

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

5 OCT 13 2005

RECEIVED BY:                     

SENATE  
P. S. R. No.       356      

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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RESOLUTION  
EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE GOVERNMENT  
SHOULD MAINTAIN A PREDICTABLE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

WHEREAS, Proclamation No. 901 declared 29 August 2005, Monday, a special non-working day in the public sector, except the Bureau of Customs, as well as in all public and private schools in all levels in commemoration of National Heroes Day,

WHEREAS, Proclamation No. 901 was signed on 27 August 2005, Saturday, and released on 28 August 2005, Sunday;

WHEREAS, during the weekend of 27 and 28 August 2005, there was considerable confusion among the public about whether or not to report for work or school the following Monday;

WHEREAS, families of government as well as private sector employees were inconvenienced by the last-minute suspension of classes in all levels;

WHEREAS, as a consequence of the last-minute declaration of this holiday, scheduled meetings between private companies and government offices on 29 August 2005 became impracticable;

WHEREAS, three other examples of disruptive last-minute holidays in 2005 are the following:

1. 25 July, Monday, was declared a holiday on 22 July, Friday;
2. 13 June, Monday, was declared a holiday on 9 June, Thursday; and
3. 2 May, Monday, was declared a holiday on 29 April, Friday.

WHEREAS, a good business environment requires predictability; scheduling holidays reasonably in advance will give business firms enough lead time to adjust their operations to avoid unbudgeted revenue losses;

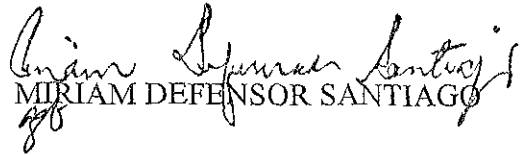
WHEREAS, an advance schedule of national holidays is necessary to prevent abrupt changes in the schedule of programs of both the government and the business sector;

WHEREAS, an advance schedule of national holidays will also encourage people to take long weekend trips to the different tourist spots in the country, thus boosting local tourism,

WHEREAS, the nation's holiday schedule should be fixed reasonably in advance and followed without capricious change,

WHEREFORE, be it resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to express the sense of the Senate that the government should maintain a predictable holiday schedule.

Adopted,

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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