

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

SENATE
S.B. NO. 1655

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay 78 JAN 22 P4:38

**AN ACT DECLARING JANUARY 23 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL WORKING
HOLIDAY IN THE PROVINCE OF BULACAN IN COMMEMORATION OF
THE INAUGURATION OF THE PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The First Philippine Republic, otherwise known as the "Malolos Republic", was inaugurated at Barasoain Church, Malolos, Bulacan on January 23, 1899. The inauguration paved the way for the constitution of the First Philippine Republic, ending three centuries of Spanish colonial rule by formally granting the country's claim for sovereignty.

The inauguration of the First Philippine Republic is one of the significant events in Filipino history that liberated the country from foreign colonialism. On January 9, 2013, former President Benigno S. Aquino III acknowledged the significance of this event through the issuance of *Proclamation No. 533* which declared January 23 of every year as "*Araw ng Republikang Filipino, 1899.*"

This measure seeks to declare January 23 of every year as a special working holiday to honor the inauguration of the First Philippine Republic.

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


MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY
Senator


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

- 1 **SECTION 1.** January 23 of every year is hereby declared a special working holiday in
2 the Province of Bulacan in commemoration of the inauguration of the Philippine
3 Republic.
4
5 **SECTION 2.** *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
6 in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.
7
8 *Approved,*