees for farmers owning 8 hectares of land or less.

### **Increased Budgetary Support to LGUs:**

Pushed for the legislation of additional funding for local government units for development projects to effect genuine decentralization without need of charter change.

### **Against Overregulation of Businesses:**

Supports all forms of businesses with a vision of avoiding overregulation in order to thrive while at the same time encouraging further investments that will create jobs.

### **Anti-Red Tape:**

Authored and sponsored the Anti-Red Tape Act of 2007, which brings down the number of steps and days involved in a government transaction, and in turn paves the way for efficient and expeditious public service.

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## **PUBLIC ORDER AND ILLEGAL DRUGS:**

### **No to Double Standards!**

Questioned the Duterte administration's "*double standard*" in his war against illegal drugs - particularly why those killed are from poor families and not the masterminds - since 2016.

### **Tougher Anti-Hazing Law.**

Spearheaded major amendments to the Anti-Hazing Law after heading the Senate investigation on the Aegis Juris Fraternity in relation to the death of freshman law student Horacio "Atio" Castillo III.

### **Tougher Laws vs Terrorism and Terrorist Financing:**

Strengthened existing laws to address terrorist groups, including extremists that formed alliances with ISIS - while putting in place safeguards against possible abuses.

### **PNP Involvement in Killings:**

Presided and shed light on the involvement of several PNP officers in killings and abductions, including the cases of Korean citizen Jee Ick Joo, Albuera Mayor Rolando Espinosa and Kian delos Santos.

**PNP Body Cameras:**

Pushed for the fast-tracking of the implementation of the PNP's mandatory use of body cameras in all police operations.

**No Guns For Off-Duty Police:**

Proposed the prohibition of police to carry firearms while off duty to prevent unauthorized discharge/use.

**Judicial Marshal Service:**

Pushed for the creation of the Judicial Marshal Service to ensure the safety of justices, judges, court officials and personnel.

**Rehabilitation of Child Offenders:**

Pushed for the funding of child offenders' rehabilitation facilities

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**EDUCATION**

**P8.3 Billion Pork for Free SUC Tuition:**

Realigned illegal congressional insertion for the ARMM to fund for the first time free tuition for all students of state colleges and universities throughout the country. This was before the passage of the Free Tuition Act.

**P789 Million For the University of the Philippines' Research Program:**

Increased the budget of the University of the Philippines System by P252,720,000 and P537,991,000 (for 2019 and 2020, respectively) in support of the National Institute of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology in UP Los Baños.

**P7.8 Billion for Research and Development, Grants-In-Aid Programs:**

Increased the budget to deliver more economical, responsive, technology-driven, and sustainable services for all -- especially for the education sector.

**P770 Million Cash Allowance for Teachers:**

Increased the budget of the DepEd for the Cash Allowance of Teachers to P770,656,000 in 2017.

**P1.050-Billion Chalk Allowance for Teachers:**

Provided a total of P1,050,000,000 for chalk allowance for teachers in 2018.

**P700-Million Clothing and Uniform Allowance for Teachers:**

Provided P700 million to increase the allowances for the clothing and uniform expenses of teachers

**P2 Billion for DepEd Quick Response Fund:**

Increased the budget of the DepEd in the amount of P2 billion to cover the construction of schools severely affected by the series of typhoons.

**P3.7 Billion for School-Based Feeding Program:**

Proposed the addition of P3,712,527,000 to the School-based Feeding Program of DepEd to cover 240 days of lunch meals for severely wasted learners.

**P1 Billion for Continuing Education-Teacher Quality And Development Program:**

Proposed to augment the budget by P1.7 billion to capacitate public school teachers on the childrens' rights, inclusion and positive discipline in everyday teaching.

**P107 Million for Textbooks & Other Instructional Materials:**

Increased the budget to fundL P100 million for assistive devices & universal design materials for education of children with disabilities; P5 million for development of materials on sexuality education to combat teen and early pregnancy; and P2 million for advocacy and campaign on Water and Sanitation and Health (WASH).

**P2.92 Billion for Computerization Program:**

Provided additional P2.925 billion to achieve the target of DepEd's Computerization Program.

