## Republic of the Philippines **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**Constitution Hills, Quezon City



First Regular Session

151

House Resolution No.



## Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE ERIC L. OLIVAREZ

"A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSING WARMEST FELICITATIONS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO THE IGLESIA NI CRISTO ON ITS 105th FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION"

**WHEREAS,** Iglesia Ni Cristo (INC) is a religious group with membership from around the globe and regarded as the largest independent Christian church in Asia founded by Executive Minister Felix Y. Manalo;

**WHEREAS**, Iglesia Ni Cristo is celebrating their 105th founding anniversary on July 27, 2019;

**WHEREAS**, July 27 has been declared as a special national working holiday under Republic Act 9465, enacted in 2009 or towards the end of then President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's term;

**WHEREAS,** RA 9645 praises INC for its "exemplary feat of leading its members towards spiritual enlightenment and good citizenry";

WHEREAS, Iglesia Ni Cristo is comprised of at least 2.25 million members of at least 110 nationalities and maintains about 104

ecclesiastical districts in the Philippines and more than a hundred across the globe;

WHEREAS, Iglesia Ni Cristo is a religious denomination that has a primary purpose of worshipping the Almighty God based on His teachings as taught by Lord Jesus Christ to faithfully fulfil the biblical prophecies about the salvation of man;

**WHEREAS**, Iglesia Ni Cristo remains a strong religious group from the day of its founding on July 27, 1914 up to the present;

**WHEREAS**, Iglesia Ni Cristo with their remarkable devotion and strict rules has manage to instill the words of God to a number of our countrymen in the past years thus can be considered a feat worth to be congratulated;

**WHEREAS**, the 105<sup>th</sup> Founding Anniversary of Iglesia Ni Cristo is a testament to the continued dedication of its members to the teachings of their Church;

**WHEREAS**, on May 6, 2018, the Iglesia Ni Cristo organized the Worldwide Walk to Fight Poverty set to happen simultaneously "in more than 300 sites across 18 time zones around the world", the beneficiaries of which includes the less fortunate in selected communities in Africa, according to Edwin Briones of INC's Public Information Office;

WHEREAS, it is the second instance that the church has organized such an event, the first being in 2014 when the charity walk benefitted the victims of super typhoon Yolanda, internationally known as Haiyan, the strongest tropical storm recorded in history;

WHEREAS, with this second Worldwide Walk to Fight Poverty, they attempted to break five Guinness World Records: "the largest human sentence, the largest picture mosaic formed by people, the largest charity walk in a single venue, most nationalities in a charity walk, and the largest charity walk in multiple venues";

WHEREAS, the INC expects to break the two records for the largest charity walk in both single and multiple venue categories which the church had set in 2014 during its first worldwide charity walk;

WHEREAS, as of May 6, 2018, the INC said it set a new Guinness world record for forming the largest human sentence with a total of 23,235 participants forming the sentence "PROUD TO BE A MEMBER OF IGLESIA NI CRISTO", surpassing the record held by India since 2016;

WHEREAS, the solidarity, camaraderie, and dedication shown by INC members during this event and at their 105th founding anniversary is a testament to the enduring power and relevance of the church as an institution in Filipino society;

WHEREAS, may the Iglesia Ni Cristo continue to serve as an exemplar of faith and values to all Filipinos from all ages and all walks of life;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** as it is hereby RESOLVED that the House of Representatives extends its warmest felicitations and congratulations to the Iglesia Ni Cristo (INC) on its 105th founding anniversary celebration and the success of its second Worldwide Walk to Fight Poverty.

ADOPTED,

ERIC L. OLIVAREZ