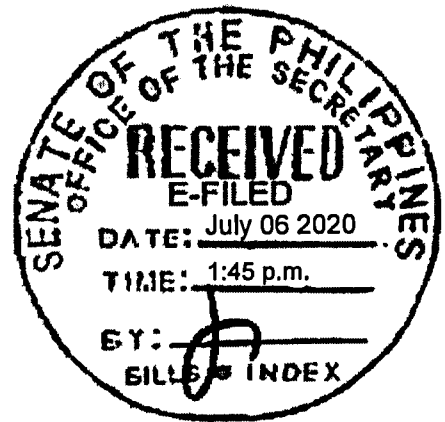


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



SENATE

Senate Bill No. 1651

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

AN ACT
DECLARING DECEMBER 12 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY
IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY TO COMMEMORATE
THE FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Roman Catholic religion celebrates a number of festivities to commemorate important events and celebrate their faith. Being a predominantly Catholic country with more than 86% of the Filipino population practicing the Roman Catholic faith, catholic festivities are widely observed and celebrated in the Philippines.

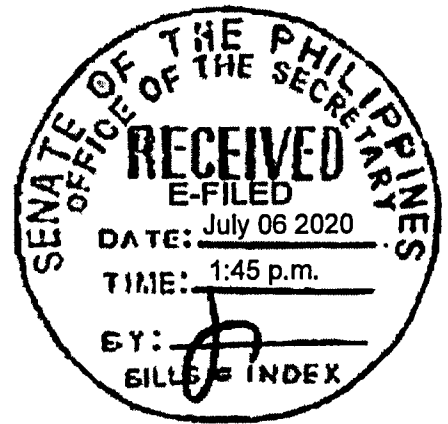
One of such celebrations is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, which is celebrated every December 12 to commemorate Mary's apparition to Saint Juan Diego in the Hill of Tepeyac in Mexico City in 1531. In the Philippines, Our Lady of Guadalupe is venerated as the patron of the unborn, sick, aging, disabled and other people whose lives are threatened. She is also declared as the Heavenly Patroness of the Philippines.

This bill seeks to declare the 12th of December of every year as a special working holiday in the Philippines to commemorate the Feast of Our Lady Of Guadalupe. This will allow our countrymen who practice the Roman Catholic faith to observe and celebrate the significance of this day to their faith.

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


JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
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GUADALUPE

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 “*Feast of Our Lady of*
2 *Guadalupe Day Act*”.

3
4 **SEC. 2. Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Day.** – December 12 of every year is
5 hereby declared as a special working holiday in the entire country to commemorate the
6 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

7
8 **SEC. 3. Effectivity Clause.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its
9 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
10 circulation.

11
12 *Approved,*