

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3730



Introduced by Representative **TYRONE D AGABAS**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill which seeks to declare July 27 of each year as Special Non-Working Holiday has already been approved by the House of Representatives on its 3rd and final reading in the 17th Congress. It has for its purpose the amendment of Republic Act No. 9645, otherwise known as the "Commemoration of the Founding Anniversary of Iglesia ni Cristo Act" which merely declares July 27 of each year as a Special National Working Holiday.

Among the national holidays our country celebrates are Maundy Thursday (Thursday before Easter), Good Friday (Thursday before Friday), Christmas Day (December 25 of each year), and *Eid-ul-Fitr* (end of Ramadan). They were declared as national holidays because of their importance and significance to various faiths. With millions of members not only in the Philippines but throughout the world, the Iglesia ni Cristo has for more than a hundred years evidently demonstrated its significant contribution to nation development and welfare. We are witness to their vast and immeasurable contribution to the nation through their faith reflecting out national identity, culture and values.

So as to fully recognize the significant contribution of the Iglesia ni Cristo and its members to nation-building, July 27 of every year shall be declared as a Special Non-Working Holiday throughout the Philippines and not merely as a Special National Working Holiday.

Hence, the expedient approval of the bill.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Tyrone D. Agabas, the representative mentioned in the text.

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AN ACT DECLARING JULY 27 OF EVERY YEAR A SPECIAL NATIONAL NONWORKING HOLIDAY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9645, NOTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "COMMEMORATION OF THE FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF IGLESIA NI CRISTO ACT"

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 3 of Republic Act No. 9645 is hereby amended to
2 read as follows:

3
4 "SEC. 3. *National Holiday.* - July 27 of every year is
5 hereby declared [as] a special national [working] **NONWORKING** holiday in
6 commemoration of the founding anniversary of the Iglesia ni Cristo in the
7 Philippines."

8
9 **SEC. 2. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
10 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved