

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



'17 MAY 30 P2:15

SENATE

S.B. No. 1480

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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Introduced by SENATOR LOREN LEGARDA

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**AN ACT DECLARING JANUARY 23 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY TO COMMEMORATE THE DECLARATION OF THE FIRST PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC**

Explanatory Note

The 23<sup>rd</sup> of January 1899 marked an important event in the country's history when General Emilio Aguinaldo proclaimed the First Philippine Republic in Barasoain Church, Malolos, Bulacan.

The declaration of independence of the Philippines from Spain established the groundwork for democracy and paved the way for the ratification of the Malolos Constitution.

To give due importance to this significant event in Philippine history, this bill seeks to celebrate January 23 of every year as a national special working holiday.

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

**LOREN LEGARDA**  
Senator

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

1 **Section 1.** Short Title. – This law shall be known as "The First Philippine Republic  
2 Day Act."  
3

4 **Section 2.** Policy Statement. – January 23 of every year is hereby declared as "The  
5 First Philippine Republic Day" which shall be a special working holiday in the  
6 entire country to commemorate the declaration of the First Philippine Republic on  
7 January 23, 1899, held at the Barasoain in the City of Malolos, Province of  
8 Bulacan.  
9

10 **Section 3.** Scope and Coverage. – The National Historical Commission, in  
11 coordination with the Department of Education, shall plan and implement  
12 activities for "The First Philippine Republic Day" and ensure that the significance of  
13 this historical event will continue to inspire and instill of pride on the rich and  
14 noble history of the Filipino Nation.  
15

16 **Section 4.** If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the same shall  
17 not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions hereof.  
18

19 **Section 5.** All laws, decrees, orders, and issuances or portions thereof which are  
20 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or  
21 modified accordingly.  
22

23 **Section 6.** This Law shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the  
24 *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.  
25

26 Approved.