



'17 DEC 12 P1:59

S E N A T E

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 212

Submitted by the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture on DEC 12 2017

Re: Senate Bill No. 1270

Recommending its approval with amendments, taking into consideration Senate Bill No. 1301

Sponsor: Senator Escudero

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committee on Education, Arts and Culture to which were referred Senate Bill No. 1270, introduced by Senator Emmanuel "Manny" D. Pacquiao, entitled:

**"AN ACT
DECLARING THE LAST MONDAY OF JANUARY AS
'NATIONAL BIBLE DAY' AND PRONOUNCE THE SAME A REGULAR HOLIDAY
AND EVERY YEAR THEREAFTER"**

And Senate Bill No. 1301, introduced by Senator Joel Villanueva, entitled:

**"AN ACT
DECLARING THE LAST MONDAY OF JANUARY AS
THE NATIONAL FAITH DAY"**

has considered the same and has the honor to report them back to the Senate with the recommendation that Senate Bill No. 1270 be approved with the following amendments:

1. ON PAGE 1, LINE 7, REPLACE THE WORD "NATIONAL" WITH "SPECIAL WORKING" BEFORE THE WORD "HOLIDAY";
2. DELETE THE ENTIRE SECTION 4 AND RENUMBER THE SUCCEEDING SECTIONS ACCORDINGLY;
3. IN THE TITLE, REPLACE THE WORD "REGULAR" WITH "SPECIAL WORKING".

THE TITLE SHALL NOW READ AS FOLLOWS:

"AN ACT DECLARING THE LAST MONDAY OF JANUARY AS 'NATIONAL BIBLE DAY' AND PRONOUNCE THE SAME A SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY AND EVERY YEAR THEREAFTER"

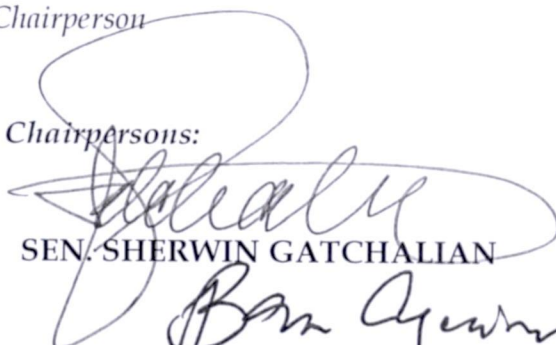
Respectfully submitted:



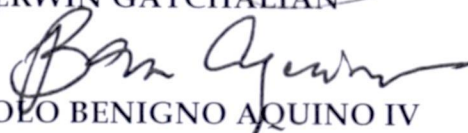
SEN. FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

Chairperson

Vice Chairpersons:

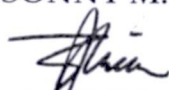


SEN. SHERWIN GATCHALIAN

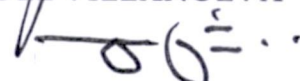


SEN. PAOLO BENIGNO AQUINO IV

SEN. SONNY M. ANGARA

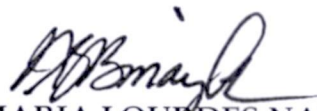


SEN. JOEL VILLANUEVA

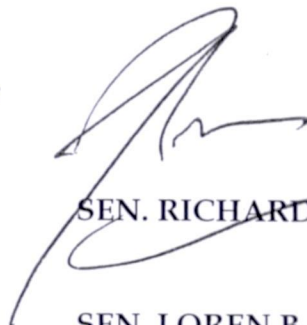


SEN. JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

Members:



SEN. MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY



SEN. RICHARD J. GORDON



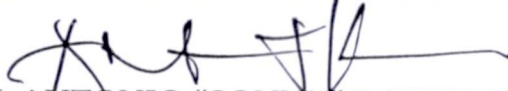
SEN. GRACE POE

SEN. LOREN B. LEGARDA



SEN. CYNTHIA A. VILLAR

SEN. EMMANUEL "MANNY" D. PACQUIAO



SEN. ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV

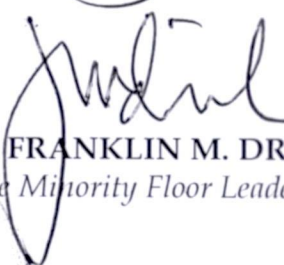
Contreras Saenzuel
SEN. RISA HONTIVEROS

May interpellate.

SEN. FRANCIS "KIKO" PANGILINAN



Ex-Officio Members:



SEN. FRANKLIN M. DRILON

Senate Minority Floor Leader

SEN. VICENTE C. SOTTO III

Senate Majority Floor Leader

SEN. RALPH G. RECTO

Senate President Pro-Tempore

HON. AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III

Senate President



Senate
Office of the Secretary

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

'16 DEC -7 P12 :02

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: _____

S.B. No. 1270

INTRODUCED BY: SENATOR EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO

AN ACT DECLARING THE LAST MONDAY OF JANUARY AS "NATIONAL BIBLE DAY" AND PRONOUNCE THE SAME A REGULAR HOLIDAY AND EVERY YEAR THEREAFTER

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine population is comprised of overwhelmingly 93% Christians, making it as the Asia-Pacific's largest Christian population and the fifth largest Christian population in the world.

The core of Christian belief is grounded on the Holy Bible. Sermons and homilies of Christian churches dwell in the teachings of the Bible. It is the primary source of spiritual manna. It forms and transforms lives of people from generations to generations. It serves as the foundation of spiritual, moral, and social fiber, which molds a socially responsible citizenry and strong nation building.

The significance of the Holy Bible was recognized by former Presidents Ferdinand Marcos, Corazon Aquino, and Fidel Ramos in Presidential Proclamation Numbers 2242, 44, and 1067, respectively. The proclamations are in harmony in declaring the last week of January of every year as "National Bible Week."

