48th ANNUAL REPORT

NATIONAL TAX RESEARCH CENTER
Department of Finance
1) Salient Features of Tax Legislation Promulgated in 2020
   p. 1

2) Select Studies Conducted
   p. 11

3) Technical Assistance in the Assessment of Referred Tax Bills
   p. 15

4) Staff Development and Other Activities
   p. 31
INTRODUCTION

The year 2020 has been a year like no other as the world faced unprecedented challenges due to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. The Philippines, like all economies, experienced economic slowdown as a result of the extended shut down of businesses, mobility and accessibility problems due to limited availability of public transportation services, public health crisis, rise in unemployment, and low consumer consumption, which led to significant reduction in income and tax revenues.

To stimulate the weakening economy, the Philippine government imposed measures and interventions such as community quarantines, minimum health protocols, contact tracing, among others, to control and prevent the spread of the virus. Fiscal stimulus and socio-economic strategies in the form of tax relief and financial aids were likewise implemented by the government to pump prime the economy and provide assistance to vulnerable sectors.

The year 2020 also happened to be the NTRC’s diamond anniversary, celebrating 60 years of the institutionalization of tax research in the country. The NTRC has evolved into an institution commissioned to deliver the highest quality of service in its significant role in tax formulation policy and in the passage of major tax laws. Through the years, the NTRC remains committed in the performance of its mandate to provide quality research in taxation, improve the tax system, and raise the level of tax consciousness among the Filipino people.

Despite the implementation of alternative work arrangements during the pandemic, the NTRC was still able to conduct numerous research studies on taxation and other fiscal-related matters in line with the policy directions of the Department of Finance (DOF) and the socio-economic agenda toward fiscal sustainability.
The NTRC also supports the passage of the remaining tax reform bills under the Comprehensive Tax Reform Program (CTRP) of the DOF, specifically Package 2 or “Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises (CREATE)” Act, and Package 4, or the “Passive Income and Financial Intermediary Taxation Act (PIFITA)”. 

The CREATE Act, which was approved on third and final reading by the Senate on November 20, 2020, is considered the largest stimulus program for enterprises in the history of the country, seeks to address the impact of COVID-19 and to help businesses recover as quickly as possible. Package 2 also aims to develop a tax incentives system that is performance-based, targeted, transparent, and time-bound. In order to achieve this, the current functions of the Fiscal Incentives Review Board (FIRB), which the NTRC serves as the Secretariat, is proposed to be expanded to include oversight in the grant and administration of tax incentives to registered business enterprises upon the recommendation of their respective investment promotion areas, among others.

Accordingly, the NTRC provided technical assistance to the DOF on Package 2 during public hearings, interpellations, and period of amendments. As Secretariat to the FIRB, the NTRC prepared staffing plans based on the expanded functions of the FIRB under CREATE, conducted series of weekly online workshops/meetings with consultants on the proposed FIRB online portal, and consulted with the IT Division of the DOF on the system requirements of the FIRB. The NTRC also encoded financial statements of registered business entities under the Tax Incentives Management and Transparency Act for the year 2018, as basis for the cost-benefit analysis conducted thereon.

Meanwhile, Package 4 aims at making the taxation of passive income, financial intermediaries, and financial transactions simpler, fairer, and more efficient. It was approved on third and final reading by the House of Representatives on September 10, 2019. The Senate Ways and Means Committee conducted two public hearings on February 4 and 12, 2020.

In relation to Package 2, the NTRC attended consultative meetings with the DOF-Revenue Operations Group (ROG) on the proposed Senate version of the Package 4 bill, conducted technical briefing to the Committee on Ways and Means of the HOR, and provided inputs to the DOF during
the CREATE deliberations on Package 4-related issues. As noted, Package 4 bill had been passed on third and final reading at the HOR in 2019, and was immediately referred to the Senate.

At the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, the NTRC provided inputs to the Small Business Wage Subsidy Program of the DOF, which provided financial assistance to small businesses affected by the economic downturn due to the pandemic. The Agency also evaluated 107 Senate and House Bills and prepared inputs on tax and non-tax proposals which were submitted to the DOF.

As Secretariat to the FIRB, the NTRC processed and evaluated applications for tax subsidy of government agencies and commissaries for consideration of the Technical Committee and the Board Proper. The FIRB issued 8 Resolutions and 11 Certificates of Entitlement to Subsidy to certain government agencies and provided a number of 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 a number of national government agencies (NGAs) in the revision of fees and charges pursuant to Administrative Order No. 31, series of 2012, on the rationalization of fees and charges; and provided technical assistance on fee revision and cost determination to various NGAs.

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

As Secretariat to the Task Force on Gross Income Taxation, the NTRC completed the study on gross-based income taxation in coordination with the DOF-ROG, Office of the President, BIR, Department of Justice, Department of Budget and Management, Department of Trade and Industry, and the National Economic Development Authority.

For the national budget preparation, the NTRC provided technical support to the DOF Executive Technical Board of the Development
Budget Coordination Committee in revenue projection and generation of the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion, or TRAIN law, and other CTRP measures for CY 2019.

As to its participation in the DOF’s gender mainstreaming activities in compliance with the mandated provision of RA 9710, or the “Magna Carta of Women”, the NTRC implemented its Annual Gender and Development (GAD) Plans and Budget and prepared accomplishment reports thereon, and participated in several capacity development webinars on gender analysis and GAD planning and budgeting, sponsored by the DOF and other government agencies.

Relative to its information dissemination campaign, the NTRC published on a bi-monthly basis the NTRC Tax Research Journal and a handbook on Philippine Public Finance and Related Statistics, which can also be accessed in the NTRC website.

As part of its mission to provide continuing staff development, the NTRC officials and employees attended various seminars/webinars and trainings here and abroad 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, tariff, 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; and

d. Chapter 4 presents the staff development and similar activities through the participation of NTRC officials and employees in study grants, seminars, conferences, and other activities here and abroad.
Chapter 1

SALIENT FEATURES OF TAX LEGISLATION PROMULGATED IN 2020

**RA 11213**
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

Republic Act (RA) No. 11213, otherwise known as the “Tax Amnesty Act”, aimed to enhance revenue administration and collection and make the country’s tax system more equitable by simplifying tax compliance requirements and by granting two types of amnesties, i.e., on estate tax and delinquency.

