

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)**



Senate
Office of the Secretary

20 FEB 10 P 4:59

SENATE

S.B. No. 1326

RECEIVED BY

Introduced by Sen. Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

**AN ACT
DECLARING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER OF EVERY YEAR AS THE "NATIONAL
COOPERATIVE MONTH" IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY**

EXPLANATORY NOTE


As defined under Republic Act No. 9520 or the Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008, a cooperative is an autonomous and duly registered association of persons, with a common bond of interest, who have voluntarily joined together to achieve their social, economic, and cultural needs and aspirations by making equitable contributions to the capital required, patronizing their products and services and accepting a fair share of the risks and benefits of the undertaking in accordance with universally accepted cooperative principles.

On the cooperative movement's 105th anniversary in the Philippines, countless cooperatives across the country remain doing work on the ground, effecting change in the day-to-day lives of the Filipino and making them the government's invaluable partner in nation-building.

From generating employment, rendering services and producing goods, our cooperatives continue to play a pivotal role in our economy's growth as they keep the spirit of *bayanihan* alive by *helping Filipinos help themselves*. Cooperativism allows communities to grow in a specialized, self-sustaining manner, which in turn creates healthier economies for a region, and then, eventually, the entire nation.

On 29 October 2003, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo issued Proclamation No. 493, Series of 2003 declaring October 2004 and every year thereafter as Cooperative Month. This bill seeks to institutionalize the same by declaring the month of October of every year in the entire country as the "National Cooperative Month" to celebrate the cooperative movement's significant contribution to our nation's economy and to acknowledge the sector as instruments of social justice and economic development.

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



JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

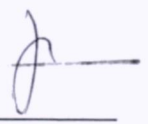
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*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress
assembled:*

1 **SECTION 1.** – The month of October of every year is hereby declared as the
2 "National Cooperative Month."

3 **SEC. 2.** - The Chairperson of the Cooperative Development Authority, in
4 coordination with the cooperative development councils, national and local federations
5 and union of cooperatives, and other agencies of the government, is mandated to
6 conduct activities and programs that promote the principles and values of cooperatives
7 and encourage cooperative movement.

8 **SEC. 3.** Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Chairperson of
9 the Cooperative Development Authority shall issue the necessary rules and regulations
10 for the effective implementation of this Act.

11 **SEC. 4.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
12 *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,