



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session



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**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 910**

Submitted by the **COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION** **April 8, 2021**

RE : House Bill No. **9182**

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 1553 & 1922

Sponsors : Representatives Joseph 'Jojo' Lara, Alfredo A. Garbin Jr., Elizaldy S. Co and 'Kuya' Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado

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**MR. SPEAKER:**

The Committee on Public Information to which were referred:

**House Bill No. 1553**, authored by Hon. Alfredo A. Garbin Jr. and Hon. Elizaldy S. Co, entitled:

**AN ACT  
DECLARING NOVEMBER TWENTY-THREE OF EVERY YEAR AS 'PHILIPPINE PRESS  
FREEDOM DAY'**

and **House Bill No. 1922**, authored by Hon. 'Kuya' Jose Antonio R. Sy- Alvarado, entitled:

**AN ACT  
DECLARING AUGUST 30 OF EVERY YEAR AS 'NATIONAL PRESS FREEDOM DAY'**

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Bill No. **9182**, entitled:

**AN ACT  
DECLARING AUGUST 30 OF EVERY YEAR AS "NATIONAL PRESS FREEDOM DAY"**

be approved in substitution of House Bills Numbered 1553 and 1922 with Representatives Alfredo A. Garbin Jr., Elizaldy S. Co, 'Kuya' Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado, Joseph 'Jojo' L. Lara, Gabriel H. Bordado Jr., Ron P. Salo, Amihilda J. Sangcopan, Ramon 'Mon-Mon' V. Guico III, Cesar 'Jawo' L. Jimenez Jr., Bienvenido 'Benny' M. Abante Jr., Gavini 'Apol' C. Pancho, Ian Paul L. Dy, France L. Castro, Robert Ace S. Barbers, Evelina G. Escudero, Sarah Jane I. Elago, and Deogracias Victor 'DV' B. Savellano as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted:

  
**HON. JOSEPH 'JOJO' L. LARA**  
*Chairperson*  
Committee on Public Information

**THE HONORABLE SPEAKER**  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
QUEZON CITY

Republic of the Philippines  
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EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
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HOUSE BILL NO. 9182  
(in substitution of House Bill No. 1533 and 1922)

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Introduced By: Reps Garbin, Sy- Alvarado, Lara, Bordado, Salo, Sangcopan, Guico III, Jimenez Jr,  
Villa, Abante, Pancho, (IP) Dy, (F) Castro, Barbers, Escudero, Elago, & Savellano

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**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING AUGUST 30 OF EVERY YEAR AS “NATIONAL PRESS FREEDOM DAY”**

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

1           **SECTION 1.** August 30 of every year is hereby declared as “National Press Freedom Day”  
2 in honor of Marcelo H. Del Pilar, the father of Philippine Journalism, who was born on August 30,  
3 1850 and wrote under the pen name “Plaridel.”

4           **SEC 2.** To ensure the meaningful observance and celebration of National Press Freedom  
5 Day, all government agencies and instrumentalities, the Armed Forces of the Philippines, Philippine  
6 National Police, government-owned and controlled corporations, local government units, as well as  
7 the private sector shall afford sufficient time and opportunity for their employees to engage and  
8 participate in any related activity to be conducted in the premises of their respective offices or  
9 establishments.

10           **SEC. 3.** The Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education, and Technical  
11 Education and Skills Development Authority in consultation with the Office of the President,  
12 government, and private media organizations shall lead public and private schools at all levels in  
13 organizing consciousness-raising activities on the importance of the press, their rights and social  
14 responsibilities, and the elimination of all forms of violence against the press.

15           **SEC. 4.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette  
16 or in a newspaper of general circulation.

17           ***Approved,***

# FACT SHEET

## HOUSE BILL NO. 9182

In substitution of HB No. 1553 & 1922

### NATIONAL PRESS FREEDOM DAY

**INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES GARBIN, SY- ALVARADO, LARA, BORDADO, SALO, SANGCOPAN, GUICO III, JIMENEZ JR, VILLA, ABANTE, PANCHO, (IP) DY, (F) CASTRO, BARBERS, ESCUDERO, ELAGO, & SAVELLANO**

Committee Referral: Committee on Public Information  
Committee Chairperson: Rep. Joseph 'Jojo' L. Lara

#### OBJECTIVES:

- To honor and recognize the service of Marcelo H. Del Pilar, the famous Filipino Journalist and the father of Philippine Journalism.”
- To recognize the vital role of the press in nation building and increase awareness of press freedom as a tool towards orderly society and transparency in governance.

#### KEY PROVISIONS:

- Declares August 30 of every year, Marcelo H. Del Pilar’s birth date as “National Press Freedom Day.”
- Directs all government agencies and its instrumentalities to lead the public and private sectors in organizing consciousness-raising activities on the importance of the press and their rights and social responsibilities to ensure meaningful observance and celebration of the “National Press Freedom Day” every August 30 of each year.
- Directs the Department of Education, the Commission on Higher Education, and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority in consultation with the Office of the President, government and private media organizations to lead public and private schools at all levels in organizing consciousness-raising activities on the importance of the press, their rights and social responsibilities, and the elimination of all forms of violence against the press

#### RELATED LAW:

- *Presidential Decree No. 44*
- *Philippine Labor Code, as Amended*

*As of February 2021*