Villafuerte now vows to block all Charter change moves

by DELON PORCALLA
Philstar.com

Speaker Prospero Nograles (top) explains House rules while Camarines Sur Rep. Luis Villafuerte (bottom) announces his withdrawal of support from all Charter change efforts last May 18. Photos by Boy Santos Philstar.com

AFTER giving up on Charter change, a major House ally of President Arroyo has taken a bolder step by vowing to block "any and all" moves by the administration coalition to change the 1987 Constitution.

He stressed that whoever or whichever group is pushing for Cha-cha is "immaterial" to him. Kampi had vigorously worked with Lakas—the biggest administration party—for amending the Constitution either through a constituent assembly (con-ass) or a constitutional convention (con-con).

Villafuerte's earlier attempt to push for a Senate-less con-ass approach to Cha-cha had put him at loggerheads with Speaker Prospero Nograles, who prefers a con-con. Also indicating Nograles' preference for a "legislative route" to Cha-cha is his Resolution 737 which seeks amendments to some economic provisions in the Charter.

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