



FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
Second Regular Session

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SENATE

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 60

Submitted by the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

on OCT - 5 2011.

Re: Senate Joint Resolution No. 12.

Recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Joint Resolution No. 7.

Sponsor: Senator Angara:

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committee on Education, Arts and Culture, to which Senate Joint Resolution No. 7 was referred, introduced by Senator Angara, entitled:

**“SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION
DECLARING OCTOBER 8 OF EVERY YEAR AS A NATIONAL SPECIAL WORKING
HOLIDAY TO COMMEMORATE THE “DIA DEL GALEON””**

has considered the same and has the honor to report it back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached resolution, Senate Joint Resolution No. 12, prepared by the Committee, entitled:

**“SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION
DECLARING OCTOBER 8 OF EVERY YEAR AS A NATIONAL SPECIAL WORKING
HOLIDAY TO COMMEMORATE THE “DIA DEL GALEON””**

be approved in substitution of Senate Joint Resolution No. 7., with Senator Angara, as author.

Respectfully Submitted:


EDGARDO J. ANGARA

Chair, Committee on Education, Arts and Culture



LOREN LEGARDA

Vice-Chair, Committee on Education, Arts and Culture


Members:



ANTONIO TRILLANES IV



GREGORIO B. HONASAN II



FRANCIS N. PANGILINAN




MANNY VILLAR

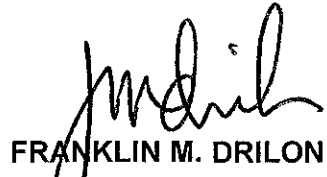
JOKER P. ARROYO




PIA S. CAYETANO



TEOFISTO L. GUINGONA III




FRANKLIN M. DRILON




FERDINAND R. MARCOS, JR.



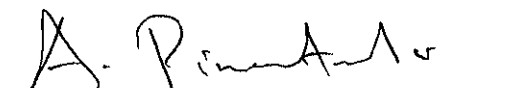
RAMON "LONG" REVILLA, JR.



MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID



SERGIO R. OSMEÑA III



AQUILINO "KOKO" L. PIMENTEL III

Ex-Officio Members:



JINGGOY EJERCITO-ESTRADA
President Pro-Tempore



VICENTE C. SOTTO III
Majority Leader

ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO
Minority Leader

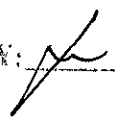
Hon. JUAN PONCE ENRILE
Senate President
Senate of the Philippines
Pasay City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S. Jt. Res. No. 12

Prepared by the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION DECLARING OCTOBER 8 OF EVERY
YEAR AS A NATIONAL SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY TO
COMMEMORATE THE "DIA DEL GALEON"**

Whereas, the Manila-Acapulco Galleon Trade was one of the most important trade routes in world maritime history, linking the Americas, Asia, Africa and Europe in commerce and intercultural exchange for 250 years, a record still unmatched by any other shipping line to this day;

Whereas, on October 8, 1565, aboard the San Pedro galleon, Basque explorer and astronomer Fray Andres de Urdaneta discovered the critical *tornaviaje* or return route from the Philippines to the Americas, proving that the world could be navigated in two directions;

Whereas, the Galleon Trade involved 36 present-day nation states in an extensive sphere of commerce, investment and cultural transmission that heralded globalization, with Manila as the "center of the universe" and most important port in Asia;

Whereas, the Manila-Acapulco route made the trade of goods and merchandise possible on a substantial scale, profoundly enriching consumption across the world. Spices, tea, palm wine, textiles, silk, ceramics, jewelry and raw materials from all over Asia, including Manila hemp, cotton, abaca, ylang-ylang, Barong Tagalog from the Philippines, were exported to the New World and Europe. In exchange, the Philippines imported food, ornamental, textile and medicinal plants such as sampaloc, achuete, avocado, cacao, tomato, pineapple and peanut;

Whereas, Filipino seafarers built several galleons using Philippine hardwood in shipyards located in Pangasinan, Cavite, Marinduque, Albay, Camarines, and Masbate, and in 1679, galleon-building was undertaken exclusively in the Philippines among all Spanish colonies;

Whereas, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) unanimously passed a resolution institutionalizing the *Dia del Galeón* (Day of the Galleon) every 8th day of October during its General Conference in Paris in 2009 in recognition of the Galleon Trade's role in not only aiding commerce, but also in transmitting culture, information and knowledge;

Whereas, the first International *Dia del Galeón* Festival was celebrated in accordance with the UN General Assembly's proclamation that 2010 is International Year for the Rapprochement of Cultures;

Whereas, the celebration of *Dia del Galeón* will resurrect our long and fruitful ties with the Ibero-American nations and reunite the Philippines with a greater community of nations historically linked by the Galleon Trade;

Whereas, no less than UNESCO Director General Irina Bokova commended the efforts of the Philippine *Dia del Galeón* Steering Committee, for organizing the *Dia del Galeón* Festival which brought a replica of the 17th century *Galeón Andaluía* to the Philippines;

Whereas, the *Dia del Galeón* Festival is a source of national pride and international accolade for promoting cultural understanding and diversity;

Now, therefore in view of the foregoing, be it

RESOLVED, by the Senate and the House of Representatives in Congress assembled, that the “*Dia del Galleon*”, shall be commemorated on the 8th of October of every year as a special working holiday.

Adopted,