


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



23 AUG 15 P 4 :27

SENATE
S. No. 2406

RECEIVED BY 

Introduced by Senator Robinhood Padilla

AN ACT
DECLARING THE FIRST DAY OF MARCH OF EVERY YEAR AS THE NATIONAL DAY FOR AWARENESS OF RELIGIOUS AND TRADITIONAL GARMENTS AND ATTIRE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines is a society woven together by various groups comprising different beliefs, values, cultures, and ethnolinguistic diversities. Every strand is significant, lending the unique tapestry of our nation's identity and heritage. Among the most visually symbolic and profound representations of this diversity are the religious and traditional garments and attire worn by our citizens. These garments often carry histories that span centuries, stories of faith, struggle, identity, and pride.

The deep-rooted love that Filipinos have for their culture and heritage shines brilliantly through their traditional garments. The crafting of traditional Filipino garments is an art passed down through generations. In a world that's rapidly changing, this love ensures that the stories, traditions, and values embedded in these clothes will endure, passing from one generation to the next, forever celebrating the indomitable spirit of the Filipino people.

This bill aims to declare the first day of March of every year as the National Day for Awareness of Religious and Traditional Garments and Attire to foster a more inclusive society that takes pride in its multi-faceted heritage, embracing the richness of our diverse identities. This endeavor underscores the significance of understanding

and honoring the narratives and symbolism intricately woven into these garments and attires.

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



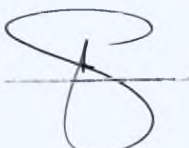
ROBINHOOD PADILLA
Senator

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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 Day for
2 Awareness of Religious and Traditional Garments and Attire”.

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* — The voluntary exercise of religious profession
4 and worship, free from coercion or discrimination shall be respected. Everyone shall
5 have the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion. This right shall include
6 freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of his/her choice, and freedom, either
7 individually or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his/her
8 religion or belief in worship, observance, practice and teaching.

9 Sec. 3. To promote diversity, awareness, and tolerance of religious and cultural
10 beliefs expressed through the wearing of indigenous, religious and traditional clothing,
11 garments and coverings, March 1st is hereby declared as the “National Day for
12 Awareness of Religious and Traditional Garments and Attire”.

13 Sec. 4. Nothing herein shall be construed as requiring the wearing or non-
14 wearing of a particular attire, garment or clothing.

15 Sec. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication
16 in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,