



S E N A T E

S. No. 670

INTRODUCED BY SENATORS REVILLA, JR., POE, ANGARA,
BINAY, CAYETANO, DELA ROSA, DRILON, GATCHALIAN,
GO, GORDON, HONTIVEROS, LACSON, LAPID, MARCOS,
PACQUIAO, PANGILINAN, PIMENTEL III, RECTO,
SOTTO III, TOLENTINO, VILLANUEVA, VILLAR AND
ZUBIRI

AN ACT DECLARING AUGUST 30 OF EVERY YEAR AS
“NATIONAL PRESS FREEDOM DAY” AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 SECTION 1. August 30 of every year is hereby
2 declared as “National Press Freedom Day”, a working
3 holiday, in honor of Marcelo H. del Pilar, the father of
4 Philippine Journalism, who wrote under the pen name
5 “Plaridel”, and who was born on August 30, 1850.

6 SEC. 2. To ensure the meaningful observance and
7 celebration of National Press Freedom Day, all government

1 agencies and instrumentalities, the Armed Forces of the
2 Philippines, the Philippine National Police, government-
3 owned and controlled corporations, local government units,
4 as well as the private sector shall afford sufficient time and
5 opportunity for their employees to engage and participate
6 in any related activity to be conducted in the premises of
7 their respective offices or establishments.

8 SEC. 3. The Department of Education (DepED), the
9 Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and the
10 Technical Education and Skills Development Authority
11 (TESDA) in consultation with the Office of the President
12 (OP), government and private media organizations shall
13 lead public and private schools at all levels in organizing
14 consciousness-raising activities on the importance of the
15 press, their rights and social responsibilities, and the
16 elimination of all forms of violence against the press.

17 SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
18 after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any
19 newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,