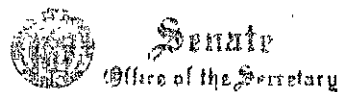


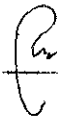
FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session



11 FEB -8 P 4 :59

SENATE

S.B. No. 2678

RECEIVED BY: 

INTRODUCED BY: SENATOR TEOFISTO GUINGONA III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill is known as the "Araw ng Pagbasa Act of 2011," which aims to promote reading and literacy skills among students in all public and private elementary and secondary schools in the Philippines. It also seeks to encourage them to learn from the lives and remarkable works of eminent Filipinos, uphold national heritage and values and stimulate awareness about various cultures and philosophies. With reading, students are trained to become lifelong learners.

Former Senator Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino, Jr., who was born on 27 November 1932, was a celebrated reader and a lover of books. To honor him as an icon of democracy, "Araw ng Pagbasa" shall emphasize that reading is a source of people empowerment and that it is a tool to expand one's knowledge and imagination.

ARAW NG PAGBASA, as an annual reading and awareness program, is also in accordance with the Philippine Book Development Month every November which showcases the importance of books and reading to a person's development and well-being. The National Book Development Board, which is under the Department of Education, is spearheading this program pursuant to Proclamation 1436 (2008).

It is high time that the Philippine Congress give due importance to the value of reading in producing successful Filipinos.

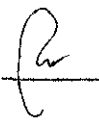
In view of the foregoing, the immediate enactment of this measure is earnestly sought.


TEOFISTO "TG" GUINGONA III
Senator

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session

'11 FEB -8 P 4 :59

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S.B. No. **2678**

INTRODUCED BY: SENATOR TEOFISTO GUINGONA III

**AN ACT DECLARING EVERY 27TH DAY OF NOVEMBER AS
"ARAW NG PAGBASA," A SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY**

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

Section 1. Title. – This Act shall be known as "The Araw ng Pagbasa Act of 2011."

Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy. – The State recognizes and supports endeavors that promote reading and literacy, motivate awareness, and uphold our Filipino heritage and culture, including educational activities focusing on the life of former Senator Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino, Jr., whose role in our country's history was influenced by great writings of different individuals.

Sec. 3. National Holiday. – November 27 of every year is hereby declared as "Araw ng Pagbasa," which shall be a special working holiday, to be celebrated in all public and private elementary and secondary schools in the country. In the event that the holiday falls on a weekend, the holiday will be observed on the Friday of that week.

Sec. 4. Implementing Agency. – The Department of Education, in consultation with the National Book Development Board, other government agencies and units, and reading associations concerned, shall plan and implement the activities for the observance of "Araw ng Pagbasa," such as story-telling sessions and reading skills modules. In addition to Filipino and English, the use of regional languages in the celebration shall be encouraged.

Sec. 5. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days upon its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,