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SENATE

S.B. No. 1016

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Introduced by Senator Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine Constitution enshrines the right of the people to religious freedom. No less than the highest law of the land guarantees the free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship by its people.

The Iglesia ni Cristo is a home-grown religious organization which pronounces nontrinitarian Christian restorationism. It was founded by Felix Y. Manalo in July 27, 1914, and its first church was established in Punta, Sta. Ana, Manila. It started locally in the area, subsequently grew to spread throughout the country and eventually found membership in some sixty-seven countries outside the Philippines.

Undoubtedly, the Iglesia ni Cristo plays a key role in our society. This bill seeks to declare July 27 of every year a national holiday to observe the founding anniversary of the INC not only in recognition of its contributions in nation-building but also for its unique character of being indigent to the Philippines.

In view of the foregoing, passage of this bill is urgently requested.

RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

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SENATE S.B. No. 1016

Introduced by Senator Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr.

AN ACT DECLARING JULY 27 OF EVERY YEAR A NATIONAL HOLIDAY TO COMMEMORATE THE FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF THE IGLESIA NI CRISTO

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 "Iglesia ni Cristo (INC) Day Act of 2013."

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is the declared policy of the State of to uphold religious freedom. The free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship shall forever be allowed.

Section 3. Iglesia Ni Cristo Day - July 27 of every year is hereby declared a regular national holiday for the observance of the founding anniversary of the Iglesia ni Cristo.

Section 4. Section 26, Chapter 7 of Executive Order No. 292, otherwise known as the Revised Administrative Code of 1987, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 26. Regular Holidays and Nationwide Special Days. – (1) Unless otherwise modified by law, order or proclamation, the following regular holidays and special days shall be observed in this country:

A. Regular Holidays

New Year's Day Maundy Thursday Good Friday Araw ng Kagitingan (Bataan and Corregidor Day) Labor Day Independence Day IGLESIA NI CRISTO DAY National Heroes Day Bonifacio Day Christmas Day Rizal Day January 1 Movable date Movable date April 9

May 1 June 12 JULY 27 Last Sunday of August November 30 December 25 December 30 B. Nationwide Special Days

All Saint's DayNovember 1Last Day of the YearDecember 31

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Section 5. Separability Clause. - If any part, section, or provision of this Act shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions shall not be affected thereby.

Section 6. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, orders, issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

Section 7. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect (15) days after its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of national circulation.

Approved,

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