Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 62

Submitted by the Committee on Basic Education and Culture on OCT 01 2019
Re: House Resolution No. 408
Recommend its adoption in substitution of House Bill No. 921.
Sponsors: Representatives Romulo and Fernando

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Basic Education and Culture to which was referred House Bill No. 921 introduced by Representative Bayani F. Fernando, entitled:

AN ACT
TO PROMOTE A NEW PILIPINO GESTURE OF GOODWILL AND PRAISE

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Resolution No. 408, entitled:

A RESOLUTION

be adopted in substitution of House Bill No. 921, with Representatives Fernando and Romulo as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

ROMAN T. ROMULO
Chairperson
Committee on Basic Education and Culture

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY
Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City, Metro Manila  

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session  

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.  
(In substitution of House Bill No. 921)  

Introduced by Representatives Fernando and Romulo  

A RESOLUTION  

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that "the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them";  

WHEREAS, the medical profession has established that the traditional, well-meaning, and innocent gesture of handshake transmits communicable diseases and is a risk to one’s health;  

WHEREAS, a better alternative to the traditional gesture of handshake is the simple act of gracefully laying the palm of the right hand over the center of the chest with a simultaneous slight head nod;  

WHEREAS, placing the hand over the chest is a universal gesture of good faith coming from the heart, while a nod is a traditional Filipino gesture of respect;  

WHEREAS, the Philippine Government is urged to promote this gesture of goodwill and praise so that this will become a customary practice of all Filipinos;  

WHEREAS, all government agencies are encouraged to promote this practice in their respective offices and areas of jurisdiction, with the Philippine Information Agency (PIA) taking the lead in the wider dissemination and promotion of this Filipino gesture;  

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to urge the Philippine Government to promote the simple act of gracefully laying the palm of the right hand over the center of the chest with a simultaneous slight head nod as a customary Filipino gesture of goodwill, praise, and respect;  

Resolved, further, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished the Office of the President.  

Adopted,
House of Representatives
Committee Affairs Department

FACT SHEET

House Resolution No. 408
(In substitution of House Bill No. 921)

As adopted by the Committee on 18 September 2019

PROMOTING A NEW FILIPINO GESTURE
OF GOODWILL AND PRAISE

Introduced by: REPS. FERNANDO AND ROMULO

Committee Referral: COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION & CULTURE (Primary)
Committee Chairperson: REP. ROMAN T. ROMULO

OBJECTIVES:

• To adopt a new Filipino gesture as an alternative to the traditional handshake
• To promote health consciousness among citizenry

KEY PROVISIONS:

• Urges the Philippine Government to promote the simple act of gracefully laying the palm of the right hand over the center of the chest with a simultaneous slight head nod as a customary Filipino gesture of goodwill, praise, and respect

RELATED LAW:

• The 1987 Philippine Constitution