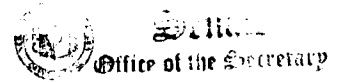


NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



24 MAR -6 P4 :45

SENATE
S. No. 2591

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by SENATOR FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO

AN ACT
TO DECLARE DECEMBER OF EVERY YEAR AS "NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH" IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9418, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "VOLUNTEER ACT OF 2007"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As a member of the International Secretariat for Volunteer Service (ISVS), by virtue of Executive Order No. 134 s.1964, the Philippines has created the Philippine National Volunteer Service Committee to serve as the liaison between the ISVS and the Philippine government agencies in order to foster economic cooperation in the through participation in the ISVS programs.

Executive Order No. 635 s.1980, creating the Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency (PNVSCA), was issued to effectively formulate the policies and guidelines concerning the volunteer service programs in the country.

In 2007, Republic Act No. 9418 or the "Volunteer Act of 2007" was enacted to provide a policy framework on volunteerism. It highlighted the fundamental principles of the voluntary sector to harness and harmonize the same for an integrative and effective partnership for local and national development.

The United Nations General Assembly, on 05 December 1985, issued Resolution 40/212 inviting countries to observe annually every 5th of December as the International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development. This is in recognition for all the contributions done by volunteers through their hard work and personal sacrifices. The same also endeavors to stimulate more people in all walks of

life to partake in the nobility of volunteer service and provide greater awareness in the valuable efforts of volunteers.

In response to the UN General Assembly Resolution, Proclamation No. 55 s. 1998 was issued declaring the month of December every year as the National Volunteer Month. This bill therefore seeks to amend Republic Act No. 9418 in order to declare the month of December of every year as the "*National Volunteers Month*", enjoining all Filipino citizens to strengthen the *bayanihan* spirit by inculcating volunteerism in our Filipino values especially in the Filipino youths.

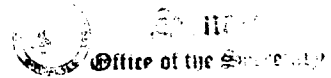
In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO

Senator

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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ACT NO. 9418, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "VOLUNTEER ACT OF 2007"

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 13 of Republic Act No. 9418, otherwise known as the "*Volunteer*
2 *Act of 2007*", is hereby amended to include a new section denominated as Section 13-
3 A, and shall read as follows:

4 **"SEC. 13. Institutional Mechanism for Research,**
5 **Documentation, Recognition and Modeling of Best Volunteer**
6 **Practices.** – To carry out the purposes of this Act, an institutional
7 mechanism shall be established, to be spearheaded and administered by
8 the PNVSCA, for continuing research, documentation, recognition and
9 modeling of best volunteer practices as an important component of
10 implementing development programs and projects and undertaking
11 humanitarian activities. For this purpose, the PNVSCA in consultation with
12 any and all relevant government agencies, NGOs, private institutions and
13 persons shall effect the setting up of the mechanism as well as determine
14 all requirements and, or necessary acts to ensure its effective
15 implementation.

16 **"SEC. 13-A. DECLARATION OF NATIONAL**
17 **VOLUNTEER MONTH.** – THE MONTH OF DECEMBER OF
18 EVERY YEAR SHALL BE DECLARED AS NATIONAL
19 VOLUNTEER MONTH IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY, IN
20 RECOGNITION OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY
21 VOLUNTEERS TO SOCIETY.

1 PURSUANT THERETO, DECEMBER 5 OF EVERY YEAR
2 IS ALSO DESIGNATED AS THE NATIONAL VOLUNTEER
3 DAY, CORRESPONDING TO THE INTERNATIONAL
4 VOLUNTEER DAY.

5 THE CELEBRATION OF THE NATIONAL VOLUNTEER
6 MONTH SHALL BE SPEARHEADED BY THE PNVSCA
7 FOR COORDINATION PURPOSES.

8 ALL HEADS OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND
9 INSTRUMENTALITIES, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT-
10 OWNED AND CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS, AS WELL
11 AS LGUS, AND EMPLOYERS IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR
12 ARE HEREBY MANDATED TO ENJOIN ALL THEIR
13 PERSONNEL TO ACTIVELY PARTICIPATE AND
14 SUPPORT ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS FOR THE
15 OBSERVATION AND CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL
16 VOLUNTEER MONTH.”

17 **SEC. 2.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*
18 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,