

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Third Regular Session



S. No. SENATE
2020

RECEIVED
JAN 17 2020

Introduced by **Senator Richard J. Gordon**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Muslims in the Philippines join their fellow Muslims in the Islamic world in celebrating Eidul Adha, the Feast of Sacrifice. Eidul Adha is celebrated yearly to mark the end of Hajj, the pilgrimage to Makkah in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, to commemorate Prophet Ibrahim's (Abraham among Christians) act of sacrificing his son, Ismail for God.

The Hajj is one of the five pillars of Islam. At least once in a Muslim's lifetime, those who can afford to make the trip are obligated to go on Hajj. Thousands of Filipino Muslims go on pilgrimage to Makkah each year. Before a Muslim goes on pilgrimage, he/she should cleanse himself or herself by making amends for wrongs committed.

This piece of legislation declares as a national holiday Eidul Adha which is the 10th day of Dhul-Hijjah or the 12th Lunar month of the Islamic calendar. The purpose of this bill is to serve as a sincere step towards attaining a lasting solution to the so-called "Mindanao Problem", a dilemma that is so deeply-rooted and which has plagued our country even before our independence. We are sending a message to the whole Islamic community of the world that we value our Muslim brethren in this country and we recognize them as an indispensable part of this nation.

There is a hope for peace as Muslims greet each other and as Christians also greet Muslims a blessed Eidul Adha. A common greeting of Muslims on this day is the following:

"May the blessings of Eidul Adha be upon you always. May Allah (God, the Almighty) have mercy and shower His Grace on you and your family. May you have Peace today and forever. Eid Mubarak (Happy Festivities)."

The challenges our people are facing call on all Filipinos to bind themselves together for shared harmony, progress and prosperity. And as we embrace each other in the name of peace, we find true meaning in the phrase, *"one nation, one flag, and one country."*

In view of the foregoing principles, this bill seeks to declare Eidul Adha as a National Holiday.



RICHARD J. GORDON
Senator

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SENATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
[Signature]

Introduced by **Senator Richard J. Gordon**

**AN ACT AMENDING
SECTION 26, CHAPTER 7 OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 292,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE OF 1987,
AS AMENDED, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. Section 26, Chapter 7 of Executive Order No. 292, otherwise known as the Revised Administrative Code of 1987, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 26. *Regular Holidays and Nationwide Special Days.* –

(1) Unless otherwise modified by law, order, or proclamation, the following regular holidays and special days shall be observed in the country.

(A) Regular Holidays

x x x

EIDUL ADHA - MOVABLE DATE

x x x

[Provided, however, That Eidul Adha shall be celebrated as a regional Holiday in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.]

SEC. 2. The Office of Muslim Affairs shall promulgate rules and regulations as to the implementation of this Act pursuant to its provisions, upon consultation with various Islamic organizations and known Islamic scholars.

SEC. 3. All laws, orders, presidential issuances, rules and regulations or part thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in at least two national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,