The estate tax amnesty under Section 4, Title II of the Act covered the estate of decedents who died on or before December 31, 2017, with or without assessments duly issued therefor, whose estate taxes have remained unpaid or have accrued as of December 31, 2017, except those estate tax cases which have become final and executory and when the properties subject to amnesty are involved in cases pending in appropriate courts, as follows:

a. Falling under the jurisdiction of the Presidential Commission on Good Government;

b. Involving unexplained or unlawfully acquired wealth under RA 3019\(^1\), otherwise known as the “Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act”, and RA 7080\(^2\), or an “Act Defining and Penalizing the Crime of Plunder”;

\(^1\) Approved on August 17, 1960.

\(^2\) Approved on July 12, 1991.
c. Involving violations of RA 9160\(^3\), otherwise known as the “Anti-Money Laundering Act, as amended”;

d. Involving tax evasion and other criminal offenses under Chapter II of Title X of the National Internal Revenue Code (NIRC) of 1997, as amended; and

e. Involving felonies of frauds, illegal exactions and transactions, and malversation of public funds and property under Chapters III and IV of Title VII of the Revised Penal Code.

Section 5 of RA 11213 provided that except for the abovementioned cases, an estate may enjoy the immunities and privileges of the estate tax amnesty and pay an estate amnesty tax at the rate of 6% based on the decedent’s total net estate\(^4\) at the time of death; or based on the net undeclared estate\(^5\) if an estate tax return was previously filed with the BIR. If the allowable deductions applicable at the time of death of the decedent exceed the value of the gross estate, the heirs, executors, or administrators may avail of the benefits of tax amnesty and pay a minimum estate amnesty tax of P5,000. In return, taxpayers who have complied with all the conditions of the law shall be immune from the payment of all estate taxes, as well as increments and additions thereto, and from all appurtenant civil, criminal, and administrative cases and penalties under the NIRC of 1997, as amended.

Section 9 of Revenue Regulations (RR) No. 6-2019, which implemented the estate tax amnesty provisions of RA 11213, provided that in availing the estate tax amnesty, an Estate Tax Amnesty Return shall be filed by the executor or administrator, legal heirs, transferees or beneficiaries within two years from the effectivity of the said RR with the Revenue District Office (RDO) having jurisdiction over the last residence of

\(^3\) Approved on September 29, 2001.

\(^4\) Net estate as defined under RR 6-2019 refers to the gross estate less all allowable deductions as provided under the NIRC of 1997, as amended, or the applicable estate tax law prevailing at the time of death of the decedent.

\(^5\) Defined under RR 6-2019 to refer to the difference between the total net estate valued at the time of death of the decedent and the net estate previously declared with the BIR. For purposes of the regulations, the net estate previously declared is presumed to have been reduced with all the allowable deductions; thus, only the share of the surviving spouse on the undeclared conjugal properties, if any, may be deducted from the undeclared estate.
the decedent. In the case of a nonresident decedent, with executor or administrator in the Philippines, the return shall be filed with the RDO where such executor/administrator is registered or if not yet registered, at the executor/administrator’s legal residence. In the case of a nonresident decedent with no executor or administrator in the Philippines, the return shall be filed with RDO No. 39-South Quezon City. Notwithstanding the aforementioned provisions, the Regulations provide that the Commissioner of Internal Revenue may exercise his power to allow a different venue/place to file tax returns.

On the other hand, the tax amnesty on delinquencies under Section 17, Title IV of RA 11213 covered all national internal revenue taxes, such as but not limited to, income tax, withholding tax, capital gains tax, donor’s tax, value-added tax (VAT), other percentage taxes, excise tax, and documentary stamp tax (DST) collected by the BIR, including VAT and excise taxes collected by the Bureau of Customs for taxable year 2017 and prior years. Below are the instances where the tax amnesty on delinquencies may be availed of and the corresponding rates as provided under Section 18 of RA 11213 and RR 4-2019.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Rates and Base</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Delinquent accounts and assessments which have become final and executory, including (1) delinquent tax account with application for compromise settlement either on the basis of: (a) doubtful validity of assessment; or (b) financial incapacity of the taxpayer, but the same was denied by the Regional Evaluation Board or the National Evaluation Board, as the case may be, on or before the effectivity of RR 4-2019; (2) delinquent withholding tax liabilities arising from non-withholding of tax; and (3) delinquent estate tax liabilities.</td>
<td>40% of the basic tax assessed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Tax cases subject of final and executory judgment by the Courts on or before the effectivity of RR 4-2019;</td>
<td>50% of the basic tax assessed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 1

TAX LEGISLATION

Cases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases</th>
<th>Rates and Base</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>c. Pending criminal cases filed with the Department of Justice/Prosecutor’s Office or the courts for tax evasion and other criminal offenses under Chapter II of Title X and Section 275 of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, with or without assessment duly issued; and</td>
<td>60% of the basic tax assessed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. Withholding agents who withheld taxes but failed to remit the same to the BIR.</td>
<td>100% of the basic tax assessed</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Any person who wishes to avail of the tax amnesty shall, within one year from the effectivity of RR 4-2019 or until December 31, 2020, file with the appropriate RDO, which has jurisdiction over the residence or principal place of business of the taxpayer, a sworn tax amnesty on delinquency return accompanied with a Certificate of Tax Delinquencies/Tax Liabilities issued by concerned BIR offices. The payment of the tax amnesty shall be made at the time the return is filed.

Section 8 of RR 4-2019 further provided that the tax delinquency of those who availed of the Tax Amnesty on Delinquencies, upon full compliance with all the conditions set forth under the said Regulations, shall be considered settled and the criminal case in connection therewith and its corresponding civil or administrative case, if applicable, shall be terminated. The taxpayer shall also be immune from all suits or actions, including the payment of said delinquency or assessment, as well as additions thereto, and all appurtenant civil, criminal and administrative cases, and penalties under the NIRC of 1997, as amended, as such relate to the internal revenue taxes for taxable years that are subject of the tax amnesty availed of.

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6 Section 4 of RR 4-2019 provided that the 100% tax amnesty rate shall apply in all cases of non-remittance of withholding taxes even if the same shall fall under the first three instances.

7 Based on RR 4-2019, as amended, and further amended by RR 15-2020, provided that the tax amnesty on delinquencies be availed until December 31, 2020 yet may be extended if the circumstances warrant an extension such as in case of country-wide economic or health reasons. Prior to this, RR 4-2019, was already amended by RRs 5-2020 and 11-2020 which provide for the effectivity of availing of tax amnesty on delinquencies until April 23, 2020 and extending it until June 22, 2020 pursuant to RA 11469, or the “Bayanihan to Heal as One Act”, respectively.
Upon full compliance with all the conditions of the estate tax amnesty and tax amnesty on delinquencies and payment of the corresponding amnesty taxes, the tax amnesty granted under the law shall become final and irrevocable.

