

# Obama postpones immigration reform to 2010

by JOSEPH PIMENTEL  
AJPress

SUPPORTERS for comprehensive immigration reform in the US will have to wait, said President Barack Obama at a press conference during the end of the two-day North American summit in Guadalajara, Mexico on August 10.

Before being elected, Obama stressed the importance of immigration reform but since taking office he has been dealing with the country's dire financial state and pushing for an overhaul of the US healthcare system.

He said that he has a lot on his legislative plate now but he expects to see draft legislation for immigration overhaul by the end of the year, according to the Associated Press.

"Am I going to be able to snap my fingers and get this done? No. This is going to be difficult," said the president as quoted by ABC News. "It's going to require bipartisan cooperation. There are going to be demagogues out there who try to suggest that any form of pathway for legalization



President Barack Obama AP Photo

for those who are already in the United States is unacceptable. And those are fights that I'd have to have if my poll numbers are at 70 or if my poll numbers are at 40. That's just the nature of the US immigration debate."

He said comprehensive immigration reform would have to wait until next year.

### Undocumented Filipinos

There are more than 12 million illegal immigrants living in the US. It is believed but not officially confirmed that there are about 500,000 undocumented Filipinos living in the US.

Immigrant advocacy groups like the Filipino Workers Center (PWC) were disappointed when Obama made his announcement about putting immigration reform in the backburner.

"There are a lot of undocumented Filipinos, Filipino students and families looking for immigration reform," said Aquilina Soriano of the PWC. "There are a lot of Filipinos who are still stuck in the [immigration] backlog, families that have been separated for more than 20 years. This will also affect Filipino veterans who have been stuck in the backlogs. They don't have the help and family to support them. And, as we all know, if a veteran dies then the petition dies with him."

Soriano said that putting off comprehensive immigration reform until later this year or 2010 will affect its chances of being passed.

The US primary election is set for next year and with some members of the Senate and House of Representatives up for election, they might pass up on a comprehensive immigration

reform bill because the immigration topic is such a divisive issue and might hinder their chances of being re-elected.

"Now is the time to act for Obama because it is a Democratic House," said Soriano.

"After March of next year, it's going to be hard for Obama to pass anything," she added. "We still urge him to move it more quickly and make good on his promise. He knows the [immigration] system is broken and that so many families have been separated."

Soriano urges the community not to give up the fight.

Despite Obama's decision to put off on immigration reform, the community can still act, said Soriano.

"Things always change in the political landscape. Just because he announced that he would not pursue immigration reform does not mean [the discussion] ends. We need to put more pressure on him. If this is something we care about, people should have their voices heard. We need to call the President and if there's enough pressure we [can] change his agenda." ■

# Out of work? Here's where to find jobs

## Accounting, IT and restaurants among industries that are hiring

WASHINGTON—Even with most US businesses still reluctant to add new employees, some pockets of hiring are emerging in industries such as accounting, information technology and restaurants, government data show.

Signs of hope are also evident in some private surveys. Nearly a third of manufacturing companies plan to add employees in August, the highest proportion since October, according to a survey by the Society for Human Resource Management.

Still, the percentages of both manufacturing and service-sector companies planning to hire is down from a year ago, the group said.

Other surveys indicate that hiring isn't likely to be widespread anytime soon. The Conference Board's employment trends index, released Monday, was flat in July for the third straight month. And it's down 20 percent from a year ago.

Economists caution that businesses will likely be reluctant to add workers until they are sure the economy is recovering. Many analysts expect the US economy will grow in the current July-September quarter, after shrinking for four quarters in a row.

But the unemployment rate, which dipped in July to 9.4 percent, is still expected to rise to 10 percent by the end of the year. That's partly because more people are expected to rejoin the ranks of job seekers as the economy recovers and will be counted as unemployed until they find work.

A Labor Department report Wednesday, Aug. 12 showed that total job openings remained flat in June. The department's Job Openings and Labor Turnover survey reported 2.6 million jobs available, roughly the same as in the previous month. That's down from 3.9 million a year earlier. (AP)

# Donaire Jr. to dedicate fight...

PAGE A1 ◀

member the woman who restored democracy to the Philippines after Ferdinand Marcos' exile.

"I'm giving respect and honor to the former president," said Donaire Jr. to the *Asian Journal*.

"I'm not really into politics but I remember growing up that she was a big part of everyone's lives in the Philippines," he added. "She made changes and tried to get the Philippines on track and better after [Ferdinand] Marcos. All of the Philippines is mourning her death and as a Filipino fighter and a Filipino I give respect to those who have done well and continue to do well for our country."

