THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC } OF THE PHILIPPINES Third Regular Session }

6 SEP 26 P627

SENATE

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	COMMITTEE REPORT NO.	106			
Submitted by th	e Committee on Health and Demography on	2 6 SEP	2006		
Re :	Senate Bill No. 1972.			· ·	
Recommending its approval with amendment.					
Sponsors :	Senators Cayetano and Angara				,

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committee on Health and Demography to which was referred Senate Bill No. 1972, introduced by Senators Angara and Cayetano, entitled:

٩, **"AN ACT** DECLARING MAY 7 OF EVERY YEAR AS 'HEALTH WORKERS' DAY"

has considered the same and has the honor to report the bill back to the Senate with the recommendation that it be approved with amendment:

1. On page 1, delete lines 7 to 11 and in lieu thereof insert the following:

> "SEC. 3. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ACT, THE TERM "HEALTH WORKERS" SHALL MEAN ALL PERSONS WHO ARE ENGAGED IN HEALTH AND HEALTH-RELATED WORK, AND ALL PERSONS EMPLOYED IN ALL HOSPITALS, SANITARIA, HEALTH INFIRMARIES, HEALTH CENTERS, RURAL HEALTH UNITS, BARANGAY HEALTH STATIONS, CLINIC, AND OTHER HEALTH-RELATED ESTABLISHMENTS OWNED AND OPERATED BY THE GOVERNMENT OR ITS POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS WITH ORIGINAL SHALL INCLUDE MEDICAL, CHARTERS AND ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT PERSONNEL EMPLOYED **REGARDLESS OF THEIR EMPLOYMENT STATUS."**

> > Respectfully submitted:

OMPAÑERA PIAS. CAYETANO

Chairperson

Members: MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID MAR ROXAS l ÀRDO J. ANGARA Ulladrige M.A. MADRIGAL

/RAMON B. MAGSA RODOLFO G BIAZON

RICHARD J. GORDON

Juin 1. Eperito Estrada

DO S. LIM

Ex-Officio Members:

FRANCIS N. PANGILINAN

Majority Leade

President Pro-Tempore

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llin AQUILINO Q. PIMENTEL JR. Minority Leader

Hon. MANNY VILLAR President Senate of the Philippines Pasay City

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THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

5 APR -4 P1:17

SENATE

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NECEIVED BY:

S. B. NO. 1972

Introduced by SENATOR EDGARDO J. ANGARA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill exemplifies the affirmed objective of Republic Act 2305 or the Magna Carta of Public Health Workers *i.e.*, "to promote and improve the social and economic well-being of the health workers, their living and working conditions and terms of employment."

Specifically, it seeks to re-establish May 7 of each year as "Health Workers' Day" to give due respect and appreciation to the services of the main pillars of the country's health care system, *our health workers*. They are our doctors, nurses, midwives, dentists, technicians, nutritionists, therapists, aides, and all other medical and allied professionals and support services personnel who work vigorously in our hospitals, clinics, barangay health centers and health care units in rural and urban areas.

Although Proclamation No. 96 (Aquino, 1987) declared May 7 of said year and every year thereafter as "Health Workers' Day," its commemoration is virtually non-existent to date, and along with it, the subject of its celebration. Thus, the bill.

Likewise, it is hoped that the annual public observance of the "Health Workers' Day" will draw awareness to the plight of our health sector and consequently, underscore the State's responsibility to allot sufficient budget priority on health and to improve the living and working conditions of our health workers.

Approval of this measure, therefore, is earnestly sought.

Senator

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

5 APR -4 P1:17

RECEIVED BY:

SENATE

s. b. no. 1972

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Introduced by SENATOR EDGARDO J. ANGARA

AN ACT DECLARING MAY 7 OF EVERY YEAR AS "HEALTH WORKERS' DAY"

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

1 SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Health Workers' Day Act."

SECTION 2. To give due recognition to the important role and contributions of the health workers who provide vital health services to our people and to promote their rights and welfare and enhance their sense of worth and dignity, May for every year is hereby declared as a special working holiday to be known as "Health Workers' Day."

SECTION 3. For purposes of this Act, the term "health workers" shall cover all persons engaged in health and health-related services, including medical and allied professionals and support services personnel, who work in hospitals, sanitaria, health centers, clinics and other health-related establishments in the public and private sectors.

SECTION 4. To ensure the meaningful observance of the holiday as herein declared, all heads of government health facilities, offices and instrumentalities, including government-owned and controlled hospitals as well as local government health units, and employers in the private sector, shall encourage and afford sufficient time and opportunities for their employees to engage and participate in any activity to mark Health Workers' Day.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

21 Approved,