RA 11346 increased the excise taxes on tobacco products (e.g., cigars, cigarettes) and made subject to excise taxation and regulation the heated tobacco products (HTPs), and vapor products, popularly known as electronic cigarettes (e-cigs), effective January 1, 2020. It also redefined cigars and cigarettes, and provided for the definition of HTPs, electronic nicotine and non-nicotine delivery system (ENDS/ENNDS) and vapor products, which were later redefined by RA 11467.

RA 11346 also deleted Section 288(B) and 288(C) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, and replaced them with a new Section 288-A, mandating the earmarking of revenues from the excise taxes on sugar-sweetened beverages, alcohol products, tobacco products, HTPs, and vapor products to fund the universal health care (UHC).

It also amended Section 289 of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, or the special financial support to beneficiary provinces producing Virginia tobacco products, by putting a maximum limit to the financial support at P17 billion. Likewise, the law amended certain sections on the regulation and supervision of excisable products, and increased the fines and penalties imposed under Section 263 of the NIRC of 1997, as amended. It also inserted two new sections penalizing the selling of HTPs and vapor products
at prices below the combined excise tax and VAT, and the mere possession of any apparatus or mechanical contrivance for the manufacture of cigarettes, cigarette paper, or cigarette tipping paper.

Meanwhile, RA 11467 exempted from the VAT the sale or importation of prescription drugs and medicines for diabetes, high cholesterol, and hypertension beginning January 1, 2020; and cancer, mental illness, tuberculosis, and kidney diseases beginning January 1, 2023, as provided in the list of approved drugs by the Department of Health (DOH).

RA 11467 also amended the allocation of the incremental revenues from alcohol products, HTPs, and vapor products wherein 60% of the collected revenues will go to the implementation of the UHC law, 20% to health facilities enhancement program of the DOH, and the remaining 20% for the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals determined by the National Economic and Development Authority. The allocation for the UHC under Section 288-A of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, shall be based on the collection in the second fiscal year preceding the current fiscal year.

In addition, the law enhanced Section 263-A of the NIRC of 1997, as amended, on the regulation and monitoring of HTPs and vapor products, as well as the offenses relating to stamps imposed under Section 265 thereof.

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**RA 11469**
An Act Declaring the Existence of a National Emergency Arising from the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Situation and a National Policy in Connection Therewith, and Authorizing the President of the Republic of the Philippines for a Limited Period and Subject to Restrictions, to Exercise Powers Necessary and Proper to Carry Out the Declared National Policy and for Other Purposes

RA 11469, otherwise known as the “Bayanihan to Heal as One Act”, which was enacted into law on March 24, 2020, was a response measure by the government to address the continuing rise of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the country. It provided an emergency subsidy and assistance program for low-income households, funds to address the COVID-19 emergency, rescheduling of various statutory deadlines and timelines for the filing and submission of any documents, payment of taxes, fees,
and other charges required by law, grace period for the payment of all taxes, loans and rents, tax reliefs, among others. The law also granted the President the power to adopt emergency measures to respond to crisis brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

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RA 11470, otherwise known as “The National Academy of Sports (NAS)”, recognized the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. Thus, it shall institutionalize an educational system within the framework of the national sustainable sports program and provide excellent training to produce world-class athletes.

The law created and established a NAS System mandated to implement a quality and enhanced secondary education program, integrated with a special curriculum on sports in world class facilities and which are at par with international standards. It shall offer, on full scholarship basis, a secondary education to natural-born Filipino citizens with considerable potentials in sports. The NAS System shall be attached to the Department of Education, in close coordination with the Philippine Sports Commission.

Section 17 of RA 11470 provided that the NAS System shall be exempt from withholding taxes on the honoraria or fees paid to visiting lecturers or professors from abroad, subject and pursuant to existing Philippines tax treaties. Section 18 of the law likewise provided for the exemption from donor’s tax of all grants, legacies, bequests or devises, gifts and donations for the benefit of the NAS System, its support and/or maintenance, or for aid to any of its students and fully deductible from the gross income of the donors in accordance with the NIRC of 1997, as amended.

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RA 11494, otherwise known as the “Bayanihan to Recover as One Act”, was enacted into law on September 11, 2020 as a response measure of the government to address the spread of COVID-19 in the country and to mitigate the ensuing economic disruption through the provision of assistance, subsidies, and other forms of socioeconomic relief. The Act provided for various allowances and benefits not just to the health workers but also to the LGUs and the general public as well.

For health workers, it authorized a special risk allowance if they have been in contact or directly catered to COVID-19 patients as well as compensation if they contracted COVID-19 in the line of duty, both shall be exempted from income tax.

Displaced teaching and non-teaching personnel either working in private or public educational institution who lost their jobs and those who have not yet received their wages were given one-time cash assistance.

All banks and financial intermediaries were directed to implement a one-time 60-day grace period to be granted for the payment of all existing, current and outstanding loans, without incurring interest on interests, penalties, fees, or other charges and thereby extending maturity of the said loans.

The LGUs were given the authority to realign their respective local funds, discontinue appropriated programs which cannot be utilized effectively as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak, and were also tasked to ensure supervision and authority to issue permits on privately-run isolation and quarantine facilities and fast-track the processing of the issuance. LGUs were also tasked to act on all pending and new applications for permit, license, clearance, authorization and resolution within a non-extendable period of seven working days, to support and encourage the resumption of all economic activities.

Requirements to secure local permits and clearance for construction, installation, repair, operation and maintenance of telecommunication and internet infrastructure with the Department of Information and Communications Technology
were temporarily suspended. Deadlines and timelines for the filing and submission of any documents, payment of taxes and other charges required by law were also moved to ease the burden on individuals under community quarantine, among others.

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RA 11506
An Act Granting San Miguel Aerocity Inc. a Franchise to Construct, Develop, Establish, Operate, and Maintain a Domestic and International Airport in the Municipality of Bulakan, Province of Bulacan, and to Construct, Develop, Establish, Operate, and Maintain an Adjacent Airport City

RA 11506\(^8\) granted the San Miguel Aerocity Inc., its successors or assignees, a franchise to construct, develop, establish, operate, and maintain for commercial purposes and in the public interest, a domestic and international airport in Barangays Taliptip and Bambang in the Municipality of Bulakan, Province of Bulacan.