Donaire made the statement to the *Asian Journal* as he prepares to fight for the interim WBA world super flyweight title against Rafael Concepcion, the headline match in "Pinoy Power 2" at the Hard Rock Casino in Las Vegas on Saturday, Aug. 15. The match will also feature *Pinoy* rising star Bernabe Concepcion (29-1-1 16 KO's) against WBO featherweight champion Steven Luevano (36-1-1 15 KO's), for the latter's championship title. Mark Melligen (15-1 11 KO's) of Cebu, Philippines will be in the card to fight against Mexico's Michael Rosales (21-3).

### Big expectations

Donaire Jr., who has severed his ties with father and former trainer Nonito Donaire Sr., said this is a big fight for him.

Not only will Donaire Jr. fight without his father/trainer for only the second time in his career, Top Rank executives (Donaire Jr.'s promoters) are hoping he can be the next *Pinoy* boxing superstar like Manny Pacquiao.

Donaire Jr. spoke to the heads of Top Rank this week, and they let him know that they see big things for him in the future.

"They basically were saying Top Rank has big hopes in me," said Donaire Jr. "They see that I can be a multidivisional fighter and champion. They see a big future because of my body frame and height."

### Do my best

In the meantime, Donaire Jr. is focused on his opponent. Concepcion may not have a stellar record but he was a former world champion.

"The most dangerous part about him is his toughness and heart. He never gives up," he said. "Anybody with that mentality and heart is a dangerous fighter."

Jonathan and Dodi Boy Penalosa is training Donaire Jr. Donaire Jr. said his new trainers are making him focus on using his height and long reach to his advantage.

"They just tell me to move my head and do the best possible to reach my goal," he said. "My dad has already taught me a lot but now they are forcing me to throw more jabs and use my height and to also be smart and cautious when I'm in the ring. Overall, it's a been positive training camp."

"No matter what happens next Saturday, I'm going to do my best," he added.

### Can Concepcion be the real deal?

Since the emergence of boxer-turned-national-

hero, Manny Pacquiao, *Pinoy* boxing fans have been wondering whom the next Filipino boxing prospect will be to capture their hearts and minds.

Many have tried but ended in disappointment. Young *Pinoy* boxing prospects like Rey "Boom Boom" Bautista and AJ Banal have so far failed to live up to expectations. Bautista's career is on hiatus after a recent lost and Banal is trying to spark a comeback after he was defeated in a title match, against Donaire's opponent Rafael Concepcion.

But Bernabe Concepcion might be different.

Acclaimed trainer Freddie Roach told this writer two years ago, that Bernabe was the best of the lot and future champion when he and the rest of the ALA boxing stable trained at the Wildcard more than two years ago.

Bernabe will have his chance to prove Roach right. He'll be facing off against WBO Featherweight titlist Steven Luevano as the co-main event match at the Hard Rock Casino and Resort this Saturday, August 15.

"He's ready for this fight," said Roach to the *Asian Journal* as he and Bernabe trained for the final time at the Wildcard before leaving to Las Vegas. "Bernabe has all the tools to beat Luevano. The thing is we can't let him [Luevano] box us because he'll pick us apart. Bernabe has to use his power and I think he can knock him out."

It's going to be a tough fight for the 21-year-old Bernabe.

Luevano is an intelligent fighter. Despite not having the "prototypical muscular physique" like many boxers these days, his long arms and length make up for his deceptively small frame. Luevano, 28, is in the prime of his career. He boxes smart, understands his situation in the ring and can counter with the best of them. He's defended the title four times since winning it in 2007. But Luevano does get sloppy at times. When he faced off against Terdsak Jandaeng, Luevano was in total control of that fight. He picked off Jandaeng from the outside with jabs (he set a record with most jabs landed in a featherweight fight that night) but allowed the Thai fighter to get back in the match when he left himself open. Luevano paid for it by getting knocked down.

Bernabe will have a fight in his hands this Saturday.

Bernabe knows all about Luevano. He also believes that the best way to beat the Mexican American boxer is to use slick footwork to avoid Luevano's jab and land power punches.

"You know he's a very a good boxer and puncher and technical fighter, so I just want to punch him with my left and right hand...I think I'm more powerful than him but he's a talented boxer," said Bernabe.

This fight against Luevano is going to be Bernabe's toughest challenge. On Saturday, *Pinoy* boxing fans will see whether Bernabe will shine in the bright lights of Las Vegas or fizzle like the other *Pinoy* boxing prospects before him. (Joseph Pimentel)



## KAY UNIFORMS

### THE BIGGEST UNIFORM STORE IN O.C.

**10% OFF**

ENTIRE PURCHASE

\*EXCEPT LITTMANN STETHOSCOPES

**20% OFF**

SINGLE ITEM

\*EXCEPT LITTMANN STETHOSCOPES

**COME AND SEE OUR HUGE SELECTION**

IBARGO, GREY'S ANATOMY, CHEROKEE, DICKIES, ISUANA MED, D2, KOI, KLOGS, SPRING STEP, NURSEMATES, LITTMANN'S, TOONIFORMS, DISNEY!

