



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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Republic of the Philippines

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City, Metro Manila

Seventeenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 994

Introduced by Honorable Roger G. Mercado

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to declare the date March 31 as official non-working holiday in the whole province of Southern Leyte to commemorate the first religious rites of the Christian faith given the fact that the Philippines is a country whose population is mostly Catholic/Christians.

The passage of this bill will be a confirmation that the State should recognize the significance of March 31 as an important date for its religious belief considering that the first mass of the aforementioned faith was held on March 31, 1521 at Limasawa Island in Southern Leyte.

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

ROGER G. MERCADO



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**AN ACT
DECLARING MARCH 31 AS A NON-WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE
WHOLE PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE IN
COMMEMORATION OF THE FIRST MASS IN THE PHILIPPINES
IN LIMASAWA ISLAND**

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

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* Given the fact that the Philippines is a country whose population is mostly Catholic/Christians, the State should recognize the significance of March 31 as an important date for its religious belief considering that the first religious rites of the aforementioned faith was held on March 31, 1521.

SECTION 2. It is hereby being declared that the date March 31 in a non-working holiday in the whole Province of Southern Leyte which shall be known as the First Mass day.

SECTION 3. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent within this Act hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,