The grantee, its successors or assignees, have the right to construct, acquire, lease, operate, or manage such properties as are convenient or essential to efficiently carry out the objectives of the Act such as toll roads, railroads, mass transport systems, hotels, warehouses, hangars, aircraft service stations, and other facilities, as well as to develop the areas adjacent to the airport into one integral comprehensive development which will be referred to as the Airport City.

The franchise is in effect for a period of 50 years from the effectivity of the Act, inclusive of the 10-year maximum period for the design, planning, and construction of the airport and the Airport City, unless sooner revoked or cancelled. After the expiration of the franchise, the airport will be turned over to the Department of Transportation at no cost to the government.

The franchisee is also exempted from all direct and indirect taxes and fees during the 10-year construction period. Specifically, the grantee, its successors or assignees, will be exempt from any and all direct and indirect taxes and fees of any kind, nature or description, which emanate exclusively from the construction, development, establishment, and operation of the airport and the Airport City, including income

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\(^8\) Lapsed into law on December 20, 2020 without the signature of the President, in accordance with Article VI, Section 27(1) of the Constitution.
taxes, VAT, percentage taxes, excise taxes, DST, customs duties and tariffs, taxes on real estate, buildings and personal property, business taxes, supervision fees, and permit fees levied, established or collected, or may be levied, established or collected, by any city, municipal, provincial or national authority.

After the construction period and during the remaining 40 years of its franchise, the grantee, its successors or assignees will be exempt only from income taxes and taxes on real estate, buildings and personal property, levied, established or collected, by any city, municipal, provincial or national authority until it has fully recovered its investment cost on the airport and on the Airport City. After which, it will be subjected to all taxes under NIRC of 1997, as amended, and the CMTA\textsuperscript{9}.

Aside from taxes post-recovery of investment, the government stands to receive a share in the revenue of the Airport City in excess of its profit margin of 12%. The internal rate of return of the Airport City will be reckoned and calculated within three months after the BIR determined that the grantee, its successors or assignees has fully recovered its investment cost on the Airport City. Any advantage, favor, privilege, exemption, or immunity granted under existing franchises, or which may hereafter be granted, upon prior review and approval of Congress, will become part of this franchise and be accorded immediately and unconditionally to the franchise grantees, its successors or assignees.

The construction project aims to redirect air traffic from the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, which suffers from expansion issues due to its location in Metro Manila. The Bulakan airport will cover 1,500 hectares of land and can accommodate 100 million passengers annually, and thus alleviating the overcrowding woes that the NAIA has been experiencing for years.

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Chapter 2

SELECT STUDIES CONDUCTED

1. Tax Assessment of the Documentary Stamp Tax as Amended by Republic Act (RA) No. 10963

This paper discussed the historical rates and collections of the DST as well as its revenue performance under the amendments of RA 10963 or the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN) law, which took effect on January 1, 2018.

The DST is an excise tax which is levied upon documents, instruments, loan agreements and papers evidencing the acceptance, assignment, sale, or transfer of an obligation, right, or property incident thereto and in respect of the transaction so had or accomplished by persons of certain privileges. It is conferred by law for the creation, revision, or termination of a specific legal relationship through the execution of specific documents.

RA 10963 increased all DST rates by 100% except the DST on debt instruments, which was only increased by 50%, and retained the rates on policies of insurance upon property, fidelity bonds and other insurance policies, indemnity bonds, and conveyances of real properties. The TRAIN law subjected the donation of real property to DST but exempted transfers of real property that are exempt from donor’s tax as provided by Section 101(a) and 101(b) of the NIRC of 1997, as amended. With the doubling of the tax rates, the DST on jai-alai, horse-race, lotto or other authorized games now has the highest rate at 20%. This was followed by non-life insurance and fidelity bonds at 12.5% and indemnity bonds at 7.5%. The DST on debt instruments and original issuance of shares of stock were also increased to 0.75% and 1%, respectively.
The DST is considered to be a steady and reliable source of government revenue as it is relatively easy to collect and enforce.

2. **Administration and Disposition of the Road Tax Among ASEAN and Selected Countries**

   This paper discussed the present administration and disposition of the Motor Vehicle User’s Charge (MVUC)/road tax among ASEAN and selected countries to serve as input to policymakers in introducing changes in the management of the proceeds of the MVUC/road tax.

   Road infrastructure is a key prerequisite of social and economic development of any country. Governments all over the world allocate significant budgets for road infrastructure as without sufficient or sustainable funding, road infrastructure and maintenance will be compromised. In the Philippines, the road tax is known as the MVUC. Registration of motor vehicles and subsequent imposition of the MVUC can be traced back as early as the 1930s. Since then, it has undergone various amendments and restructuring.

   All ASEAN member-countries are imposing the road tax. In the Philippines, Brunei, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam, the tax is imposed by the national government. However, in Vietnam, the road tax for motorcycles is determined by the Local People’s Councils of their respective provinces and cities that fit their social and economic characteristics. In Malaysia, the road tax is imposed by the regional and provincial government and in Indonesia, by the district or city government.

   Outside the ASEAN, New Zealand earmarks its road user charges to a special fund known as the National Land Transport Fund and managed by the New Zealand Transport Agency. It is used to finance improvement and maintenance of roads, public transport, road safety, and improvement of walking and cycling facilities. Finland, Germany, Norway, and Sweden remit their collection from road user charges to the general treasury to finance not only road expenses but also other government expenditures. These countries source their road infrastructure and maintenance financing through appropriations from the general treasury. However, Finland and Norway conduct cost-benefit analysis first before the implementation of road infrastructure.
3. Possible Impact of Reopening Casinos During the General Community Quarantine (GCQ) Period

This paper discussed the possible impact of reopening casinos during the GCQ period in Metro Manila. The Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases issued the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines that prohibited the operations of amusement, gaming and fitness establishments under Category IV during the GCQ period. Category IV include, among others, casinos and other gambling activities, and other amusement and leisure places as indicated in the Department of Trade and Industry Memorandum Circular No. 20-22.\textsuperscript{10}

The gambling industry has been one of the major drivers of the country’s economy. It generated revenues for the government’s socio-civic and national development programs. The suggested reopening of VIP gaming at state-owned and licensed casinos was aimed to pump prime the economy and raise needed funds for the government’s effort against COVID-19. However, while there may have been benefits from the suggested reopening of the operations of casinos, specifically their VIP segments, several drawbacks of the said suggestion were also anticipated.

4. Best Practices by Selected Local Government Units to Combat Coronavirus Disease 2019

This paper summarized the best practices by selected local government units (LGUs) in the Philippines to combat COVID-19 pandemic that other LGUs may emulate.

