

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

04 JUN 30 P1:01

RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE

S. No. 101

---

Introduced by Senator Luisa "Loi" P. Ejercito Estrada

---

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine tradition of honoring mothers commenced in 1921 when the Ilocos Women's Club initiated its first activity. In 1936, upon the declaration of President Manuel L. Quezon, "Mother's Day" celebration became a nationwide yearly affair every first Monday of December. The former Bureau of Education took the lead in commemorating this affair.

One could still remember when schoolchildren would do a spray of pink "cadena de amor" to honor their mothers and white "cadena de amor" would be worn by children whose mothers were deceased. Schoolchildren held programs and performed activities such as recitation of poems, dedicated to their mothers.

During the time of President Ferdinand Marcos, he issued an Executive Order reaffirming the celebration of this event. However, in 1987, President Corazon Aquino changed the date of "Mother's Day" celebration to May 5 reportedly upon the suggestion of some business establishments. The change was allegedly made to drum up business during the usually slack season from March to May and was calculated to make our celebration coincide with the American date of celebrating "Mother's Day."

It is quite depressing to note that the original Philippine tradition of celebrating "Mother's Day" had to give into the demands of business interests. Worst is the fact that the date was patterned after the "Mother's Day" celebration of another country.

With this, it is but proper that we bring back our own and distinct historical way of celebrating "Mother's Day." It is in this light that this measure is being proposed.

Approval of this bill is therefore earnestly sought.

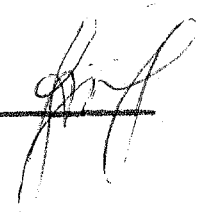


LUISA "LOI" P. EJERCITO ESTRADA  
Senator

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

04 JUN 30 P1:01

RECEIVED BY:



SENATE

S. No. 101

Introduced by Senator Luisa "Loi" P. Ejercito Estrada

**AN ACT  
DECLARING THE FIRST MONDAY OF DECEMBER EVERY YEAR AS "MOTHER'S  
DAY" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

**SECTION 1. Short Title.** -- This Act shall be known as the "Mother's Day" Act.

**SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** - The State recognizes the vital role of mothers in the foundation of family life. The natural and primary right and duty of parents in the rearing of youth for civic efficiency and the development of moral character shall receive support from the government.

**SEC. 3.** The first Monday of December is hereby declared as "Mother's Day."

**SEC. 4. Lead Agency.** - In the observance of this yearly occasion, the Department of Education and the Department of Interior and Local Government shall conduct commemorative activities as a national token of recognition for mothers and motherhood.

**SEC.5. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - The Department of Education, Culture and Sports in coordination with the Department of Interior and Local Government shall promulgate the rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act within sixty (60) days from its approval.

**SEC. 6. Repealing Clause.** - Any decrees, rules and regulations which is inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act is hereby amended or repealed accordingly.

**SEC. 7.. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*