

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF THE PHILIPPINES  
First Regular Session

SENATE  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

10 JUL -7 19:29

SENATE

Senate Bill No. 550

RECEIVED BY: 

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INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Filipino-Chinese community has always been one of the largest ethnic Filipino groups in the country comprising an estimated 22% of total population. They have made significant contributions in the form of investments, employment generation, community service, trade, volunteerism and socio-economic programs.

The Filipino-Chinese presence in the Philippines has contributed to economic and trade relations not only between the Philippines and China, but also with our other Asian neighbors, bringing about an influx of investment and tourism into the country. Further, the various Filipino-Chinese businesses provide employment to our booming labor force, Their economic contribution, thus, cannot be quantified in terms of monetary benefits alone,

In recognition of their great contribution and to further deepen Philippine-Chinese relations, this bill seeks to declare the Chinese New Year as a special working holiday in the country every year. By declaring the day when Chinese New Year falls as a special working holiday, we would be enhancing the mutually beneficial relations between us and furthering the amity between our two nations,

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

  
JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA  
Senator

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10 JUL -7 11:29

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**AN ACT  
DECLARING THE DAY ON WHICH CHINESE NEW YEAR FALLS  
EACH YEAR AS A SPECIAL WORKING HOLIDAY  
AS A SIGN OF GOODWILL AND AMITY  
BETWEEN THE PHILIPPINES AND CHINA**

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

**SECTION 1.** Recognizing the immeasurable contribution of the Filipino Chinese community in our country and in order to further strengthen the Filipino-Chinese amity, the day on which Chinese New Year falls each year is hereby declared as a special working Holiday throughout the entire Philippines.

**Sec. 2.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) calendar days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*