



Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Eighteenth Congress  
First Regular Session



House Bill No. 6466

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**Introduced by Representative PAUL RUIZ DAZA**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

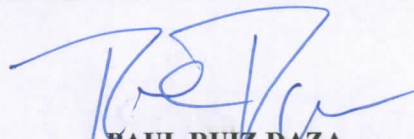
This measure proposes that September 22 of every year be declared as a special non-working holiday in the Municipality of Mondragon, Province of Northern Samar in commemoration of its founding anniversary.

The coastal settlement that is today known as Mondragon was one of the earliest established in the entire island of Samar. Prior to the Spanish period, it was called *Quinay*, in honor of one of the first women settlers, who reportedly came from Palapag and chose to make her home in the midst of forestlands close to the Masaguiopot creek, not too far from where the present *población* is located.

Years later, however, with the arrival of Spanish missionaries fulfilling their task of introducing Christianity to the people, one of the friars assigned to minister to the people in the settlement renamed it Mondragon. It is the name of a town in the Basque province of Guipuzcoa in Spain, where the priest was said to have been born and raised.

On September 22, 1883, by virtue of a Spanish Royal Decree, Mondragon was recognized as a *pueblo*, under the rule and administration of Gobernadorcillo Juan Basarte. The title of *pueblo* then was equivalent to what is now the recognition given to a town or municipality. But the title of municipality was given to Mondragon only in 1912, with the appointment of Santiago Chitongco as *president municipal*, equivalent to today's municipal mayor.<sup>1</sup>

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

  
**PAUL RUIZ DAZA**  
First District, Northern Samar

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<sup>1</sup> Northern Samar Our Home (2014), Dela Cruz M., p. 126-127



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**AN ACT DECLARING SEPTEMBER 22 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NON-  
WORKING HOLIDAY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF MONDRAGON, PROVINCE  
OF NORTHERN SAMAR IN COMMEMORATION OF ITS FOUNDING  
ANNIVERSARY**

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

SECTION 1. September 22 of every year is hereby declared as a special non-working holiday in the Municipality of Mondragon, Province of Northern Samar in commemoration of its founding anniversary.

SEC. 2. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,