The LGUs adopted and implemented methodical and practical protocols to ensure the safety of their constituents as well as the efficient delivery of services, providing financial and non-financial assistance to control the spread of the virus.

\textsuperscript{10} Entitled, “Business Establishments or Activities Allowed to Operate in Areas Declared During the Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) and GCQ Pursuant to the Omnibus Guidelines on Community Quarantine as Confirmed and Adopted by the President under Executive Order No. 112 S. 2020”, (May 5, 2020).
Other than the extension of deadline of payments for local taxes, fees, and charges, financial assistance and loan programs, the most common projects and programs adopted by LGUs were on the distribution of food and other essential provisions such as transportation within their respective jurisdiction.

5. Impact of the Coronavirus Disease of 2019 Pandemic on Local Amusement Tax Collection of Local Government Units in the Philippines

This study assessed the impact of COVID-19 on amusement tax revenue of the LGUs and the impact of new normal on their ability to contribute to the needed revenues of the LGUs.

The paper revealed that collections from the local amusement tax of LGUs in the Greater Manila Area were severely affected given the fact that almost half of the contributors were in this area since go-to places such as malls, theaters, and concert halls were closed for the time being. As such, events were suspended and even movies and concerts were cancelled.

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Chapter 3

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN THE EVALUATION OF REFERRED TAX BILLS

In 2020, the NTRC evaluated/commented on 107 tax bills/resolutions requested by the Philippine Congress and Department of Finance (DOF) and submitted to the Policy, Research and Liaison Office as inputs to DOF’s official position thereon.

HOUSE BILLS


2. **HB 5280**, entitled, “An Act Establishing Young Farmers Challenge Program, Creating the Young Farmers Challenge Council, Appropriating Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes”;


4. **HBs 2658, 1368, 2617, 914, 1335, and 4108**, entitled, “Acts Creating the Philippine Corn Research and Other Cereals Research Institute, and the Philippine Corn Industry Development Authority”; 

5. **HB 2114**, entitled, “An Act Providing for Seven-Year Tax Free Incentive for Plantation in Private and Public Lands, and for Other Purposes”;

7. **HB 4159**, entitled, “An Act Creating the National Council for Faith-Based and Community Partnerships, Appropriating Funds Thereto and for Other Purposes”;


9. **HB 6122**, entitled, “An Act Protecting Consumers and Merchants Engaged in Internet Transactions, Creating for This Purpose the e-Commerce Bureau and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;

10. **HB 784**, entitled, “An Act Providing for the Acquisition of the Services of a Private Auction House that shall Undertake All Public Auctions at the Bureau of Customs, Amending for This Purpose Republic Act No. 10863, Otherwise Known as the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act”;


12. **HB 5491**, entitled, “An Act Renewing for another Twenty-Five Years the Franchise Granted to Cruz Telephone Co., Inc. under RA No. 7961, entitled, An Act Granting to Cruz Telephone Company, Inc. (CRUZTELCO) a Franchise to Install, Operate, and Maintain a Telecommunications System Throughout the Philippines”;

13. **HB 6371**, entitled, “An Act Renewing for another 25 Years the Franchise Granted to International Communications Corporation, presently Known as Bayan Telecommunications, Inc. under Republic Act No. 3269, entitled, An Act Granting the International Communications Corporation a Franchise to Establish Radio Stations for Domestic Telecommunications, Radiophone, Broadcasting and Telecasting, as Amended by Republic Act Nos. 4905 and 7633”;

15. **HB 6507**, entitled, “An Act Institutionalizing the Task Force Against Illicit Trade of Tobacco Products, Appropriating Funds Therefor, Amending for the Purpose Section 288-A of Republic Act No. 8424, as Amended, Otherwise Known as the NIRC of 1997, and for Other Purposes”;

16. **HB 6508**, entitled, “An Act Amending Sections 129, 164, and 225 of Republic Act No. 8424, as Amended, Otherwise Known as the NIRC of 1997 and for Other Purposes”;

17. **HB 5148**, entitled, “An Act Granting Tax Incentives to Lot Owners who will Convert their Lots into Usable Parking Spaces and for Incentives to Lot Owners who will Convert Their Vacant Lots into Usable Parking Spaces and for Other Purposes”;

18. **HBs 1364, 3454, and 4094**, entitled, “An Act Exempting Drugs, and Medicines Prescribed for Mental Health Conditions from the Value-Added Tax”; “An Act Classifying the Sale and Importation of Drugs and Medicines Prescribed for Mental Disorders Thereof as Value-Added Tax Exempt Transactions, Amending for the Purpose Section 109 (1) of Republic Act No. 8424, Otherwise known as the Tax Reform Act of 1997, as Amended by Republic Act No. 9337, and for Other Purposes”; and “An Act Granting Exemption of Maintenance Medicines from Value-Added Tax”, respectively;

19. **HB 6520**, entitled, “An Act Exempting Face Masks, Antiseptics, Sanitizers, and Other Similar Goods from Taxes, Duties Fees, and Other Charges”;


23. **HB 5450**, entitled, “An Act Exempting from Taxes Fertilizers and Pesticides used in Rice Production”;

25. **HB 6388**, entitled, “An Act Rationalizing the Excise Tax on Firearms, Ammunition, and Accessories Thereof, Amending for the Purpose the NIRC, and for Other Purposes”;

26. **HBs 2658, 1368, 2617, 914, 1335, and 4108**, Acts Creating the Philippine Corn Research and Other Cereals Research Institute, and the Philippine Corn Industry Development Authority;

27. **HBs 175, 238, 825, 923, 4008, 5605, and 6820**, Acts Regulating the Planning, Design, Construction, Occupancy, and Maintenance of Buildings, Enacting a New Building Act, Repealing PD No. 1096, and for Other Purpose;


29. **HB 7120**, entitled, “An Act Granting Tax Incentives to Private Employees that Hire K to 12 Graduates, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”;


31. **HBs 4407, 4470, 4764, and 5250**, entitled, “An Act Institutionalizing the Community-Driven Development Approach as a National Strategy for Inclusive Growth and Social Protection, Mandating All National Government Agencies and Departments, including their Attached Agencies, Offices and Bureaus, Local Government Units, and Other Government Instrumentalities to Implement their Community-Based Programs, Activities, Projects, Appropriating Funds Therefor”;