STORE HOURS:

MON-SAT - 9:00 - 7:30 PM • SUNDAY - 10:00 - 6:00 PM

1270 N. EUCLID ST. ANAHEIM CA 92801

(NEXT TO KAISER PERMANENTE HOSPITAL)

PHONE: (714) 491-8429

WEBSITE: MYUNIFORMCENTER.COM

# INLAND RHEUMATOLOGY CLINICAL TRIALS CAN HELP YOU

For more information, please contact us at:

*Inland Rheumatology Clinical Trials*

548 North 13th Ave. Suite 306 Upland, CA 91786 • Phone: (909) 982-0099



*Study programs conducted by qualified physicians are available for lupus, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, gout, osteoporosis, and cardiovascular health. All study related medical exams, procedures, and medications are provided FREE of charge. Compensation is also provided for most programs.*

# Do you suffer from GOUT ATTACKS?

**Local doctors are now conducting a medical research study in gout to evaluate the effectiveness and safety of an investigational medicine.**

If you have gout, you may be eligible to participate in the RE-SURGE study, evaluating an investigational medicine for preventing acute gout flares in select patients. Researchers are interested in determining the effectiveness and safety of the investigational medicine when used in combination with FDA-approved medicines commonly used for gout treatment.

To be considered for participation in the RE-SURGE study, you must:

- Be 18-80 years of age,
- Have a history of gout and are at risk of gout flare,
- Be able to or are already receiving treatment with urate-lowering therapy (such as allopurinol), AND
- Not currently be experiencing a gout flare.



The investigator will work with you to determine whether you qualify for the study, using a more comprehensive list of criteria. Qualified participants will receive study medicine as well as study-related medical evaluations at no cost. Reimbursement for time and travel may also be available.

### INLAND RHEUMATOLOGY

548 N. 13th Ave. Ste 306 Upland, CA 91786

Phone: 909-982-0099

Ask for Brenda at Ext. 251

Fax: 909-291-0643

**We speak Tagalog, Spanish, Chinese & Arabic**

# Cory buried...

PAGE A1 ◀

"Huge crowds at her burial [on Aug. 5] offer would-be plotters a preview of what awaits them if they pursue their schemes. While memories are fresh, the 1987 Constitution would be almost untouchable as it forms part of what many consider as the Aquino legacy," it said, adding:

"Hence, even if a constituent assembly were to be suddenly convened and a referendum organized, the answer of the people would likely be 'no' to honor a woman elevated by public acclaim to near sainthood."

Global Source noted that Malacañang had already asked its allies in Congress to end their push for Charter change, against which Aquino crusaded.

"Another outcome-changer for the near term lies in the way the new US administration has turned its attention recently to the Philippines, with Pres. Arroyo finally able to meet with American President Barack Obama... after some botched attempts to do so," it said.

"Seasoned US political analysts believe this is a good sign she will leave office peacefully in 2010."

Foreign policy experts say any visit with a US president could not have been cleared without assurances that it would not turn out to be a diplomatic blunder later, according to Global Source.

### CIA chief's visit

"Oddly enough, after a lightning visit of the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) chief to Manila around mid-July, bomb blasts and bombing attempts rumored to lay the predicate for a state of emergency in the country suddenly declined in frequency," it said.

Prior to Aquino's death and Arroyo's meeting with Obama, Filipinos "waited anxiously" for that moment when she would say goodbye during her last State of the Nation Address (SONA), Global Source said.

It noted that two post-Marcos Presidents—Aquino herself and Fidel V. Ramos—had some version of farewell worked into their last major speech.

But it observed that all Arroyo said in her SONA was: "At the end of this speech I shall step down from this stage, but not from the presidency. My term does not end until next year."

"It was an obvious jab at critics and political enemies who had been goading her to state explicitly that she would relinquish power to an elected successor in 2010," Global Source said.

"We believe, though, that the debate on whether or not this omission indicates an impending upheaval in the political system has increasingly become

irrelevant..." it said.

### Horse race

Global Source said the ruling party would have to find other ways to keep itself politically relevant until and beyond the 2010 elections, which, it said, were now certain to happen.

In an earlier report, Global Source likened this search for options to a horse race, with the current leadership betting on a preferred horse and switching bets whenever the chosen one fell off the track.

As events have turned out, the race is now down to the last few horses, it said.

The first of the options is a post-2010 elections Cha-cha (Charter change). "Pundits call this the Putin formula where, using administration machinery, the President runs for a congressional seat in her hometown while her allies continue to push for constitutional change that allows her to become prime minister," Global Source said.

It added: "This option not only faces similar obstacles as a pre-2010 Cha-cha but also requires finding a loyal candidate who can win as president yet is willing to serve as a transitional one. With the transactional nature of Philippine politics, thrusting the vast powers of the highest office of the land in the hands of another ambitious politician can easily undermine the strategy for the incumbent." ■