### **P2 Billion for QRF:**

Increased the budget for QRF by P2 billion to immediately repair and replace damaged school facilities caused by earthquakes and various disasters in Mindanao.

### **P17 Billion for Last Mile Schools Program:**

Increased the budget for the Last Mile Schools Program by P12 billion and P5 billion (for 2020 and 2021, respectively) to close the gap between students from Geographically Isolated, Disadvantaged and Conflict-Afflicted (GIDCA) areas and urban center counterparts.

### **TECH4ED:**

Supported the Technology Empowerment for Education, Employment, Entrepreneurs, and Economic Development (Tech4ED) project, a shared facility for providing access to ICT-enabled services to benefit the unserved and underserved communities.

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## **INVESTIGATIONS OF SCAMS**

### **P105-million Chopper Scam:**

Exposed the involvement of *then First Gentleman Mike Arroyo in the P105-million sale* of Arroyo's two used civilian helicopters as brand new to the PNP.

### **P12-Billion Anomalous Stimulus Package:**

Initiated the investigation of the plan to channel *P12.5 billion in Social Security System (SSS) funds into the administration coffers* during the Arroyo administration.

### **P5-Billion Quedancor Scam:**

Revealed the multibillion-peso swine scam on the irregularities of the Quedan and Rural Credit Guarantee Corp. (Quedancor) *to fund Arroyo's 2004 bid for re-election*.

### **P728-Million Fertilizer Scam:**

Exposed the release, through then DA Sec. Jocjoc Bolante, *of P728 million fertilizer funds to local officials for vote buying* in favor of Arroyo's re-election bid for President.

### **\$329-Million NBN-ZTE Deal:**

Sought the investigation of the \$329-million National Broadband Network deal with China's ZTE Corp that was **overpriced by \$130 million to cover kickbacks** during the Arroyo administration.

**\$470-Million IMPSA Deal:**

Pushed for the investigation of the **\$14 million bribe of gov't officials by Argentine firm Industrias Metallurgicas Perscamona, SA (IMPSA)** in the \$470 million contract to repair and operate the Caliraya-Botocan-Kalayaan hydroelectric plant in Laguna during the Arroyo administration.

**P500-Million Overpriced Lamp Posts:**

Exposed the **overpriced decorative lamp posts** in the construction of the Cebu International Convention Center in preparation for the 12th ASEAN Summit during the Arroyo administration.

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**"HELLO GARCI" 2004 ELECTION FRAUD**

Pushed to investigate the vote-rigging and election fraud exposed by the released wiretapped conversations between then President Arroyo and then COMELEC Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano Jr.

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**CORRUPTION AT THE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS**

**Tara System:.**

Exposed the systemic corrupt practices of employees of the Bureau of Customs during the Senate investigation on the P6.05-billion shabu importation.

**Automation:**

Consistently moved for the automation of procedures in the Bureau of Customs to do away with human intervention that opened opportunities for corruption.

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**CORRUPTION AT PHILHEALTH**

Exposed the flaws and loopholes in the current case rate system, millions worth of fraudulent claims, and the PhilHealth mafia.

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### **P6-BILLION “TONGPATS” SCHEME IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Revealed the P6 billion pork importation racket within the Department of Agriculture.

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### **P95-BILLION INFRA FUNDS FOR ARROYO, HOUSE ALLIES IN 2019 BUDGET**

Exposed the unlawfully funneled P95 billion infrastructure funds to districts of allies in Congress of then Speaker Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in the 2019 budget.

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### **RECYCLING OF APPOINTEES**

Vocal in his stand against the administration’s habit of “recycling” appointees involved in corruption issues by reassigning them to other government agencies.

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### **VOTED AGAINST TRAIN LAW**

Opposed the imposition of additional taxes and moved for the reduction of the VAT rate to 10% after reducing the 143 types of exemptions down to the basic necessities and imposing mechanisms to avoid leakages in collection.

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### **WEST PHILIPPINE SEA**

Firm in invoking the Philippines’ arbitral win over China in its claim over the West Philippine Sea.

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### **HUMAN RIGHTS**

Sponsored and increased the budget of the Commission on Human Rights to P863 Million after being given only a budget of P1.00 by the House of Representatives.



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