32. **HB 7241**, entitled, “An Act Granting San Miguel Corporation a Franchise to Construct, Develop, Establish, Operate, and Maintain a Domestic and International Airport in Bulakan, Bulacan”;
33. **HB 7084**, entitled, “An Act Providing for Certain Exemptions from National Internal Revenue Taxes, and a Simplified Business Registration Process for Small-Time Online Sellers or the “Madiskarteng Online Sellers Act”;”;

34. **HB 6653 and 6717**, entitled, “An Act Imposing Sales Tax In lieu of Value-Added Tax, Replacing for the Purpose the Entire Provisions of Title IV, and Amending Section 116, Title V, and Section 236, Title IX, of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended, and for Other Purposes”;

35. **HB 7483**, entitled, “An Act Establishing the Bulacan Airport City Special Economic Zone and Freeport, Province of Bulacan and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;

36. **HBs 2966 and 2438**, entitled, “An Act Creating the Siargao Islands Development Authority, Prescribing its Powers, Functions and Duties, Providing Funds Thereof, and for Other Purposes”;


40. **Section 14 of HB 341**, entitled, “An Act Transforming the Office for Transportation Security into the National Transportation Security Regulatory Commission and for Other Purposes”;

42. **HB 7351**, entitled, “An Act Exempting from Taxation for the Taxable Year Two Thousand Twenty All Medical and Non-Medical Frontliners Who Are Directly Serving, Treating, Caring, Aiding, and Assisting COVID-19 Patients”;

43. **HB 7523**, entitled, “An Act Excluding the Hazard Pay Earned During or on Occasion of a National Emergency in the Computation of Gross Income, Thereby Amending Section 9 of Republic Act No. 10963, Otherwise Known as the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion Law”;

Chapter 3

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

45. **HB 7272**, entitled, “An Act to Strengthen Laws Against the Illicit Trade of Tobacco Products and Related Raw Materials by Amending Sections 3 and 4 of Republic Act No. 10845, Otherwise Known as the Anti-Agricultural Smuggling Act of 2016, Amending Section 1141 and Creating A New Section 1700-A of Republic Act No. 10863, Otherwise Known as the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act, Amending Sections 129, 131, 156, 159, 225, 275 and 288 of Republic Act No. 8424, As Amended, Otherwise Known as the NIRC of 1997, and For Other Purposes”;

46. **HB 7415**, 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, as Amended”;


48. **HB 7436**, entitled, “An Act Exempting Electronic Gadgets to be Used for Online Distance Learning from Taxes, Duties, Fees, and Other Charges”;


52. **HB 7531**, entitled, “An Act Granting Instant Data Inc. a Franchise to Construct, Install, Establish, Operate, and Maintain Telecommunication Systems Throughout the Philippines”;


54. **HB 7919**, entitled, “An Act Imposing Taxes on Offsite Betting Activities on Locally Licensed Games, Adding a New Section 125-A to the NIRC of 1997, as Amended, and for Other Purposes”;

Telecommunications Throughout the Philippines”, respectively;

56. **HB 984**, entitled, “An Act Granting Tax Incentive to Medical Doctors Who Render Free Professional Services to Indigent Patients and for Other Purposes”;

57. **HB 7745**, entitled, “An Act Creating the Regional Investment and Infrastructure Coordinating Hub of Central Luzon and Providing Funds Therefor”;

58. **HBs 2649, 3858, and HB 7627**, entitled, “Revised Charter of the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC)” and “Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation Act”;

59. **HB 5634**, entitled, “An Act to Enhance the Protection and Development of the Sierra Madre Region, Creating the Sierra Madre Development Authority for the Purpose, Defining Its Powers and Functions and Providing Funds Therefore, and for Other Purposes”;

60. **HB 7792**, entitled, “An Act Strengthening the Current Function of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources’ National Integrated Fisheries Technology Development Center and Renaming it to Philippine Center for Aquaculture and Fisheries Development and Appropriating Funds Therefor”; and


**UNNUMBERED SUBSTITUTE BILLS**

62. **Unnumbered Substitute Bill (USB) of HBs 1274, 3309, 3373, 3469, 4009, and 4926**, entitled, “An Act Institutionalizing the Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council (PBIDC), Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”;

63. **USB of HBs 597, 1603, 2327, and 2716**, entitled, “An Act Granting Hazard Pay to Judges of the First and Second-Level Trial Courts and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;

64. **USB of HB 4248**, entitled, “An Act Creating a High School for Sports in the Municipality of Bagac, Province of Bataan to be Known as the Bataan High School for Sports and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;

66. **USB**, entitled, “An Act Institutionalizing Microfinance Programs and Access to Capital to Support and Grow Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), Allocating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”;


68. **USBs of HBs 263, 264, 655, 3239, 5440, 5538, and 5794**, Acts Establishing Special Economic Zones and Freeports in the Municipalities of San Jose and Magsaysay in the Province of Occidental Mindoro; Municipality of Paluan in the Province of Occidental Mindoro; City of Cavite, Province of Cavite; 4th District of Cebu Province; City of Bacolod, Province of Negros Occidental; Province of Bohol; and City of Iloilo, Appropriating Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes;


70. **USB of HBs 1188, and 5612**, entitled, “An Act Amending RA 10173, Otherwise Known as the Data Privacy Act of 2012”;

71. **USB of HB 6122**, entitled, “An Act Providing Protection to Consumers and Merchants Engaged in Internet Transactions, Creating for the Purpose Electronic Commerce Bureau, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;

72. **USB of HBs 262, 1581, and 1981**, entitled, “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”; “An Act Converting the Basilan State College in the City of Isabela, Province of Basilan, Into a State University, to be Known as the Basilan State University, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”; and “An Act Converting the Iligan City National School of
Fisheries, in Barangay Buru-an, Iligan City, Province of Lanao Del Norte, into a Polytechnic State College, to be known as the Iligan City Polytechnic State College, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”, respectively;


74. **USB of HB 191, 1043, and 3671**, entitled, “An Act Enhancing the Revenue Administration and Collection by Granting Amnesty on all Unpaid Imposition Levied by Government for Taxable Year 2018 and Prior Years, and for Other Purposes”;

75. **USB of HB 5982**, entitled, “An Act Establishing the Philippine High School for Creative Arts System and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;


78. **USB of HB 7241**, entitled, “An Act Granting San Miguel Aerocity Inc. a Franchise to Construct, Develop, Establish, Operate, and Maintain a Domestic and International Airport in Bulakan, Bulacan, and to Construct, Develop, Establish, Operate, and Maintain an Adjacent Airport City”;


