NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINE)First Regular Session)

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SENATE

s. No. 352

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Introduced by Senator Cynthia A. Villar

AN ACT DECLARING OCTOBER SIXTEEN OF EVERY YEAR AS A SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY TO BE KNOWN AS THE "NATIONAL FARMERS, FISHERFOLKS AND AGRI-WORKERS' DAY"

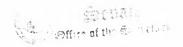
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Farmers, fisherfolks and agri-workers are vital to the existence of a strong and self-sufficient society. We depend on them for food security. Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) data shows that current value of production for the first quarter of 2022 alone is already at Php498.61 billion, which was 2.1% higher than the previous year's level, underscoring the importance of farmers to the economy.

This bill recognizes the significant contribution of farmers, fisherfolks and agri-workers to the society by institutionalizing October 16th of every year, coinciding with the international celebration of World Food Day, as a special working holiday in their honor.

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

CYNTHIA A. VILLAR



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

Section 1. The sixteenth day of October every year is hereby declared as a special working holiday to be known as the "National Farmers, Fisherfolks and Agri-Workers' Day", in honor of the vital role of farmers, fisherfolks and agri-workers in ensuring food security and their significant contribution to the socio-economic development of the country.

6 Sec. 2. To ensure meaningful observance of the holiday as herein declared, all 7 officers and employees of the government, and the private sector are encouraged to 8 create, actively participate to and engage in activities that honor our farmers, 9 fisherfolks and agri-workers.

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Sec. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

12 Approved,