This bill seeks to boldly emphasize the holiness of The Living Truth by allotting a holiday for its celebration on every last Monday of January, which shall be known as "National Bible Day." This calls for all Christians to altogether unite and celebrate the Holy Bible as the cradle of the Christian faith.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

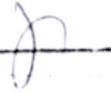
EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO
Senator

SENATE

'16 DEC -7 P12:02

S.B. No. 1270

RECEIVED BY: _____



INTRODUCED BY: SENATOR EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO

AN ACT
DECLARING THE LAST MONDAY OF JANUARY AS "NATIONAL BIBLE DAY"
AND PRONOUNCE THE SAME A REGULAR HOLIDAY AND EVERY YEAR
THEREAFTER

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

- 1 **Section 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the "National Bible Day Act."
- 2 **Section 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State that the government shall aid and
3 encourage development of the moral character and spiritual foundation of the Filipino people.
- 4 **Section 3.** As a predominantly Christian nation and the largest Christian nation in the Asia-
5 Pacific, this Act recognizes the value of the Holy Bible as the core of Christian faith. The last
6 Monday of January and every year thereafter is hereby declared as a "National Bible Day Act"
7 and proclaim the same as a national holiday.
- 8 **Section 4.** Section 26, Chapter 7, Book I of Executive Order No. 292, otherwise known as "The
9 Administrative Code of 1987," as amended is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 10 "SEC. 26. Regular Holidays and Nationwide Special Days. –
- 11 (1) Unless otherwise modified by law, order, or proclamation, the following regular
12 holidays and special days shall be observed in the country:
- 13
- 14 A. Regular Holidays
- 15

New Year's Day	January 1
NATIONAL BIBLE DAY	MOVABLE DATE
Maundy Thursday	Movable Date
Good Friday	Movable Date
Araw ng Kagitingan	Monday Nearest April 9
Labor Day	Monday nearest May 1
Eidul Fitr	Movable Date
Eidul Adha	Movable Date
Independence Day	Monday nearest June 12

National Heroes Day	Last Monday of August
Bonifacio Day	Monday nearest November 30
Christmas Day	December 25
Rizal Day	Monday nearest December 30

1

2

B. Nationwide Special Holidays

3

Ninoy Aquino Day	Monday nearest August 21
All Saints Day	November 1
Last Day of the Year	December 31

4

5

C. The terms "legal or regular holiday" and "special holiday," as used in laws, orders, rules and regulations or other issuances shall be referred to as "regular holiday" and "special day," respectively.

6

7

8

9

Section 5. All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations and any part thereof regarding national nonworking holidays which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

10

11

12

Section 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

13

14

15

Approved,



Senate
Office of the Secretary

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

'17 JAN 19 AM 103

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: _____

S.B. No. 1301

Introduced by Senator JOEL VILLANUEVA

AN ACT DECLARING THE LAST MONDAY OF JANUARY AS THE
NATIONAL FAITH DAY

Explanatory Note

According to the data presented by the Center for Global Education, about 94% of the population of the Philippines are Christians, 4% are Muslims, while the remaining 2% are those practicing non-Western and indigenous beliefs. In fact, the Pew Research Center approximates that 90% of Filipinos consider religion very important. It further estimates that by 2050, the Philippines will be the fourth country with the largest Christian population.

This bill recognizes the religiosity of Filipinos and seeks to encourage them observe their faith in a manner that will positively influence the society. This bill also seeks to recognize the various faith groups in the Philippines and allow them, in unity, to commemorate a special day in celebrating their respective beliefs.

This bill also complements the commemoration of the "National Bible Week" established under Proclamation Nos. 44 and 1067, which designates the last week of January of every year as the "National Bible Week."

Thus, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA



Senate

Office of the Secretary

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

'17 JAN 19 AM 11:03

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: _____

S.B. No. 1301

Introduced by Senator JOEL VILLANUEVA

AN ACT DECLARING THE LAST MONDAY OF JANUARY AS THE NATIONAL FAITH DAY

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

1 SEC. 1. *Short Title.* – The last Monday of January of every year is hereby
2 declared as the "National Faith Day."
3

4 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Principles.* – It is a policy of the State to aid and
5 encourage the development of the moral character and spiritual foundation of the
6 Filipino people.
7

8 SEC. 3. Section 26, Chapter 7, Book I of Executive Order No. 292, otherwise
9 known as "The Administrative Code of 1987," as amended, is hereby amended to
10 read as follows:
11

12 SEC. 26. Regular Holidays and Nationwide Special Days. –
13

14 (1) Unless otherwise modified by law, order or proclamation, the following
15 regular holidays and special days shall be observed in the country:
16

17 A. Regular Holidays
18

New Year's Day	January 1
NATIONAL FAITH DAY	MOVABLE DATE
Maundy Thursday	Movable Date
Good Friday	Movable Date
Araw ng Kagitingan	Monday nearest April 9
Labor Day	Monday nearest May 1
Eidul Fitr	Movable Date
Eidul Adha	Movable Date
Independence Day	Monday nearest June 12
National Heroes Day	Last Monday of August
Bonifacio Day	Monday nearest November 30
Christmas Day	December 25
Rizal Day	Monday nearest December 30

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21

B. Nationwide Special Holidays

Ninoy Aquino Day	Monday nearest August 21
All Saints Day	November 1
Last day of the year	December 31

C. The terms "legal or regular holidays" and "special holiday," as used in laws, orders, rules and regulations or other issuances shall be referred to as "regular holiday" and "special day," respectively.

SEC. 4. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the provisions shall not be affected thereby.

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 6. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,