80. **USB of HBs 6502 and 7352**, entitled, “An Act Converting the Bulacan Agricultural State College in the Municipality of San Ildefonso, Province of Bulacan, Into a State University, to be Known as the Bulacan State Agricultural University, and Appropriating Funds Therefor” and “An Act Converting the Ilocos Sur Polytechnic State College in the Municipality of Sta. Maria, Province of Ilocos Sur, and All
its Campuses in the Province of Ilocos Sur, Into a State University, Integrating Therewith the North Luzon Philippines State College, in the City of Candon, Province of Ilocos Sur, to be Known as the Ilocos Sur Philippines Polytechnic University, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”, respectively;

81. **USB of HBs 6214, 6285, 7249, 7280, 7294, 7313, and 7360 and in consolidation with HBs 4175 and 7256**, entitled, “An Act Creating the Boracay Island Development Authority, Defining its Powers and Functions, and Providing Funds Therefor”;

82. **USBs of HBs 501, 584, 1250, 2653, 2793, 3655, 3877 and 740**, Acts Creating the Lake Mainit, Chico River Basin, Sustainable Bicol River, Abra River Basin, Cagayan De Oro River Basin, and Lake Lanao Development Authorities and an UHB Strengthening the Laguna Lake Development Authority”, respectively; and

83. **USB of HBs 2966 and 2438**, entitled, “An Act Creating the Siargao Islands Development Authority, Prescribing its Powers, Functions, and Duties, and Providing Funds Therefor”.

### UNNUMBERED WORKING DRAFT HOUSE BILL

84. **Draft Philippine Economic Stimulus Act of 2020 in Consolidation of HBs 6619 and 6606**, entitled, “An Act Providing a National Stimulus Strategy to Restore Economic Growth and Employment, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes” and “An Act Appropriating the Sum of Three Hundred Seventy Billion Pesos (P370,000,000,000) for the 2020 Fiscal Stimulus Package to Address the Economic Impact of COVID-19”, respectively.

### SENATE BILLS

85. **Senate Bill (SB) No. 1232**, entitled, “An Act Establishing the Autonomous Region of the Cordillera”;

86. **SB 1050**, entitled, “An Act Exempting Dividends from Income Tax and Abolishing the Improperly Accumulated Earnings Tax, amending for this Purpose Sections 24(B), 25(A), 32(B) and 57(A), and Repealing Section 29 of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended”;
87. **SB 100**, entitled, “An Act Converting the National Center for Geriatric into a Corporate Body to be Known as the "National Center for Geriatric and Research Institute", and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;

88. **SB 1080**, entitled, “An Act Institutionalizing Public-Private Partnerships (PPP), Creating the PPP Center, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”;

89. **SBs 139 and 1048**, entitled, “An Act to Restructure and Rationalize the Livestock Industry in Order to Strengthen its Development, Protection and Regulatory Functions, Including the Promotion of Dairy and Native Animals, and to Provide for a Livestock Development Fund” and “An Act Providing for Direct Financial Assistance to Backyard Livestock Raisers Affected by Major Animal Disease Epidemic or Transboundary Animal Diseases, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 1578, and for Other Purposes”, respectively;


91. **SBs 117 and 1193**, entitled, “An Act Exempting from Income Tax Compensation Given to Teachers for Serving as Members of the Electoral Board for National or Local Elections” and “An Act Further Amending Section 32 of Republic Act No. 8424 Otherwise Known as the NIRC of 1997, as Amended, and for Other Purposes”, respectively;
92. **SBs 15, 190, 1080, 1159, and 1231**, entitled, “Public-Private Partnership for the People Act of the Philippines”;

93. **Section 9(D) and (E) and Sections 1, 8, and 19 of SB 1591**, entitled, “An Act Protecting Consumers and Merchants Engaged in Internet Transactions, Creating for this Purpose the e-Commerce Bureau and Appropriating Funds Therefor”;

94. **SBs 204, 498, and 947**, entitled, “An Act Modernizing the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), Amending for the Purpose RA 6975, Otherwise Known as the Department of Interior and Local Government Act of 1990, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”;

95. **SB 1774**, entitled, “An Act Establishing a National Comprehensive Housing Financing Program, Providing for the Annual Automatic Appropriation of Funds, and for Other Purposes”;

96. **SB 1823**, entitled, “An Act Granting San Miguel Aerocity Inc. a Franchise to Construct, Develop, Establish, Operate and Maintain a Domestic and International Airport in the Municipality of Bulakan, Province of Bulacan, and to Construct, Develop, Establish, Operate, and Maintain an Adjacent Airport City”;

97. **SB 1844**, entitled, “An Act Authorizing the President to Expedite the Processing and Issuance of National and Local Permits, Licenses and Certifications”;

98. **SBs 1631, 1597, and 1599**, entitled, “An Act Amending the Franchise Granted to Philippine Collective Media Corporation under Republic Act No. 9773”; “An Act Granting the Philippine Collective Media Corporation a franchise to Construct, Install, Establish, Operate and Maintain Radio and Television Broadcasting Stations in Region VIII (Eastern Visayas); and “An Act Renewing for Another 25 Years the Franchise Granted to Metro Manila Turf Club, Inc. under Republic Act No. 7978, “An Act Granting the Metro Manila Turf Club, Inc. a Franchise to Construct, Operate, and Maintain a Race Track for Horse Raising in the City of Kalookan’, as Amended by Republic Act No. 8298”, respectively;

100. **SB 514**, entitled, “An Act Providing for the Modernization of the Philippine National Police and for Other Purposes”.

**UNNUMBERED WORKING DRAFT Senate Bill**


**HOUSE RESOLUTIONS**

102. **House Resolution (HR) No. 685**, “Resolution Requesting the House of Representatives to Conduct an Inquiry, in Aid of Legislation, Into the Online Companies Such as Grab, Lazada, Surplus, Shopee, Airbnb, Angkas and Such Other Similar Companies, as to Whether They are Correctly Paying Their Taxes and to Determine How Much”;

103. **HR 79**, “A Resolution Urging the House of Representatives to Conduct an Investigation into the Manufacturing of Illegal Cigarettes, Fake Cigarette Labels and Fake Revenue Stamps, Smuggling of Fake Cigarettes and Cigarette-making Machines; and Loss of Revenue Because of Uncollected Taxes”;

104. **HR 994**, “A Resolution Urging the Bureau of Internal Revenue to Defer the Implementation of Revenue Memorandum Circular No. 60-2020 Which Lays Down the Obligations of Persons Conducting Business Transactions Through any Form of Electronic Media”;

105. **HR 556**, “A Resolution Directing the Committee on Ways and Means to Conduct an Inquiry, in Aid of Legislation, on Unabated Smuggling of Goods into the Country by Unscrupulous Operators of Custom Bonded Warehouses to the Detriment of Local Manufacturers and Producers and the Philippine Economy, with the End in View of Recommending Measures to Stop Smuggling, Using the Warehousing System by Revisiting the Provision of the Customs Modernization Tariff Act on Bonded Warehouses and Limiting the Type, Nature and Number of Bonded Warehouses”;
106. **HR 1271**, “A Resolution Urging the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas to Suspend Online Banking Transfer Fees and Other E-Payment Transaction Fees and Charges Until the End of the Public Health Emergency in View of the COVID-19 Pandemic”; and

107. **HR 227**, “Resolution Directing the Committee on Ways and Means to Conduct an Inquiry, in Aid of Legislation, into the Implementation of Section 150-B of the NIRC of 1997, as Amended by Republic Act No. 10963, Otherwise Known as the “Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion”.

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Chapter 4

STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

A. Conferences and Seminars Abroad

1. Marlene A. Lucero-Calubag, then OIC Executive Director, and Monica G. Rempillo, OIC-Deputy Executive Director attended the study tour on Tax Incentives and Administration held in Malaysia and Singapore on January 13-17, 2020.


B. Local Conferences and Seminars

1. Selected NTRC Officials and Technical Staff attended the Training on Stata on the Revenue Estimates of Package 2 held at the Research and Information Office, Department of Finance, Manila on January 15, 16, 17, 20 and 23, 2020.


4. Marlene A. Lucero-Calubag, then OIC-Executive Director, Debbie F. Asistio-Sy, then OIC-Deputy Executive Director, Monica G. Rempillo, OIC-Deputy Executive Director, Atty. Mark Lester L. Aure, Chief Tax Specialist, Local Finance Branch, and Kryztal Jem Czarina L. Abanes, Senior Tax Specialist, Fiscal Incentives Branch, attended the Corporate Income Tax and Incentives Reform Act-Implementing Rules and Regulations workshop held at Clark, Pampanga on February 12-16, 2020.


6. Marlene A. Lucero-Calubag, then OIC-Executive Director, Monica G. Rempillo, OIC-Deputy Executive Director, and Ma. Rhea L. Caro, then OIC-Chief Tax Specialist, Planning & Coordinating Branch attended the Exploratory Meeting and Planning Workshop held at Baler, Aurora on February 26-29, 2020.

7. All NTRC Officials and Employees attended the Women’s Month Celebration Kick-off held at the Rizal Park, Manila on March 7, 2020.


11. NTRC Executive Staff attended the 2020 NTRC Mid-Year Management Review and GAD Planning and Assessment via Google meet held on May 13-15, 2020.


17. **Jun V. Ocol**, Senior Tax Specialist, Local Finance Branch, attended the PIDS-DILG Webinar on Small-scale Mining in the Philippines: Challenges and Ways Forward held on August 6, 2020.


23. **Madonna Claire V. Aguilar**, Supervising Tax Specialist, Local Finance Branch, attended the Webinar workshop on Data Privacy Protection Competency held on September 7, 8, and 10, 2020.


25. **Selected NTRC Officials and Technical Staff** attended the Webinar Workshop: A Guide to Qualitative and Quantitative Research conducted by the De La Salle University’s Social Development Research Center held on September 11, 2020.

27. **Jun V. Ocol**, Senior Tax Specialist, and **Phoebe Jane E. Orijola**, Tax Specialist II, Local Finance Branch, attended the Local Government Academy Forum on Philippine Local Government via Zoom on (a) Improving Access to Basic Services in the Countryside held on October 16, 2020; (b) Converting Adversity to Opportunity: Rejuvenating Local Economy Through Tourism Development held on October 22, 2020; (c) Next Generation LGUs (in partnership with UNDP Philippines) held on October 26, 2020; (d) Research, Technology, and Partnerships Empower Great Cities (thru LGU-LRI partnerships) held on October 27, 2020; (e) Gender, Indigeneity, and Disability: Role of LGUs in Empowering the Marginalized (in partnership with CLRG-UP-NCPAG) held on October 27, 2020; and (f) Transforming Cities Post COVID-19: Smart City, Mobility, and Transportation (in partnership with CityNet Asia Pacific) held on October 28, 2020.


31. **Selected NTRC officials and employees** attended the Fame Leaders' Academy Webinar on Gender and Mental Health held on October 26-28, 2020.


33. **All NTRC Officials and Employees** attended the Webinar on Mental Health Measures for the Elderly during the Pandemic conducted by Dr. Raymond Joseph S. Valdez of the De La Salle Medical and Health Sciences Institute,
College of Medicine on October 30, 2020.

34. **Atty. Mark Lester L. Aure**, Chief Tax Specialist, Local Finance Branch, attended the FIRB Workshop on Tax Subsidy via Zoom held on November 5 and 6, 2020.


38. **Selected NTRC officials and employees** attended the Deloitte-Zalamea Webinar entitled, “Understanding Tax Incentives Under the CREATE Bill Confirmation” via Zoom held on December 2, 2020.

39. **Selected NTRC officials and employees** attended the Webinar on Volunteer Management System conducted by Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency held on December 3, 2020.

40. **All NTRC officials and employees** attended the Webinar on Anti-Violence Against Women and their Children Act of 2004, held on December 4, 2020. **Atty. Mark Lester L. Aure**, Chief Tax Specialist, Local Finance Branch, conducted the said seminar.

41. **Selected NTRC officials and employees** attended the Webinar on FIRB Process Architecture Planning Workshop (via Zoom) held on December 7, 11, and 22, 2020.
42. 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 Finance Branch, attended the Zalamea Webinar on Relevant BIR Tax Updates with P&A Grant Thornton held on December 10, 2020.

43. Selected NTRC officials and employees attended the FIRB Workshop re: Pre-CBA using Net Revenue Approach for Business Entities based on the FIRB Form held on December 12, 2020. Analiza G. Berja, Senior Tax Specialist, Direct Taxes Branch, conducted the Pre-CBA Workshop.

44. NTRC Executive Staff attended the 2020 NTRC Year-End Management Review and GAD Planning and Assessment held at the NTRC Function hall on December 14-16, 2020.

45. Phoebe Jane E. Orijola, Tax Specialist II, and Gyan Karla G. Pascual, Tax Specialist I, Local Finance Branch, attended the Zalamea Webinar on Understanding the PAS 19 Actuarial Valuation held on December 17, 2020.